

## What safety standards exist for booster seats?

All child passenger seat restraints have a sticker showing either the manufacture or expiry date. If no expiry date is given, the seat is no longer safe for use after ten years. It is also very important to ensure the booster seat has never been involved in a vehicle collision.

Look for the sticker below on the booster seat.



To ensure it meets Transport Canada's safety regulations, look for this mark on the booster seat.

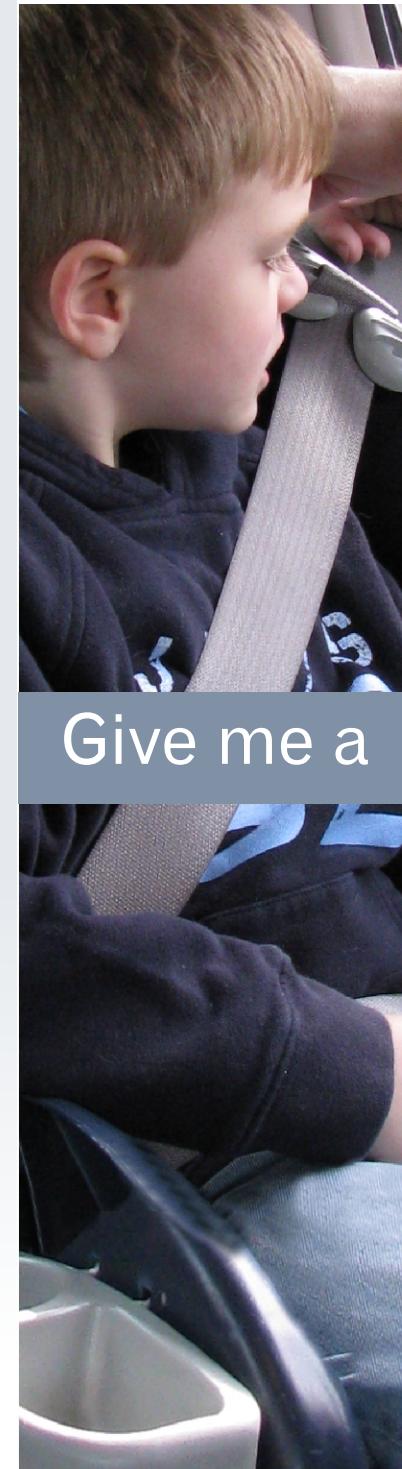


Always buckle in a booster seat, or remove it from the vehicle when not in use. A loose booster seat is unsafe and may injure other passengers in the event of a collision.



**For more information  
on booster seat safety,  
please visit**

[www.health.gov.nl.ca/boosterseatsafety](http://www.health.gov.nl.ca/boosterseatsafety)



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# Booster seats reduce the risk of injuries and deaths

The law requiring the use of booster seats for children in Newfoundland and Labrador came into effect in July 2008.

Children must be secured in a booster seat, if they:

- are four to eight years old (inclusive)
- weigh between 40 and 80 pounds (18 and 37 kilograms) and,
- are 4'9" (145 cm) tall or less.

## To which vehicles does this apply?

This applies to:

- cars
- vans
- passenger trucks
- taxis
- private vehicles contracted by a school board to transport children and,
- passenger vehicles used by child care centres.

## How do booster seats work?

Booster seats raise children high enough off the vehicle's seat to allow for a proper seat belt fit. This helps prevent injury in the event of a motor vehicle collision. If a collision occurs, a properly installed and appropriately used booster seat can reduce the risk of injury to children by 70% and the risk of death by 90%.



**Check to ensure your child's seat is safe and it is properly secured**



Place the shoulder strap across the shoulder, not the neck.



Place the lap belt across the hips, not the stomach.

## What is the correct way to install a booster seat?

To ensure proper installation, refer to the vehicle owners manual and the booster seat instruction manual. Not all booster seats install the same way.

A booster seat should always be placed in the back seat of a vehicle. It should be placed in the middle if a shoulder strap is available.

There are two main types of booster seats – backless and those with a full back. Backless booster seats should only be used if the rear seat of the vehicle has head rests.

When the booster seat has been installed, place the child in the seat to check the seat belt fit. The shoulder strap should never be placed across the child's neck, under the arm or behind the back.

## When is a child properly secured in a booster seat?

A child is safely secured in a booster seat when:

- the child's bottom is against the back of the seat with no slouching;
- the vehicle's lap belt is properly positioned low on the hip bones;
- the shoulder belt is positioned safely across the middle of the chest and shoulder using a belt positioning clip, or locking clip, if necessary; and,
- the middle of the child's ears are below the top of a booster seat with a back or below the seat headrest in a backless booster seat.