Protect your future...
Protect your children...
BUCKLE UP! If you don't they won't.

Keep Safety on Your Mind

4 STEPS FOR KIDS

Step 1-Rear-Facing Seats

- Infant only or rear-facing convertible seat.
- Newborn to at least 1 year of age and at least 20 pounds.
- May stay rear-facing longer to maximum rear-facing weight limit of infant or convertible seat.

Step 2-Forward-Facing Seats (with a harness)

- Convertible or combination seat.
- Children should be at least 1 year of age and 20 pounds.
- Children should remain in 5-point harness until they reach the top weight or height limit allowed.

Step 3-Booster Seats (high-back or backless)

- Children under 8 years of age OR under 4'9" in height.
- High-back booster must be used when the vehicle does not have a head-rest or if vehicle's seat back is lower than child's ears.
- Must be used with lap and shoulder belts.
- Never use with lap belt only.
- Recommended to use until child fits seat belt correctly as described below.

Step 4-Seat Belt

- Children 8 years of age OR 4'9" in height are permitted to use a seat belt, however, the seat belt should be checked for proper fit.
- To confirm if a child over 8 years old can safely ride in a seat belt alone, all of the following should occur:
  - Child can sit with back against vehicle seat back.
  - Knees bend naturally over the edge of vehicle seat.
  - Lap belt fits low and snug across top of thighs.
  - Shoulder belt crosses the collar-bone and center of chest.

OTS

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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California law states each child ***SHALL*** be properly restrained in a child safety seat, booster seat or other restraint system in the back seat, until the child is 8 years old OR at least 4'9" in height.

Exceptions are:

- There is no rear seat.
- The rear seats are side-facing jump seats.
- The child passenger restraint system (CPRS) cannot be installed properly in the rear seat.
- All rear seats are already occupied by children under the age of 12 years
- Medical reasons require that the child not ride in the rear seat. The court may require satisfactory proof of the child's medical condition.

Additionally, the law states that a child may not ride in the front seat of a motor vehicle with an active passenger air bag if the child is: under one year of age, weighs less than 20 pounds, or is riding rear-facing in a CPRS.

Refer: *www.chp.ca.gov* or contact your local California Highway Patrol (CHP) office Child Safety Seat Fitting Station for more information and/or assistance with the installation of your CPRS. The CHP also offers the following:

- Child Safety Seat Check-Up Events.
- Traffic Safety Presentations, Classes, and Seminars.
- Educational Brochures.
- A Spotter Program where the public can report unrestrained children by calling **1-800-TELL-CHP**.
- Disposal of Child Safety Seats at CHP offices.

CHP