

CAR SEAT SAFETY GUIDELINES

These guidelines are a compilation of CT STATE LAW and best practice recommendations from federal and state authorities.

A car seat restraint can be a car seat or a booster seat; it must be placed in the back seat. It is safest in the center of the back seat.

It is CT STATE LAW THAT CHILDREN MUST BE REAR-FACING TILL THEY ARE 2 YEARS OLD **OR** IF THEY WEIGH LESS THAN 30 POUNDS. According to car seat experts children under age 2 often DO NOT have the neck/back strength to absorb a head on crash. They can suffer life-threatening back or neck injuries! They stress that it is not harmful or uncomfortable if a child's legs hit the back seat.

Children between 2 YEARS OF AGE TO 5 YEARS OF AGE **OR** weighing less than 40 pounds MUST use a child restraint that has a 5-point harness.

Children 8 YEARS of age **AND** weighing LESS than 60 pounds must use a booster seat or a five point harness.

Children older than 8 years of age **AND** weighing OVER 60 pounds, can use a safety seat belt OR a booster seat.

ALL children should remain back seat riders until their 13th Birthday.

****Failure to follow the above law will subject you to a ticket/citation and an educational class****

Pediatric Associates of Western CT

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