BELT-POSITIONING BOOSTER SEAT

Your child should ride in a forward-facing car safety seat with a harness until he or she is at least 4 years old. Once your child is at least 4 years old and has reached the highest weight or height limit for his forward-facing car seat, your child should use a belt-positioning booster seat (BPS). Your child should use a BPS until the vehicle seat belt fits properly, typically when she has reached 4 feet 9 inches in height and is between 8 and 12 years of age.

- Use only with a lap and shoulder belt.
- The lap belt should lie snugly across the upper thighs/hips, not the stomach.
- The shoulder belt should lie snugly across the shoulder and chest.
- The top of the booster seat or vehicle seat/head rest should be no lower than the tops of his/her ears.

FORWARD-FACING CAR SAFETY SEAT

All children 2 years of age or older who have outgrown the rear-facing weight or height limit for their car safety seat, should now a forward-facing car safety seat with a harness for as long as possible, up to the highest weight or height allowed.

Your child should stay in a car seat with a harness until he or she is at least 4 years of age, but may stay in a car safety seat longer. Consult car safety seat owner’s manual for weight/height limits.

Forward-facing car seat tips:
- Harness straps should be at or above shoulders
- Harness straps should be snug – unable to pinch a fold
- Chest clip at armrest level
- Use a top tether if available, per manufacturer instruction

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Children’s Mercy Hospital
2401 Gillham Rd. | Kansas City, Mo. 64108
Phone: (816) 952-6200
Fax: (816) 460-1080

CLINIC LOCATIONS:

Children’s Mercy Clinics on Broadway
3101 Broadway
Kansas City, Mo. 64111

Children’s Mercy Northland
501 NW Barry Road
Kansas City, Mo. 64155

Children’s Mercy South
5520 College Blvd.
Overland Park, Kan. 66211

Center for Children’s
Healthy Lifestyles and Nutrition
(Don Chisholm Building)
610 East 22nd Street
Kansas City Mo. 64108

childrensmercy.org

Children’s Mercy is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and a United Way agency. 03/15
WILL MY CHILD NEED A SPECIAL CAR SEAT FOR SAFE TRAVEL?
The car seat your child needs at discharge will depend on the type of cast and how well your child can sit.

If your child has a cast and CAN sit up:
- You may be able to use your child's own car seat or booster seat. This will depend on how far apart your child's legs are in the cast.
- If the cast is too wide for your car seat or booster seat, a car seat with a five-point harness and low sides may work.
- It will be more comfortable for your child if you support the cast with pillows, blankets, or foam.

If your child has a cast and CANNOT sit up:
- There are times when a car seat with low sides and a shallow seat may accommodate the cast.
- Your child may need a special needs child restraint.

The Car Seat Program offers loaner car seats for infants, toddlers, and older children who need a special restraint for a short period of time. We offer, as loaner restraints, the Hippo car seat, the Hope Car Bed, and the Hope Car Bed for spica casts.

Return the loaner restraint to the Orthopaedic Clinic when the cast is removed.
- Make sure to bring your child's own car seat for safe travel home from appointment.
- There is a replacement fee of $500 for Hippo car seat and $1,000 for Hope Car Bed for Spica Casts, if not returned.
- If your child must lie down in the car, a modified E-Z-On vest is available.

HIPPO CAR SEAT
- rear-facing weight (with cast): 5-33 pounds rear-facing height: Top of head less than 1 inch from top of seat
- forward-facing. At least 2 years old
- forward-facing weight (with cast): up to 65 pounds
- forward-facing height: Up to 49 inches
- a wedge insert is provided to help with a snug harness fit
- car seat must be reclined rear-facing
- car seat must be used in upright position when forward-facing and child weighs more than 40 pounds
- Britax recommends that the tether always be used forward-facing
- HUGS must be used when forward-facing

HOPE CAR BED FOR SPICA CAST

MODIFIED E-Z-ON VEST
- The child must fit lengthwise on the rear vehicle seat.
- The vest should be positioned over pelvic bone.
- Lay the child on the rear seat of the vehicle placing the child in the center of the seat, away from the doors.
- Thread two rear vehicle seatbelts (children under 30” use one belt) through the sides of the vest and the leg belt.
- Protect the head and neck with pillows.
- The extremity belt is used to secure casted or uncasted legs.

Extra Small:
- Age: 1 to 5 years old
- Weight: 20 to 65 pounds

Small:
- Age: 5 to 12 years
- Weight: 20 to 100 pounds

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