# **Child Passenger Safety**

# Top 5 for a Safe Ride





### 1. Make sure your child's harness is snug.

Tighten until you cannot pinch any slack at the shoulder. Place the chest clip at armpit level. Make sure the harness straps are in the correct slot for their direction (at or below the shoulders when rear facing; at or above the shoulders when forward facing).



#### 2. Install your seat tight to the vehicle.

Attach the seat to your vehicle using the lower anchors or seat belt and tighten. If you are using the seat belt, it must be locked so that it stays tight. The seat should move less than 1 inch (2.5 cm) when tested where it is attached to the car.



## 3. Always use the top tether on a forward-facing seat.

Check your vehicle manual to find out where the tether anchors are located. The tether reduces how far your child's head moves in a crash to prevent serious injury. This tether is required for all forward-facing seats in Canada.



#### 4. Don't rush your child into a booster seat.

Before moving to a booster seat, your child must weigh at least 18 kg (40 pounds) and be able to sit correctly without moving around or unbuckling. It is safest for your child to remain in a 5-point harness that fits their growing weight and height until they are ready.



Your child is safest riding in a booster seat until they are at least 145 cm (4 feet 9 inches) tall and can properly fit the adult seat belt. Most children are 10-12 years old before they can safely use the adult seat belt without a booster seat.

Child Safety Link: a program of the IWK Health Centre. Here for you with helpful information to keep your children safe. CSL-2018



