

Minnesota Child Passenger Safety Law

	Age/Size	Restraint Use
	<p>Birth to at least 2 years old.</p>	<p>Rear-facing in an infant or convertible child safety seat.</p>
	<p>At least 2 years old AND has outgrown the rear-facing seat with internal harness by height or weight.</p>	<p>Forward-facing with an internal harness.</p>
	<p>4 Years old AND has outgrown the forward-facing seat with internal harness by height or weight.</p>	<p>Ride restrained in a belt-positioning booster seat using the lap belt and shoulder belt.</p>
	<p>9 years old or has outgrown the booster seat AND the child can pass the 5-step test.</p> <p>A child, under age 13, must sit in a back seat, if possible.</p>	<p>Ride restrained with a lap belt and shoulder belt secured correctly on the vehicle seat.</p>

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The 5-step test demonstrates how the seat belt fits correctly:

1. The child sits all the way back against the vehicle seat.
2. The child's knees bend over the edge of the vehicle seat.
3. The lap belt fits snugly across the hips near the top of the child's thighs, not the child's abdomen.
4. The shoulder belt snugly crosses the center of the child's chest and shoulder, not the child's neck.
5. The child sits correctly, without slouching, for the duration of the ride.

Every driver who transports a child or children under the age of 18 years in a motor vehicle is required to have the child or children restrained in a child safety seat or seat belt.

If a child can be placed in more than one category, then the child must be placed in the more protective category (rear-facing being the most protective category).