

Convertible seats (REAR-FACING)

From birth until around 30 pounds. Even if your child has turned 1, keep him rear-facing until he has reached the upper weight limit or the top of his head is less than an inch from the top of the seat.

The harness straps should be in slots at or below your child's shoulders, and the top of the clip should be at armpit level. **Be sure the harness is snug.**

Have your older child **fold or cross his legs** to stay comfortable in a rear-facing seat longer.

Convertible seats have a top tether that can sometimes be used rear-facing. Check your manual.

Newborns and young infants need the seat reclined approximately 45 degrees, but **older babies with good head control** should recline only about 35 degrees.



Convertible seats (FORWARD-FACING)

From *at least* 1 year old and 20–30 pounds to around 4 years old and 40–65 pounds (weight guidelines vary by seat).

For tighter installation, press your body weight into the safety seat and push with your knee to make sure the seat is pressed down and against the vehicle's backseat. **Attach your seat's top tether (not visible here) to your vehicle's tether anchor.**

Rethread the harness straps through the top slots, which have the extra reinforcement necessary to keep the harness secure when the seat is forward-facing.

The straps should now be in slots at or *above* your child's shoulders, and the top of the clip should be at armpit level. Be sure the straps are snug.

Convertible and combination seats (next page) can be used through multiple stages; this gives them an advantage over forward-facing-only versions (sometimes called toddler seats), which are less common these days.

If using the safety belt instead of LATCH, make sure it runs through the seat's forward-facing belt path.

