

# Choosing a Compliant Car Seat for Your Child

## A QUICK GUIDE FOR CAREGIVERS

### When You Get a New Car Seat:

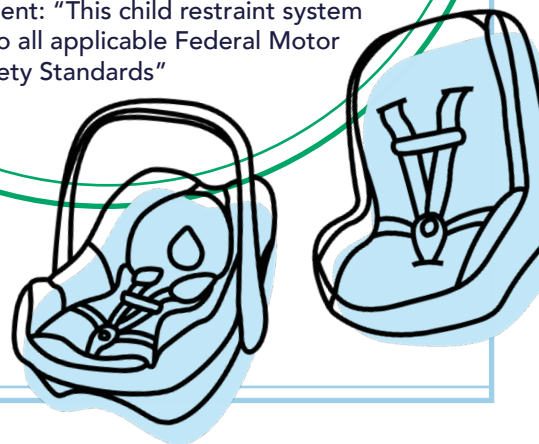
- ✓ Read the manual to learn how it works
- ✓ Practice installing it in your vehicle
- ✓ Practice fastening/adjusting the harness
- ✓ Register your seat with the manufacturer
- ✓ Get it checked by a Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST)

### What to Look For in a U.S. Compliant Car Seat:

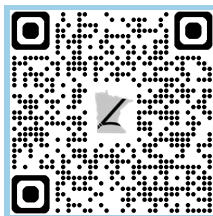
- ✓ Labels (in English)
- ✓ Only Buy From Trusted Retailers  
Stick to well-known stores or manufacturer websites.  
Avoid third-party vendors online.
- ✓ Registration Card & Manual should be included with the seat
- ✓ Chest Clip: U.S. car seats use a chest clip with a 5-point harness

### CHECK YOUR CAR SEAT FOR:

- ✓ Model Number/Manufacture Date
- ✓ Manufacturer's Name/Contact Info
- ✓ Weight/Height Limits: Pounds and Inches
- ✓ Metal Splitter Plate on Back of Seat\* (if applicable)  
*\*Car seats with a no-rethread harness may not have a visible splitter plate, as they use an internal harness adjustment system.*
- ✓ Certification for Aircraft Use\*\* (if applicable)  
*\*\*Not all car seats are meant to be used on airplanes.*
- ✓ The statement: "This child restraint system conforms to all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards"

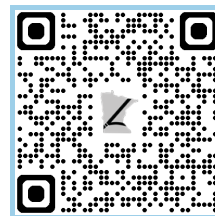


Check For Car Seat Recalls  
<https://bit.ly/4mVSQM6>



Get Your Seat Checked By A  
Child Passenger Safety Technician  
<https://bit.ly/3Psp9IY>

FIND A LINK TO AN  
UP-TO-DATE LIST OF  
APPROVED CAR SEATS  
ON THIS WEB PAGE!



Finding & Installing Your Car Seat  
<https://bit.ly/3Zj5Z7C>

## HOW TO IDENTIFY NON-COMPLIANT CAR SEATS

### Foreign Certifications are **NOT** U.S. Compliant

Some car seats may look legitimate but are designed for European or other standards (e.g. no chest clip). *These cannot be used legally in the U.S.*

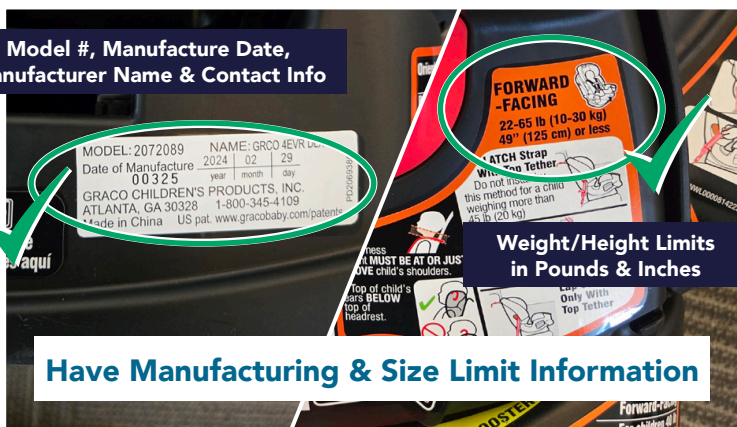
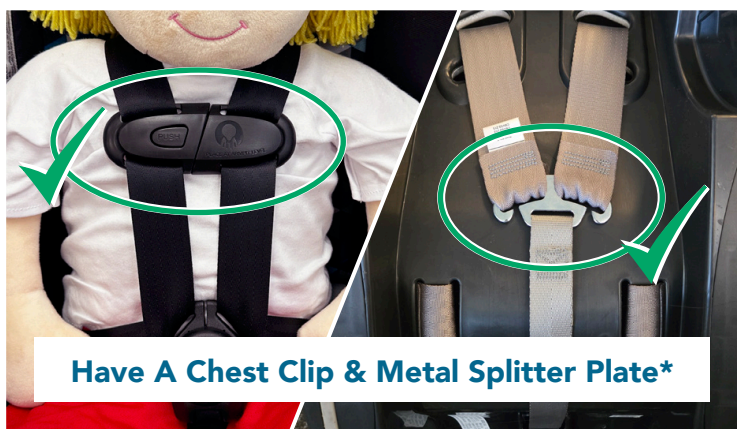
With unsafe and non-compliant car seats becoming more readily available, we need to be extra careful when choosing a car seat.

### U.S. Compliant Car Seats Should:

Images shown are examples only and do not endorse specific car seat manufacturers. Each seat is slightly different.

### RED FLAGS ON CAR SEATS:

- ✗ No U.S. Safety Labels
- ✗ Labels in Other Languages Only or With Poor Grammar/Spelling
- ✗ Labels That Only Show Photos
- ✗ No Chest Clip On Harness
- ✗ No Registration Card or Manual
- ✗ Manufacturer Name You Don't Recognize (especially if based overseas)
- ✗ Very Low Prices or Sold By Unknown Third-Party Sellers



If you think you have purchased a non-compliant car seat, stop using it immediately and contact a CPST for guidance.

**Not Sure If Your Car Seat is Compliant?** You're not alone and help is available!  
Contact a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician or schedule a free seat check.

**For more details, visit [BuckleUpMN.org](http://BuckleUpMN.org)**