



**Cedar Park Pediatric
& Family Medicine**
Complete Medical Care for your Family

Car Safety Recommendations

We highly recommend following the recommendations provided by the American Academy of Pediatrics:

Infants and toddlers: keep in a **rear-facing car safety seat** until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by the car safety seat manufacturer. It is important to keep your child rear-facing for as long as possible. This is a change from the previous recommendation and your child will be rear facing until at least age two.

Preschool and early school-age: children who have outgrown the rear-facing weight or height limit for their car seat should switch to a **forward-facing car safety seat** with a harness. They should remain in this seat for as long as possible and until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by their car safety seat manufacturer.

School-age: children who have outgrown the forward-facing car safety seat should use a **belt-positioning booster seat** until the lap and shoulder seat belt fits properly. The seat belt typically fits properly when they have reached 4 ft 9 inches in height and are between the ages of 8 and 12 years.

Older school-age: when the seat belt alone fits properly, they should always use **lap and shoulder seat belts** for optimal protection.

All children less than 13 years: must remain in **rear seats** of vehicles no matter what. An air bag deployed in the front seat can seriously injury or kill children under the age of 13 years.

Winter season: Do **not** restrain your child while he or she is wearing a thick, winter jacket.

Important: Have your child buckle up for **every** trip, no matter the length of time.