

Tips on child restraints

A properly fitted child restraint system can reduce fatal injuries by up to 75 per cent and serious injuries by 67 per cent, according to a 2002 Traffic Police campaign to advocate the importance of belting up.

Children should be properly buckled up in a car seat, booster seat or seat belt, whichever is appropriate for their age, height and weight.

Babies (up to nine months, weighing up to 10kg)

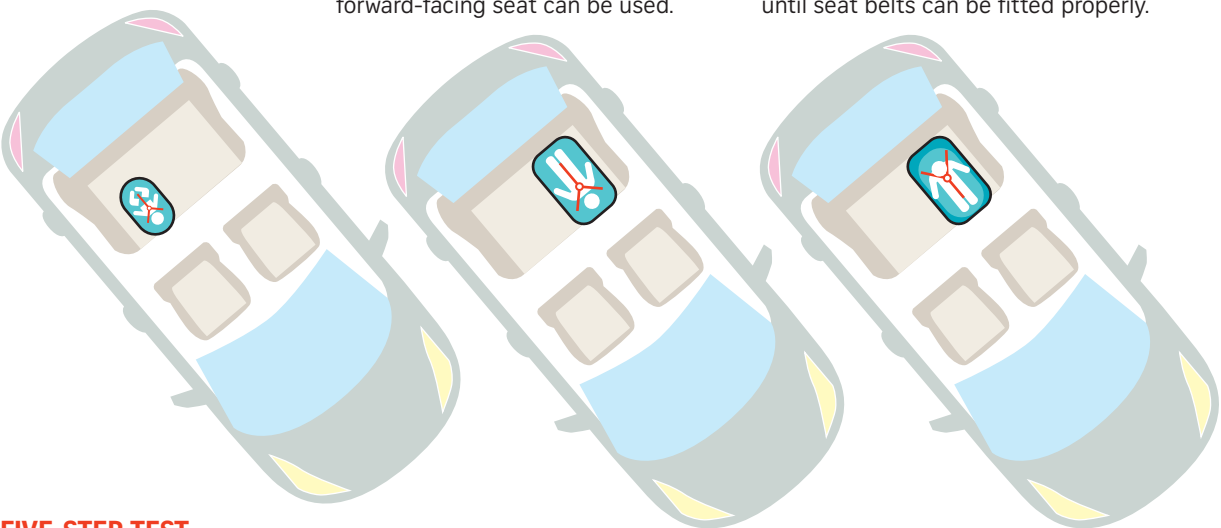
Infants should be placed in a rear-facing infant capsule in the back seat.

Toddlers (from nine months to four years, weighing 9kg to 18kg)

Younger toddlers should be buckled in a rear-facing car seat in the back for the best protection. Once the child has outgrown the seat, a forward-facing seat can be used.

Older children (from five to eight years, weighing 19kg to 36kg)

Older children should be strapped in a forward-facing car seat in the back. If they have reached the height and weight limit of their seat, a booster seat should be used until seat belts can be fitted properly.



FIVE-STEP TEST

A child can ride safely without a booster seat when he passes the five-step test



1 Back against the vehicle's seat



2 Knees bent at edge of seat



3 Lap belt low on top of thighs



4 Shoulder belt between neck and shoulder



5 Sit properly. No slouching, leaning over

NOTE: Most children will fulfil these conditions only when they are 10 to 12 years old.