







IS YOUR CHILD IN THE PROPER CAR SEAT?

Did you know...According to Safe Kids, **73%** of car seats are not used or installed correctly!

As children grow, how they sit in your car, truck, or SUV should change.
Save your child from injury or death by observing all four steps:

1 REAR-FACING SEATS 	For the best possible protection, keep infants in the back seat, in rear-facing child safety seats, as long as possible up to the height or weight limit of the particular seat. At the very minimum, keep infants rear-facing until age 1 and at least 20 pounds. <i>(The best practice is to keep infants rear-facing until age 2.)</i>
2 FORWARD-FACING SEATS 	When children outgrow their rear-facing seats (at a minimum age 1 and at least 20 pounds) they should ride in forward-facing child safety seats, in the back seat, until they reach the upper weight or height limit of the particular seat (usually around age 4 and 40 pounds).
3 BOOSTER SEATS 	Once children outgrow their forward-facing seats (usually around age 4 and 40 pounds), they should ride in booster seats, in the back seat, until the vehicle seat belt fits properly. Seat belts fit properly when the lap belt lays across the upper thighs and the shoulder belt fits across the chest (usually at age 8 or when they are 4'9" tall).
4 SEAT BELTS 	When children outgrow their booster seats, (usually at age 8 or when they are 4' 9" tall) they can use the adult seat belt in the back seat, if it fits properly (lap belt lays across the upper thighs and the shoulder belt fits across the chest).

Remember: All children under 13 years old should ride in the back seat.

We're there for you!

The best way to know if your child safety seat is secured properly is to have a professional check it out. A certified child passenger safety technician can check your installation and answer any questions you may have. Please contact Bonita Springs Fire Station Four at 239-949-6200 Mon.-Fri. 8AM-5PM to schedule an appointment.



Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District offers over 30 educational programs to the public. This is an example of just one of our popular topics. To view a complete list go to www.bonitafire.org. For more information on our programs or to participate in a fire and life safety class, please contact Public Educator Natalie Hughes at 239-949-6200.

For more information visit us online at www.bonitafire.org