

Critical Days of Summer Safety Campaign 2020



Week 12 of 16

Child Safety Seats in Cars and on Bikes

Car seats and boosters provide protection for infants and children in a crash. That's why it's so important to choose and use the right car seat correctly every time your child is in the car.

Car Seat Recommendations

- Select a car seat based on your child's age and size, then choose a seat that fits in your vehicle, and use it every time.

Up to 12 months—Rear-facing car seat

1-3 years—Rear-facing until child reaches height or weight limit for the car seat.

4-7 years—Forward-facing car seat with harness and tether until child reaches height or weight limit for the car seat.

8-12 years—Booster seat until big enough to fit in a seat belt properly.

- Your child's safety could be in jeopardy if your car seat is not installed correctly. Before you install your car seat, make sure you're familiar with vehicle and car seat parts used in the installation process. Always refer to your specific car seat manufacturer's instructions and read the vehicle owner's manual on how to install the car seat.
- 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.
- Be wary of toys in the car. Choose toys that are soft and will not hurt your child in a crash. Secure any loose objects in the car.
- Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.
- **NEVER LEAVE YOUR CHILD ALONE IN A CAR, EVEN FOR A MINUTE!**



American Car Seat—Japanese Car??

- Read the manual that came with the car seat to make sure you know how to install it in your vehicle. Japanese cars may not have the tethers you see in American vehicles so installation may differ.
- The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has excellent information to help you select a car seat, install it correctly, and keep your child safe. According to the NHTSA, over half of all car seats are installed incorrectly. This could mean that the child is not protected in case of a crash.
- **As a quick check, wiggle the car seat side to side, back and forth. It shouldn't move more than one inch in any direction.**

Children under the age of 8 years old shall use a serviceable child safety seat appropriate for age and weight of the child. Children 5 years or under, or not exceeding 45 lbs, must be in an infant/child restraint device, properly affixed to the seat where it is located. Corps installation. (MCASO 5560.8B)

Bike Seat Safety Tips

- A child needs to have reliable strong head control before riding in a car seat which typically means a baby is at least 6 months old.
- **CHILDREN IN BIKE SEATS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR AN APPROVED HELMET THAT IS SECURELY FASTENED.**
- Not all bikes are compatible with bike seats, while other bikes only work with certain types. Prior to purchasing a seat, make sure your bike is compatible.
- Front-mounted seats are smaller and best suited for kids under 3 years or 33 pounds.
- Rear-mounted seats are larger and more accommodating for growing children up to 48 pounds.
- Look for a five-point restraint system on the seat.
- High-backed seats are safer. Look for a recessed helmet pocket that prevents a child's head from being pushed forward, making the ride more comfortable.



- Bumpers on the side of the seat prevent fingers from being crushed against objects.



Child bike seats are a fun and easy way to get out and about with toddlers and pre-schoolers.

Bike Trailer Safety Tips

- Single trailers are lighter, narrower, and more affordable but have less storage. Great for a single child.
- Double trailers allow for two children with a combined weight of 80-100 pounds depending on design.
- The internal cabin dimension vary greatly. A difference in a few inches can provide much-needed headspace for older and taller kids.
- **CHILDREN IN BIKE TRAILERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR AN APPROVED HELMET THAT IS SECURELY FASTENED.**

Click the link for more information

- [Child Bike Seat Buying Guide](#)
- [Car seats and Booster Seats](#)



Questions? Contact the MCAS Iwakuni Station Safety Center.