Your child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat. There are different types of rear-facing car seats.

- Infant-only seats can only be used rear-facing.
- Convertible and All-in-one car seats typically have higher height and weight limits for the rear-facing position, allowing you to keep your child rear-facing for a longer period of time.

Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by the car seat's manufacturer.

Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether.

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by the car seat's manufacturer.

Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it’s time to travel in a booster seat but still in the back seat.

REMEMBER: KEEP YOUR CHILD IN THE BACK SEAT AT LEAST THROUGH AGE 12.

DID YOU KNOW?

- In 2015 alone, 116,000 children under age 13 were injured as passengers in car crashes.
- In 2015, among children under the age of 5 in cars, an estimated 266 lives were saved by child restraints.
- In 2015, over one-third (35%) of children killed in car crashes were not in car seats, booster seats or seat belts.
- 3,194 children were killed in car crashes during a 5-year period (2011-2015). In addition, an estimated 599,000 children were injured.
- All 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico have laws requiring children to be restrained while riding in cars.

Visit nhtsa.gov/herightseat
Register your car seats and booster seats.