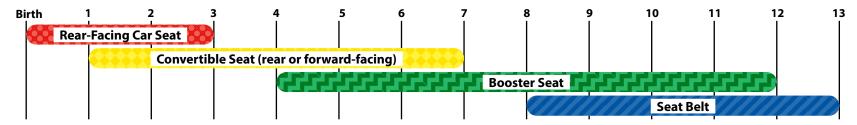
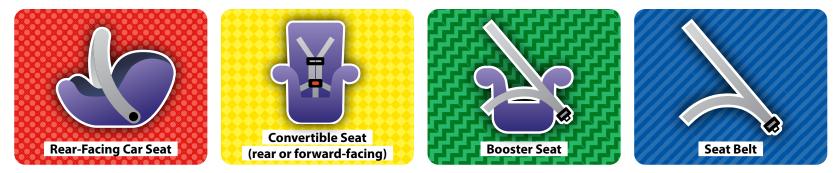
## **How to Choose the Right Car Seat**





## MICHIGAN SEAT BELTS AND CHILD RESTRAINTS

- Children younger than age 4 must ride in a car seat in the rear seat, if the vehicle has a rear seat. If all available rear seats are occupied by children under 4, then a child under 4 may ride in a car seat in the front seat. A child in a rearfacing car seat may only ride in the front seat if the airbag is turned off.
- All children must be buckled in a car seat or booster seat until they are 8 years old or 4'9".
- It is recommended that children 8 and older be placed in an age- and weight-appropriate child safety seat if the vehicle's seat belt does not fit properly. All children ages 12 and under ride in a rear seat.
- Drivers, front-seat passengers regardless of age, and all passengers ages 8 through 15 are required to wear properly adjusted seat belts.

## **QUICK TIPS**

- 1. Properly position the harness on the child.
  - a. Rear-facing—At or below the child's shoulders.
  - **b.** Forward-facing—At or above the child's shoulders.
- 2. Harness straps should lie flat, not twisted.
- **3.** The harness should be snug, without slack. It is snug enough when extra material cannot be pinched at the shoulders and hips.
- 4. Make sure the chest clip is at armpit level.
- Lock your seat belt (see owner's manual) or use your vehicle's LATCH system.
- **6.** Apply pressure to the car seat and tighten the seat belt or lower anchor strap. The seat should not move side-to-side or front-to-back more than 1 inch at the belt path.
- The top tether strap should be used with a forward-facing seat (see owner's manual). Connect it to the tether anchor and tighten.

## RESOURCES

For more information: www.michigan.gov/carseats



