Safety tips

- Children are safer in their restraint until they have reached the maximum height requirements of the restraint.
- Children under 7 must sit in the back seat of the car.
- It is safer for children under 12 not to sit in the front seat of the car.
- To sit on the adult seat the child should meet the 5-Step test. https://kidsafe.com.au/crguidelines/
- Buy a restraint with an Australian Standards sticker. The restraint must comply with AS/NZS1754.
- The centre lap belt should be fastened when not in use.
- The top tether strap should be firm and must be attached to an approved anchor point.
- The seat belt anchoring the restraint must be tight.
- Anchor points must be factory fitted but can be retrofitted by a Queensland Transport approved fitter.
- Use the child safety locks on the rear doors.
- Moveable items like toys and animals must be secure.
- Second-hand restraints:
  - must be under 10 years old
  - have Australian Standards sticker visible
  - instructions label must be visible and have an instruction book
  - no wear and tear on straps or buckles; and
  - check adjusters still work correctly
- Do not use a restraint that has been in an accident or in floodwater.
- Always make sure everyone's seat belt or restraint is firmly fastened - including your own - and with no twists.

kidsafeqld.com.au

Compliance

Since 11 March 2010, all children up to 7 years of age must be secured in a child restraint.

A child may stop using a child car restraint once they turn 7 years of age - but are safer in a harnessed seat or booster longer - until they have outgrown it. At that stage they can legally sit on an adult seat and use the adult seat belt.

The new child restraint laws have been introduced to improve children's safety and ensure they are secure in the right restraint for their age.

The child restraint must comply with the Australian Standard (AS/NZS1754). An approved child restraint wil display an Australian Standards tick logo.

For more information

More information on the legislation and rules, including the penalties for non-compliance, is available from Kidsafe Queensland and the Department of Transport and Main Roads https://streetsmarts.initiatives.qld.gov.au/parents/child-restraints/

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A guide to child car restraints

TYPES OF RESTRAINTS

SAFETY TIPS

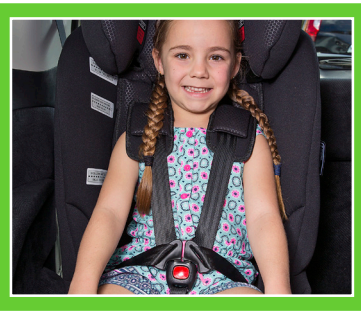
PENALTIES AND FINES

USE THE CORRECT RESTRAINT

BIRTH TO 6MTHS

6MTHS TO 4 YEARS

4 TO 7 YEARS



HEIGHT MARKERS

NEWBORNS and **INFANTS** up to the age of 6 months MUST travel rearward facing

TODDLERS must travel either rearward facing or forward facing with inbuilt harness.

(Kidsafe recommends that INFANTS remain rear facing as long as the restraint allows and cannot travel forward facing until their shoulders meet the minimum height markers for forward facing.)

After the age of 4, **KIDS** travel either in a forward facing restraint with an inbuilt harness or a booster seat used with an adult seat belt. After the age of 7 a child may stay in the restraint or booster as long as the restraint allows.

PENALTIES

A $1161 fine and 4 demerit points for each child in an **Incorrect** restraint or **Not** restrained. Double demerit points also apply for some repeat offences.

Children MUST be seated according to the height markings in all seats.

Kidsafe Queensland Inc