# Georgia Child Passenger Safety Law (40-8-76)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Under 1 yr</th>
<th>1-3 yrs</th>
<th>4-7 yrs</th>
<th>8-18 yrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 20 lbs</td>
<td>Rear-facing car seat</td>
<td>Rear-facing car seat</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-40 lbs</td>
<td>Rear-facing car seat</td>
<td>Rear or Forward-facing car seat</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 40 lbs, Under 4’ 9”</td>
<td>Forward-facing or Booster seat plus lap and shoulder belt</td>
<td>Booster seat plus lap and shoulder belt or seat belt</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 4’ 9”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Seat belt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See description of restraint type on other side.

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Look for GROSS MISUSE or NON-USE

Non-use of car seats is the worst type of misuse.
Gross misuse may include:

- No seat belt or LATCH attachments anchoring the car seat.
- No harness straps securing the child in the car seat.
- A rear-facing child in the front seat with an active air bag.
- An infant or toddler less than 1 year-old facing forward.

For questions or more information email injury@dhr.state.ga.us or call (404) 679-0500.

September 2011
**DESCRIPTION OF RESTRRAINT TYPES**

- **A REAR-FACING CAR SEAT** is the best seat for your young child to use. It has a harness and in a crash, cradles and moves with your child to reduce the stress to the child’s fragile neck and spinal cord.

- **A FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT** has a harness and tether that limits your child’s forward movement during a crash.

- **A BOOSTER SEAT** positions the seat belt so that it fits properly over the stronger parts of your child’s body.

- **A SEAT BELT** should lie across the upper thighs and be snug across the shoulder and chest to restrain the child safely in a crash. It should not rest on the stomach area or across the neck.

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**Birth - 12 months**

Child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat, in the back seat.

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**Age 1 - 3 years**

Rear-facing in back seat, as long as possible, within the height or weight limit allowed by car seat manufacturer. Then forward-facing car seat in back seat.

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**Age 4 - 7 years**

Forward-facing car seat used within the height or weight limit allowed by the car seat manufacturer. Then a booster seat using lap and shoulder seat belt in the back seat.

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**Age 8 - 12 years**

Booster seat until seat belt fits properly with lap belt snug across the upper thighs, not the stomach and shoulder belt snug across the chest, not across the neck or face. Keep children in the back seat until age 13.

*American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends a rear-facing car seat until 2 years of age or until they reach the highest height or weight allowed by the car seat manufacturer.*