

# Travelling safely – child’s play?

## Choosing the right child’s seat

As a general rule, children travelling by car, i.e. in the back in age-appropriate seats, are safely protected. However, it goes without saying that small children often prefer to sit in the front in the passenger seat. Children up to the age of twelve, or up to 150 cm in height, must sit in a suitable child seat or on a booster seat with or without a backrest when travelling by car. The same also applies to the front seat.

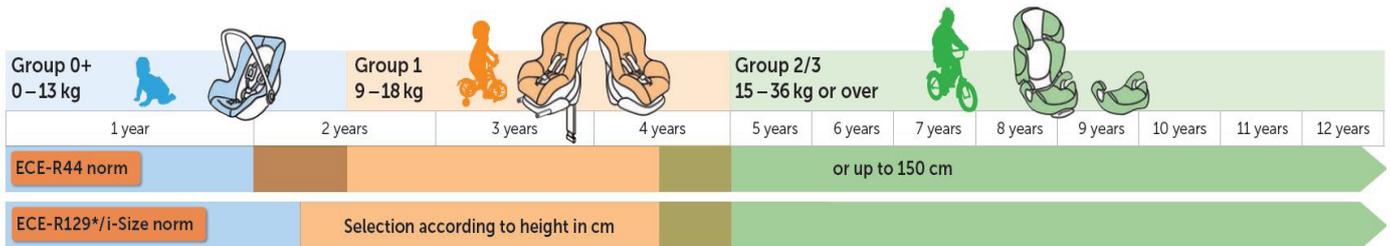


Chart source: the guide entitled “Auto-Kindersitze 2015” jointly published by Touring Club Switzerland (TCS) and the Swiss Council for Accident Prevention (bfu) (available in German, French and Italian).

### Child seating for babies

Backward-facing seats for forward thinkers: Babies should be driven in a baby seat for as long as possible. A baby’s head, cervical spine and back is much more stable when they are sat in the car facing backwards in comparison to when they are sat in forward-facing child seats.



According to the ECE-R129 standard, babies must be driven in rear-facing baby seats until they are at least 15 months old.

Many child seat manufacturers also sell so-called reboard seats. Children up to the age of four years can travel in these seats, which have a rear-facing design.

### Reboard child car seats

A rear-facing seat must not be installed if an airbag system is activated in the passenger seat.



Most vehicle models allow the passenger airbag to be deactivated, either manually or automatically when you use a child seat produced by the vehicle manufacturer. In this case, a rear-facing child seat can also be used in the front passenger seat.

## What exactly should I bear in mind when buying child seats and baby seats?

1. Arrange a consultation with a specialist. Investing in the right child seat will definitely pay off.
2. Buy a certified and tested child seat. The approval number on the ECE label should start with 03 or 04.
3. Select the child seat in accordance with the weight, height and age of your child.
4. Check whether you are able to easily install and fasten the child seat yourself. Also check whether you can fasten the child's seat belt and adjust the seat without any problems.
5. Always install the child seat on the back seat as this guarantees the highest level of safety.
6. The installed child seat must be securely fastened. It must not be loose or wobble. Do not use any of your own methods to fasten the child seat in the correct position.
7. Check whether the clips on vehicle's seat belts are long enough to reach the buckle when the child seat that needs to be secured is in place.
8. If there is no anchoring system (e.g. ISOFIX) in the car, the seat belts must be pulled as tightly as possible.
9. Check that the seat belt positioner is in the correct place for the child and the seat. Seat belt straps must not be twisted.
10. Make sure that the shoulder belt also goes over your child's shoulder. You must not place the seat belt positioner below the child's arm or too close to their neck.



When selecting a child seat, it should be tailored to the height of your child and your vehicle.

### The following brands are popular child seat manufacturers:



[www.maxi-cosi.com](http://www.maxi-cosi.com)



[www.kiwyworld.com](http://www.kiwyworld.com)



[cybex-online.com](http://cybex-online.com)

### For further in-depth information:

The guide published by TCS and the bfu entitled "Auto-Kindersitze 2015" ("Child Car Seats 2015") helps to improve the safety of our smallest passengers (available in German, French and Italian).

[www.tcs.ch](http://www.tcs.ch)

Swiss Post Ltd  
Mobility Solutions  
Stöckackerstrasse 50  
3030 Bern

Phone: 058 338 55 00

**SWISS POST** 