

TENNESSEE KIDS



Get a

BOOST

TENNESSEE CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY LAW (TCA 55-9-602)

Effective July, 2005 - Present

Child's Age/ Weight/Height	Type of Seat	Location of Seat
0-1 year & 20 lbs or Less	Rear-Facing	Rear Seat If Available*
1 through 3 yrs & Greater than 20 lbs	Forward-Facing	Rear Seat If Available
4 through 8 yrs & Less than 4'9" Tall	Belt Positioning Booster Seat**	Rear Seat If Available
9 through 12 yrs or Greater than 4'9" Tall	Vehicle Seat Belt System	Rear Seat Recommended
13 through 17 yrs	Vehicle Seat Belt System	

- **New 2011** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Recommendations - "To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible, as long as the child fits within the manufacturer's height and weight requirements."
- Seats must meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (§ 571.213) and be used according to child safety restraint system and vehicle manufacturer's instructions.
- Any child who has special needs and cannot be safely transported in a conventional child restraint requires a doctor's prescription for a specially modified seat.
- Proper occupant protection for children under age 16 is the responsibility of the parent, if present. Otherwise, the driver is accountable for these passengers.

* **NEVER** place an infant in front of an airbag!

** **Booster seats require both lap and shoulder belts!**

Why Booster Seats?

Young children who have outgrown their car seats are still too small for an adult lap and shoulder belt. When these young children wear adult seat belts they can suffer serious injuries to the head, neck, spinal cord and abdomen. All it takes is a BOOST to put them in the proper position for the adult lap/shoulder belt to protect them!

Booster Seat 5-Step Test



1. Does the child sit all the way back against the auto seat?
2. Do the child's knees bend comfortably at the edge of the auto seat?
3. Does the belt cross the shoulder between the neck and arm?
4. Is the lap belt as low as possible, touching the thighs?
5. Can the child stay seated like this for the whole trip?

If you answered NO to any of these questions, your child needs a booster seat to ride safely in the car.

Get Help - To find the best answer or resources for your particular child seat situation, visit TTSRS @ www.tntrafficsafety.org and click on "Child Passenger Safety" tab.



Governor's Highway
Safety Office

www.tntrafficsafety.org

1.800.99BELTS (2.3587)

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Produced by the TN Traffic Safety Resource Service, UT Center for Transportation Research with grant funds from Governor's Highway Safety Office and National Highway Transportation Safety Administration at a cost of \$.06 each for 30,000 copies. Approval Number: R01.1313.201.005.12. July 2011.