

CHILD PASSENGER

Changes effective August 1, 2010

Age	Mandatory Restraint	Requirements	Safety Advocates* Recommend
Newborn until 1st birthday	Rear-Facing Car Seat	Regardless of weight, children under 1 year old are required to be in a rear- facing seat and secured in the back seat of the vehicle.	Restrain your infant in a rear-facing seat as long as possible for the best protection in a crash. "Convertible" type car seats allow children to ride rear-facing until 30-45 pounds.
1, 2 and 3 years old	Rear or Forward-Facing Car Seat	Child must be at least 20 pounds to sit in a forward-facing seat. The seat that is used must be used correctly and follow the weight/height limits according to the manufacturer's instructions.	Restrain your child in a "5-point" harness system until they are at least 40 pounds or to upper weight limit of seat. Keep child rear-facing as long as car seat allows (at least 2 years old). Use upper-tether straps where applicable (refer to your car seat and vehicle's owner's manual for more information).
4, 5, 6 and 7 years old	Forward-Facing Car Seat or Booster Seat	Correct use of car seat or booster seat. Follow upper weight limit according to manufacturer's instructions.	Regardless of age, restrain your child in a car seat or booster seat until they are about 57" (4'9"). A child's height is the best predictor of proper seat belt fit.
8 until 16 th birthday	Booster Seat or Lap and Shoulder Seat Belt	Correct use of booster seat or seat belt. Follow upper weight limit of booster seat according to manufacturer's instructions.	The child should be able to sit back against the seat back with knees bent naturally at the edge of the seat, the shoulder belt comfortably crossing the shoulder between the neck and arm, and the lap belt low on the hips, touching the thighs. Children under 13 should sit in the back seat only.



Colorado Revised Child Passenger Safety Statute 42-4-236

^{*} Safety advocates include the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and Safe Kids USA





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