How to use your child’s infant car seat

A rear-facing seat gives the best protection for your baby’s head, neck and spine in a sudden stop or crash. You can use either a rear-facing only seat or a larger, rear-facing convertible seat as long as your baby fits correctly.

Place the car seat in the back seat, facing the back of the vehicle. 
Attach the seat using the lower anchors (UAS) or seat belt and tighten.
If you use the seat belt, it must be locked.
The seat should move less than 1 inch (2.5 cm) where it is attached to the car.
Adjust the seat to recline at the correct angle. Check your instructions.

Make sure the harness straps are in the slot level with or below your child’s shoulders.
Tighten the harness straps. You should not be able to pinch the harness at the shoulder.
The harness should be flat with no twists.
Place the chest clip at your baby’s armpit level.
Place the handle where the instructions tell you. All seats are different.

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Read your vehicle manual and follow the instructions for your seat.
Helpful tips for using your infant seat

- Install the seat at the most reclined angle allowed for your newborn. Check your instructions.
- Do not use items that did not come with your seat.
- Dress your baby in light layers and add blankets over top once he or she is safely buckled. Bulky coats and bunting bags are not safe for the car seat.
- Take your baby out of the car seat when you arrive. A car seat is not a safe place for your baby to sleep.
- Make sure your seat is safe to use. You can find a checklist, videos and other resources on our website.

When is your baby ready for the next seat?

- Check the labels on your seat to find out when your baby will reach the seat’s height or weight limits.
- Once your child has outgrown the infant seat, use a larger, rear-facing seat.
- Keep your child rear facing for as long as he or she still fits the larger, rear-facing seat.