

Protecting Your Children

Used Child Safety Seat Checklist



1. Was the seat manufactured within the last six years? Yes Continue
No Destroy the seat! It is no longer safe and should not be used.
2. Is the seat labeled as meeting current Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards? Yes Continue
No Destroy! It is no longer safe; do not use.
3. Has the seat been involved in a vehicle crash? No Continue
Yes Destroy! It is no longer safe to use.
Unknown? Destroy! The seat may have hidden damage. Every car seat manufacturer, The American Academy of Pediatrics, and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration all recommend a car seat that has been in a car crash be replaced.
4. Has the seat been recalled for safety defects? No Continue
Yes Have the defects been corrected?
 Yes Continue
 No Destroy! It is no longer safe.
 Unknown? Call manufacturer for help on how to see if recall has been repaired.
5. Are there any cracks, bends, or breaks in the plastic shell or metal frame? No Continue
Yes Destroy! It is no longer safe to use.
6. Does the seat have all its parts: harness straps, pad/upholstery, harness retainer clip, shield (if applicable), tether strap, LATCH connectors, locking clip, etc.? Yes Continue You **MUST** refer to the car seat instructions to see if all parts are present!
No Throw the seat away—or obtain replacement parts from the manufacturer!
7. Are the harness straps worn or frayed? No Continue
Yes Destroy—or obtain replacement parts from the manufacturer.
8. Is there rust in the buckle area? No Continue
Yes Throw the seat away—or obtain replacement parts from the manufacturer!
9. Does the buckle mechanism fasten securely, remain fastened, and unfasten smoothly? Yes Continue
No Destroy—or, obtain replacement parts from the manufacturer.
10. Do you have a copy of the manufacturer's instructions? Yes Use the seat!
No Order a new set from the manufacturer.