Infants and toddlers should ride in a **rear-facing** child safety seat as long as possible, until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by their seat. Most convertible seats have limits that will allow children to ride rear-facing for 2 years or more.

Once they are facing forward, children should use a **forward-facing** child safety seat with a harness for as long as possible, until they reach the height and weight limit allowed by their seat. Many seats can accommodate children up to 65 pounds or more.

When children exceed these limits, they should use a **belt-positioning booster** seat until the vehicle’s lap and shoulder seat belt fits properly. This is often when they have reached at least 4 feet 9 inches in height and are 8 to 12 years old.

When children are old enough and large enough to use the vehicle seat belt alone, they should always use **lap and shoulder seat belts** for optimal protection.

All children younger than 13 years should be restrained in the **rear seats** of vehicles for optimal protection.

**What's The Best Child Safety Seat?**

- The one that fits your child
- The one that fits your vehicle
- The one that you will use correctly every ride

Do you have questions? Would you like to make an appointment to learn how to properly install your child safety seat? Call Safe Kids Mid-South, led by Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, at (901) 287-6730 or visit www.lebonheur.org/safekids.