

Low Birth-Weight Babies and Rear-Facing Child Safety Seats

Before going home from the hospital, a smaller baby may be tested to see if he has trouble breathing in the child safety seat. You may be asked to bring your child safety seat to the hospital for this test.

Infants depend on their parents and caregivers to make every ride a safe ride! Extra care may be needed when choosing and using a child safety seat for a low birth-weight baby.

Use the **Child Safety Seat YES Test, Rear-Facing** to check your baby's safety seat. Add the following points for a baby with a low birth-weight.

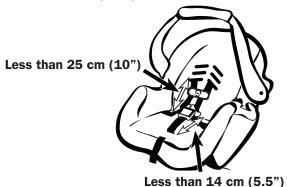
Getting ready...

For the child safety seat to fit my baby's smaller size:

The child safety seat is meant ONLY for rear-facing use.

The lowest shoulder slot is less than 25 cm (10") from the bottom of the seat.

The slot for the crotch strap is less than 14 cm (5.5") from the back of the seat.



Buckling your baby in the child safety seat...

If my baby slouches, I place a small, rolled up receiving blanket or towel between his legs and the crotch strap.

If my baby needs help staying centred, I place a small, rolled up receiving blanket or towel on either side of her body.

Just being smart...

Until at least 1 month after my baby's original due date:

My baby uses the child safety seat for travel only. When we reach our destination, I take my baby out of the child safety seat.

On longer trips, I stop the vehicle every 1 to 1½ hours and take my baby out of the child safety seat.

I make sure my baby lays flat in the stroller and other baby equipment.



For more information contact Health Link Alberta:

In Calgary area at 403-943-LINK (5465)
In Edmonton area at 780-408-LINK (5465)
Toll-free in Alberta at 1-866-408-LINK (5465)
or visit www.albertaseatbelts.ca/kids



