

Child Passenger Safety Fact Sheet

BOOSTER SEATS

Georgia's child passenger safety law:

All children under age 6 must be properly secured in a federally approved child safety seat or booster seat and placed in the back seat.

Additionally, all children over age 6 must be correctly buckled in a car seat, booster seat or seat belt.

- Booster seats provide the best protection for children who are between the ages 4 to 10, who are under 4 feet 9 inches tall and less than 80 to 100 pounds.
- Always use a booster seat with the vehicle's lap/shoulder belt combination. NEVER use a booster seat with a lap belt alone.
- Use a booster seat until the child reaches the maximum height for that seat according to the car seat manufacturer's instructions.
- If your child is over 40 pounds and is very active, a forward facing car seat with an internal harness to 50-65 pounds is the SAFEST way to travel for that child.

Important tips

- ✓ **Never** leave a child unattended for any reason, for any length of time in the vehicle.
- ✓ If a child places the shoulder belt portion of the seat belt behind their back, placing the child in a booster seat would be the safest way for that child to travel. This reduces the risk of serious neck, back and abdominal injuries in the event of a car crash.
- ✓ Any booster seat must be installed and used according to the manufacturer's instructions and vehicle owner's manual.
- ✓ **Keep all children under age 13 in the back seat correctly buckled in a car seat, booster seat or seat belt.**

Child Passenger Safety Links:

Safe Kids Worldwide www.safekids.org

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration www.nhtsa.gov

American Academy of Pediatrics www.aap.org

For information about child passenger safety contact Janet Weisman, Injury Prevention Coordinator at 404- 294-3700 or jeweisman@dhr.state.ga.us

