What to Know about Booster Seats

Why are they so important?

Booster seats help protect kids who are too big for a car seat but too small for just a seat belt.

Although seat belts are safer than nothing at all, children who should be in booster seats but wear only seat belts are at risk of severe abdominal, head and spinal injuries in the event of a crash.

Booster seats can reduce the risk of serious injury by 45 percent compared to seat belts alone.

Motor vehicle crashes* are the second-leading cause of death for children 4 to 10 years old.

423 children this age died in motor vehicle crashes* in 2021.

At least 37% of these children were riding without a restraint that could have saved their lives.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's 2021 National Survey of the Use of Booster Seats found that among children ages 4 – 7 only 73.2 percent of children observed were restrained in either forward-facing car seats or booster seats, while 16.1 percent were prematurely transitioned to seatbelts and 10.6 percent were unrestrained.

A child should remain in a booster seat until they have outgrown the seat by height or weight according to the booster seat instruction manual.

Buckle up every ride, every time, in the right seat.

* vehicle occupant fatalities

Learn more at www.safekids.org