





## CHILD RESTRAINTS REQUIRED FOR CHILDREN THROUGH AGE 5 in Motor Vehicles Effective January 1, 2015

### Florida Statute 316.613 states every driver of a motor vehicle must:

- protect children through age 5 (formerly age 3) by properly using a child restraint device
- comply or receive a moving violation, 3 points on driver's license, and a minimum \$60 fine plus court costs and fees

### Choose the Right Seat

<p>1</p>  <p><b>Rear Facing</b></p> <p><b>For Newborns Up To Weight/Height Limit of Seat</b> This seat cradles and moves with child to reduce stress to child's fragile neck and spinal cord.</p>	<p>2</p>  <p><b>Forward Facing</b></p> <p><b>For Children More Than Weight/Height Limit of Rear Facing</b> The harness and tether limits child's forward movement during a crash.</p>	<p>3</p>  <p><b>Booster Seat</b></p> <p><b>For Children More Than Weight/Height Limit of Forward Facing</b> A booster seat positions seat belt properly over stronger parts of child's body.</p>	<p>4</p>  <p><b>Seat Belt</b></p> <p><b>For Children Tall Enough for Belt to Lay Properly</b> Place lap belt across upper thighs, not stomach. Place shoulder belt across shoulder and chest, not across neck or face.</p>
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Need assistance? Contact the Florida Occupant Protection Resource Center for your safety needs, like finding a local fitting station with certified CPS Technicians to ensure correct car seat installation.



The OPRC also provides promotional items, and scholarships for CPS Technician Certification fees to all Florida citizens. Call 352-273-1671 for details or visit [floridaopr.cce.ufl.edu](http://floridaopr.cce.ufl.edu).





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### Florida Statute 316.613 exceptions for children ages 4 through 5

- Being transported gratuitously by a non-family member
- Transported in medical emergency situations
- has a medical condition necessitating an exception

### Proper Installation Recommendations

#### Choose a Car Seat to Fit the Child and Vehicle

Make sure the car seat is designed to fit your child's current height and weight, and will suffice as your child grows. Test the car seat you plan to buy to make sure it fits well in your vehicle. Not all car seats fit in all vehicles.

#### Read the Car Seat and Vehicle Manuals

Every car seat is different. Every vehicle is different. Read the car seat manual for either LATCH or seat belt installation, as well as the vehicle manual's section on installing car seats in that particular position in the vehicle.

#### Secure the Car Seat to the Vehicle

Car seat should not move more than 1 inch when pulled at the belt path. Check for a correct recline angle if rear facing; if forward facing, connect the top tether strap. The back seat is the safest position, away from direct crash impacts and air bags.

#### Secure the Child in the Car Seat

Harness straps lie flat, not twisted, and snug enough so that extra material cannot be pinched at the shoulder. Rear facing straps should be at or below your child's shoulders; forward facing should be at or above. The chest clip should be at armpit level.

### Local Fitting Station Information

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

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