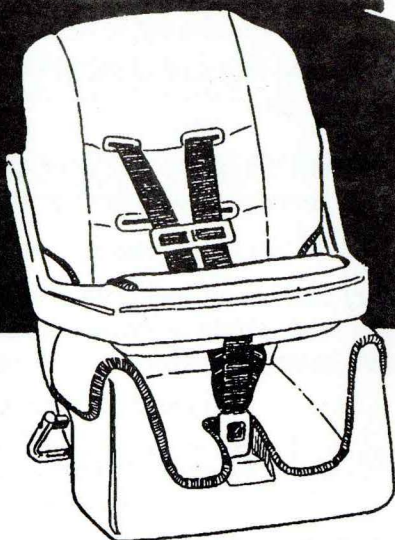


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Iowa Department
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The IOWA child RESTRAINT LAW

Children less than 3 years old must be protected in an approved child safety seat whenever they are transported in a motor vehicle. Children between the ages of 3 and 6 must be secured in a safety seat or by a seat belt. The law applies to residents and non-residents of Iowa.

FACTS ABOUT child PASSENGER SAFETY

The middle of the rear seat of the vehicle is the safest area to ride.

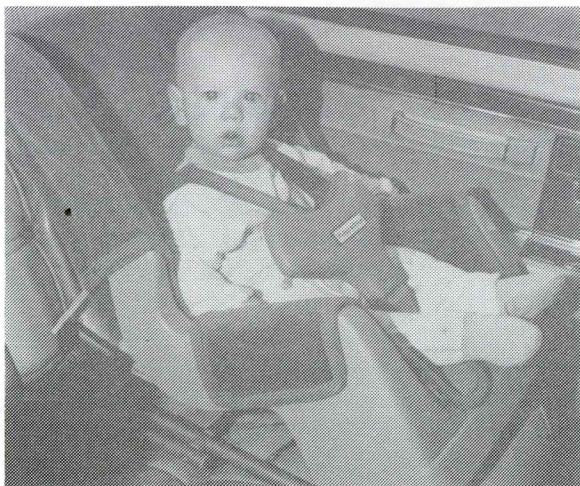
Read and follow the safety seat manufacturer's instructions carefully, as well as your vehicle owner's manual.

Child safety seats keep your child from being ejected from the vehicle or thrown into other passengers during an accident.

Child SAFETY SEAT OPTIONS



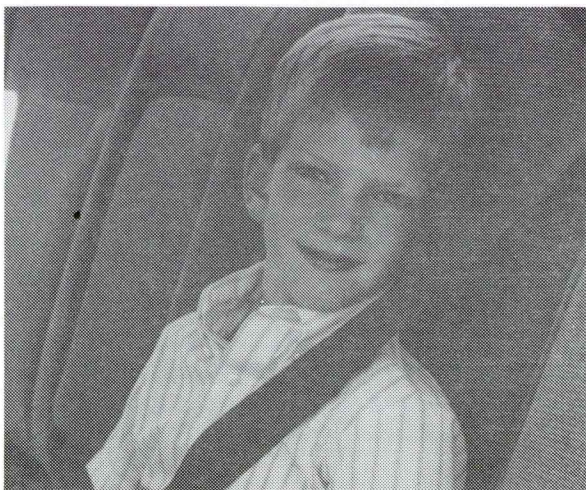
INFANT SEAT--These child safety seats are designed for an infant that weighs less than 20 pounds. The seat must be secured so the infant faces the rear of the vehicle.



CONVERTIBLE SEAT--These child safety seats are designed for children from birth to approximately 40 pounds, and are designed to face forward for the child weighing between 20-40 lbs and rearward for children under 20 lbs.



BOOSTER SEAT--These child safety seats are for children who have outgrown their convertible seats because of either height or weight. If the child's head extends beyond the top of the convertible seat or the child weighs between 40 to 60 pounds, you may want to consider a booster seat. These seats must face forward.



SEAT BELT--Seat belts are for older children and adults. The lap belt must stay low over the thighs and the shoulder belt must fit over the shoulder, not across the neck or face.

BUILT-IN CHILD SAFETY SEAT--Many vehicles are equipped with child safety seats for children over 20 pounds. They are located in the rear seat of the vehicle and fold out of sight to allow adult use of that part of the seat when a child is not being transported. Please follow manufacturer's instructions for proper use, including restrictions involving weight and height.

Key points

Never let the shoulder strap ride across the child's neck or face.

Never put an infant (up to 20 pounds or age 1) in the front seat of a vehicle equipped with a passenger air bag.

Avoid buying a used child safety seat unless you know the history of the seat and are sure it is a federally approved seat. Never use a seat that has been involved in a crash.

No more than one person of any age should be placed in a seat belt.

Purchase a child safety seat that best fits your child and your vehicle.

THE MOST COMMON MISTAKES

Infant seats facing forward.

Seat belts not routed correctly through safety seats, or are too loose.

The safety seat harness is too loose to restrain child properly.

Harness clip missing or not positioned across the child's chest even with the armpits.

Using a baby carrier as a safety seat.

Burning child on hot plastic or metal buckles of a seat that has been left in a vehicle during hot weather.

Allowing more than one person in a seat belt.

Transporting any objects, or objects that are loose or heavy in a vehicle without tying those objects down with seat belts or other means.

SEAT BELTS AND PREGNANCY

Pregnant women should use a seat belt. The lower part of the lap-shoulder belt should be completely under the abdomen, as low on the hips as possible, and against the upper thighs. Never place the belt above the abdomen, since this could cause major injuries in a crash. Position the upper part of the belt between the breasts. Adjust both the upper and lower parts of the lap-shoulder belt as snugly as possible and position yourself as far away as possible. This will help prevent abdominal contact with the wheel in a crash.

Always make sure everyone in the vehicle is buckled properly before you begin any trip.

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**Iowa Department
of Transportation**

Motor Vehicle Division
Office of Driver Services
Park Fair Mall, 100 E. Euclid Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50306-0382
(515) 237-3012

Produced with federal 402 funds administered by the
Iowa Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau.