

Important Points to Remember When Using A Booster Seat:

- The booster seat is in the back seat of the vehicle.
- My child's booster seat is not placed in an airbag seating position.
- The shoulder belt is always worn correctly across the centre of my child's chest. In a collision, my child could be seriously injured with the shoulder belt positioned under the arm or behind the back.

My Child is Ready to Graduate to a Seat Belt When He/She Can:

- Sit with the lap portion of the belt riding low across the hips
- Sit with the shoulder portion of the belt crossing between the neck and arm
- Sit with his/her knees bent comfortably at the edge of the vehicle seat
- Sit with his/her back flat against the back of the vehicle seat without slouching, AND
- Remain in this position for the entire trip.
(from SafetyBeltSafe USA)

For more information on booster seats, call Calgary Health Region's information line at 943-LINK (5465).

Information in this brochure adapted from



Is your child between **4 and 8 years of age?**

Take the **booster seat** **YES** test



Once a child outgrows a forward facing car seat, a booster seat is needed because adult seat belts do not properly fit a child size body.

Children over 18 kg (40 lbs) are safest riding in a vehicle in a booster seat up to 8 years of age or 36 kg (80 lbs).

Look inside to find out why a booster seat is safer than a seat belt for your child. Take the Yes Test to see if your child needs a booster seat and how to choose the best type for your vehicle.

booster seat



Boost Their Chances... use a booster seat to help your child fit into an adult world safely and correctly!

Why Use a **Booster Seat?**

- Booster seats are the safest choice for children who have outgrown their forward facing seat.
- A young child wearing an adult seat belt before he/she is ready is 3 1/2 times more likely to be injured during a crash than if they were in a booster seat.
- An adult seat belt does not properly fit a young child's small body. When seat belts do not fit, young children will often place the shoulder belt behind their back or under their arm which increases the risk of injury during a crash.
- Lap belts may ride up over a child's stomach causing serious internal injuries in a crash.
- In booster seats, children are raised up enough to see out windows and be more content.
- Using a booster seat until a child is minimum of 8 years old or 36 kg (80 lbs) provides the safest ride.

Does Your Child Need a **Booster Seat?**



My child weighs between 18 kg (40 lbs) and 36 kg (80 lbs) and is less than eight years old.



My child has a sitting height of less than 74 cm (29") or a standing height of less than 148 cm (58").

If you checked either of the above points, your child should be in a booster seat.



Take the
booster seat
YES
test

Read the booster seat instructions and the vehicle Owner's Manual for proper use and installation information.

Choosing a **Booster Seat...**

The best booster for your child depends on what seat belt system you have in your vehicle.



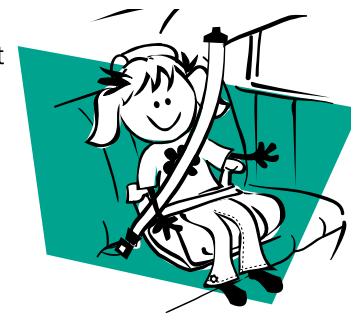
I have lap-shoulder belts in my vehicle.

The options for a lap-shoulder belt are **Belt Positioning Boosters**. These raise the child up so the seat belt fits better. A lap-shoulder belt must be used. There are 2 types of belt positioning boosters:

1. **High Back** gives the child head support on vehicle seats with low backs.
2. **Backless** has a seat base with armrest/elbow rests.



High Back Booster



Backless Booster



I have lap belts only in my vehicle.

The option for a lap belt only are **Shield Boosters**. This type of booster seat is only recommended when there are only lap belts available in all the rear seating positions. If lap/shoulder belts are available, then a belt positioning booster is recommended.



Shield Booster

(see back page for more)