



BROOME COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD NEWSLETTER

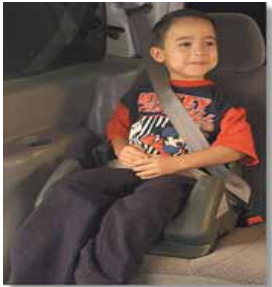
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NATIONAL CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK Is Your Child Safe?

February/March 2006

Febuary 12-18, 2006 is National Child Passenger Safety Week sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. While choosing and installing a child safety seat may seem simple, it can be very complicated. There are many misunderstandings about what seat is best for your child, where to buy, where to install, how tight should it be, which direction it should be facing, when it is safe to do without a car seat, and the list goes on and on. In order to eliminate these misconceptions parents and caregivers need to understand the complexities in choosing and properly installing child safety seats. Let's take a closer look at exactly what the New York State Law requires, along with the federal guidelines for child passenger safety.....

NEW YORK STATE CHILD PASSENGER RESTRAINT LAW



Please consult with the Broome County Health Department
607.778.2807 if you need clarification for any child
safety seat laws within New York State.



IMPORTANT!!!

Birth through 4 years

Children under the age of 4 are required to be restrained in a federally approved child safety seat when riding in a motor vehicle.

Ages 4 - 7

Children ages 4, 5, and 6, riding in any seating position of a motor vehicle will be required to be restrained in an appropriate child restraint system.

IMPORTANT!!!

Your child needs to be about 4'9" and about 8 years of age to ride safely without a booster!

- Be sure their knees bend over the edge of the seat, and the shoulder belt should lie across the chest and shoulder, not touching the neck or face.

GUIDELINES FOR USE



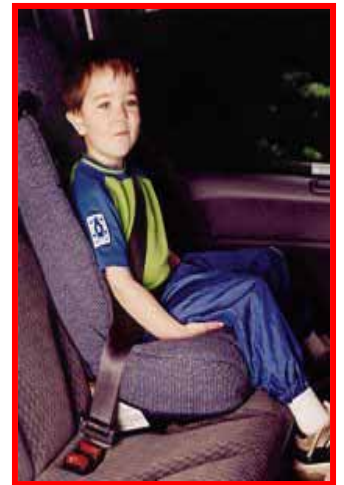
- **Infant Seats** are designed for infants who weigh from 5 pounds to 22 pounds and are less than 26" in height. Infant seats are always installed facing the rear of the vehicle.

Infants should remain in rear-facing seats until they weigh at least 20 pounds AND are one year of age.



- **Convertible Seats** are designed to fit infants and children weighing up to 40 pounds. They can be adjusted to face the rear of a vehicle for infants and to face forward for older children.

- **Booster Seats** are designed for forward facing use only. They are used as a transition to using vehicle safety belts by older children who have clearly outgrown their convertible seat. The booster seat will allow the lap and shoulder belt of the vehicle to fit correctly (across the shoulders, and over the hips and upper thighs).



**For more information regarding Broome County's Child Safety Seat Distribution Program, installation instructions, and the NEW STATE LAW, contact:
Lucas Davis, Traffic Safety Coordinator 778-2807.**



Barbara J. Fiala, Broome County Executive

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