

## COMBINATION CAR SEATS

### COMBINATION CAR SEAT RULES

- Use the harness forward-facing car seat until your child has reached the maximum weight limits indicated in the owner's manual, generally 50 to 65 lbs., or up to 80 lbs., depending on the car seat.
- Look for high, top harness slots to accommodate taller children.
- Keep chest clip at armpit level, not on the neck or tummy. Harnesses should not be twisted or folded.
- Make sure that the harness fits snugly on your child (can't pinch any webbing at the shoulder), the retainer clip is at armpit level. The car seat fits snugly in your vehicle (cannot move more than 1 inch from side to side or front to back). Seatbelts or Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children (LATCH) should be properly locked.
- For LATCH, the combined weight limit is 65 lbs., (child's weight plus the weight of the car seat) for most vehicles. Check the vehicle's owner's manual. If child and car seat weigh more than 65 lbs., please use the vehicle seat belt.
- Tethers are the straps in the back of the car seat, by the child's head. They should always be used for forward-facing seats.
- When the child reaches the weight limit of the harness, or their shoulders are above the top harness slots, remove the harness and use the seat as a booster with a lap and shoulder belt.
- A lap belt should ride high on the thighs or low on the hip. The shoulder belt should cross the center of the shoulder and chest.
- Make sure the booster seat is buckled into the car at all times, even when the child is not in the seat. It can become a projectile if not secured.
- Use the built-in shoulder belt guide if the shoulder belt doesn't fit correctly
- The shoulder belt guide on some models can catch on the seatbelt and leave slack. Please make sure the belt is tight at all times.
- Thoroughly read the owner's manuals for your vehicle and car seat
- Avoid used car seats, expired car seats or those with an unknown history. They may have been in a crash. Do not use a car seat that shows any cracks or damage, or those with missing labels, model number, manufacturing date, instructions or parts. Kids should be in a car seat or booster until they can be seated properly in a seatbelt. For most kids, this is around 8-12 years old, but proper seatbelt fit is the most important factor.