

Additional Resources

If you find yourself making some of these common errors, don't worry! Installing a child safety seat can be challenging, but there are lots of resources to help. Do your best to correct these errors on your own with the help of your child safety seat and vehicle manuals. If you are still unsure, consult a trained child passenger safety technician at a local **car seat check point**. This person can show you how to correct errors and achieve an optimal, secure installation.

Car Seat Inspection Stations:

Fairfield Co. Family, Adult and Children First Council

831 College Ave., Suite C , Lancaster, OH 43130

Hours: Please call for an appointment

Phone: 740-652-7282

Contact: Ann Probasco

AAA Ohio Auto Club - Lancaster

714 N. Memorial Dr., Lancaster, Ohio

Hours: Please call for an appointment

Phone: 740-653-0912

Contact: Natalie Massie

Violet Twp Fire Department

8700 Refugee Rd., Pickerington, OH 43147

Hours: Call to schedule an appointment

Phone: 614-837-4123



831 College Ave
Suite C
Lancaster, OH 43130

Phone: 740-652-7282
Fax: 740-681-5540
E-mail:
cprobasco@co.fairfield.oh.us

Safe Kids Fairfield County

Keeping All Kids Safe

Common Car Seat Installation Mistakes



Tel: 740-652-7282

Common Car Seat Installation Mistakes

1. Tightness of the installation



A properly installed child safety seat should not be able to move more than 1 inch in any direction (side to side or outward). Grip the seat at or near the belt path and make sure there is less than 1 inch of movement.



2. Position of the shoulder straps

While the chest clip should always be at arm-pit level, for rear-facing seats, the shoulder straps must be threaded through slots that are **at or below** your baby's shoulders. For forward-facing seats, the shoulder straps should be **at or above** your child's shoulders.

3. Pinch test



Once the harness is buckled, test the snugness by trying to pinch extra material at the top of your child's shoulders. If you are able to pinch extra webbing, the harness is too loose. Make sure to tighten and re-check.

4. Check the belt path



Convertible safety seats that transition from rear- to forward-facing have multiple slots for routing the seat belt during installation. Check the instruction manual for your child safety seat to make sure the seat belt is routed properly based on the direction of the installation.

5. Use the top tether



You can further optimize the safety of your child safety seat by using its top tether strap located at the top of the seat. Check your car seat and vehicle manuals for proper use of the tether for your seat. If use of the tether is appropriate, tightly attach the seat's top tether strap to the correct anchor point in the vehicle and tighten. Check your car owner's manual to identify the correct anchor point.



BASIC CAR SEAT SAFETY

Don't put your child at risk-buckle up the right way on every ride!

- ◆ My child always rides in a back seat and never in front of an airbag.
- ◆ Everyone in my car buckles up on every ride using the right car seat, booster seat or seat belt for each person's age and size.
- ◆ My child's car seat has all of its parts, labels and instructions and has never been in a crash.
- ◆ I follow the instructions for my car and my car seat so that my child is buckled in right
- ◆ I never leave my child alone in a car.

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