

Special Needs Car Safety Seats/Restraints Product Information

Type	Model Name	Manufacturer	Price	Weight Limits	Height Limits	Conditions	Comments
Standard infant-only seats	Varies	Varies For more information about standard car seats, ask your pediatrician about the American Academy of Pediatrics brochure, <i>Car Safety Seats: A Guide for Families</i> .	Varies	Upper limit varies from 20–35 pounds.	Up to 35"	Premature or small babies	Choose seats with smaller harness size. Use seats without shield or tray for best fit. Use rolled receiving blankets along both sides of baby for side support and a rolled cloth under the crotch strap to prevent slouching. At least 1 infant-only seat rear-faces to higher weights. Check instructions for weight and height limits.
Standard convertible seats	Varies	Varies	Varies	Rear-facing varies from 20–35 pounds; forward-facing up to 40 pounds.	Up to 40"	Decreased head and neck control, tracheostomies, long leg casts, eyeglasses	Use rear-facing for all children until they are at least 1 year of age AND at least 20 pounds. Use seats that rear-face to higher weights for larger babies or children with decreased head, neck, and trunk control. In forward-facing position, use a seat that can be semi-reclined for children with decreased head and neck control. Use 5-point harness for children with tracheostomies, eyeglasses, and thick, long leg casts.
Standard combination seats	Varies	Varies	Varies	Up to 40 pounds with harness; up to 80 pounds used as booster seat without harness	Up to 40" with harness; up to 54" used as booster seat without harness	Some casts, behavioral conditions, decreased muscle tone	Forward-facing car seat with harness. After 40 pounds, harness is removed and seat becomes a high-back belt-positioning booster seat. Must have a lap and shoulder belt when used as a booster seat.
Standard forward-facing seats/restraints	Varies	Varies	Varies	Upper limit varies from 40–80 pounds.	Upper limit varies from 40"–53"	Some casts, behavioral conditions, decreased muscle tone	Forward-facing only. Some require use of a tether.
Standard booster seats	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies from 80–100 pounds.	Varies from 50"–56"	For children who can sit up unassisted	Must be used with a lap and shoulder belt. Low-back and high-back models are available.
Car beds	Angel Ride Infant Car Bed	Mercury Distributing 800/815-6330 www.mercurydistributing.com Angel Guard Products, Inc www.angel-guard.com	\$55	Up to 9 pounds	20" or less	Small and premature babies	Harness with dual-tongue buckle. Install lengthwise with baby's head toward the center of the vehicle.

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<i>Car beds continued</i>	Ultra Dream Ride Car Bed	Cosco, Inc 2525 State St Columbus, IN 47201 800/544-1108 www.djgusa.com	\$70	Up to 20 pounds	Up to 26"	Useful for babies who must travel flat because of breathing problems, fragile bones, Pierre Robin Sequence, spina bifida, and orthopedic conditions.	Install lengthwise with baby's head toward the center of the vehicle. If it is medically necessary for the baby to travel on his stomach, he will outgrow the bed before weighing 20 pounds.
	Snug Seat Car Bed	Snug Seat, Inc PO Box 1739 Matthews, NC 28106 800/336-SNUG (7684) www.snugseat.com	\$500	4–21 pounds	Up to 29"	Useful for babies who must travel lying down because of conditions such as breathing problems, osteogenesis imperfecta, Pierre Robin Sequence, spina bifida, and orthopedic conditions .	Baby is secured in a sturdy cloth bunting (sleeping bag) inside the bed. Snug Seat may modify sleeping bag for special applications. Install lengthwise with baby's head toward the center of the vehicle.
Specialized convertible car seat	Spelcast	Snug Seat, Inc PO Box 1739 Matthews, NC 28106 800/336-SNUG (7684) www.snugseat.com	\$295	10–20 pounds rear-facing; 20–40 pounds forward-facing	Up to 40"; child's head should not go above seat.	Designed for babies and toddlers who cannot use a standard car seat because of hip spica casts or other orthopedic devices.	Designed specifically for children in casts. Tether recommended for forward-facing position. Check with manufacturer to see how the weight of the cast affects how you use the seat.
Forward-facing medical seats	Columbia Orthopedic Positioning Seat	Columbia Medical PO Box 633 Pacific Palisades, CA 90272 800/454-6612 www.columbiamedical.com	\$745	20–102 pounds	Up to 60"	Lack of upper body strength	Comes with adjustable head support pads, 4 positioning pads, crotch strap pad, and tether. Optional seat depth extender and abductor pad. Fits in many stroller bases including Columbia Stroller Base. Tether required for installation for children more than 65 pounds.

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<i>Forward-facing medical seats continued</i>	Carrie Car Seat	Tumble Forms Bergeron Health Care 15 S Second St Dolgeville, NY 13329 800/371-2778 www.tumbleforms.com	\$745– \$885 (depending on size)	Four sizes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20–40 pounds (preschool) • 30–60 pounds (elementary) • 50–100 pounds (junior) • 60–130 pounds (small adult) 	Four sizes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30"–38" (preschool) • 38"-48" (elementary) • 48"-58" (junior) • 56"-68" (small adult) 	Decreased head, neck, and trunk control	Lateral head support and molded seat shape. Adjustable seat-to-back angle. Tether required. Optional footrest adjusts to maintain hip, knee, and ankle flexion. Optional stroller base and Cozee cover. Seat designed to stabilize the pelvis to assist with positioning problems.
	Traveller Plus	Britax Child Safety, Inc 13501 S Ridge Dr Charlotte, NC 28273 704/409-1700 www.britaxusa.com	\$450	20–105 pounds and minimum 1 year of age	19"–56"	Decreased head, neck, and trunk control	Forward-facing only. Comes with seat extender, recline bar, and crotch pommel. Must use top tether. Tether anchored to 2 points for children 80–105 pounds. Interchangeable foam padding allows for customizing seat.
	Gorilla Postural Seat	Snug Seat, Inc PO Box 1739 Matthews, NC 28106 800/336-SNUG (7684) www.snugseat.com	\$595	20–105 pounds and minimum 1 year of age.	Child's head not to extend above car seat back height.	Cerebral palsy, spina bifida, muscular dystrophy, and similar conditions	Forward-facing only. Tether required. Comes with adjustable head support pads. Optional seat extension kit and seat recline wedge. Optional stroller base.
	Snug Seat I Postural Seat	Snug Seat, Inc PO Box 1739 Matthews, NC 28106 800/336-SNUG (7684) www.snugseat.com	\$750	20–45 pounds	Child's head not to extend above car seat back height	Decreased head, neck, and trunk control and skeletal deformities	Forward-facing only. Tether required. Foam pad positioning system for customized fit. Crash tested in conjunction with the Transport Stroller Base for tie-down in school buses.
	Snug Seat 1000 Car Seat	Snug Seat, Inc PO Box 1739 Matthews, NC 28106 800/336-SNUG (7684) www.snugseat.com	\$295	30–60 pounds	Child's head not to extend above car seat back height.	Decreased trunk control and weak neck muscles	Forward-facing only. Uses shoulder/lap belt. Has 5-point positioning harness. Comes with adjustable head support pads, built-in abduction, support tray, and seat wedge. Optional trunk and hip pads available. Lightweight.

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Travel vests	BESI Restraining Harness	Besi Manufacturing 9445 Sutton Pl Hamilton, OH 45011 800/543-8222 www.besi-inc.com	\$85	Up to 164 pounds	None; for waists 22"–43"	Behavioral conditions; decreased trunk control	For school bus use only. Need hip measurement. Adjustable sizes. Cam wrap required for school bus installation, along with lap belt.
<i>Travel vests continued</i>	E-Z-On Vest	E-Z-On Products, Inc of Florida 605 Commerce Way W Jupiter, FL 33458 800/323-6598 www.ezonpro.com	\$77–\$102 (varies with size and model)	Manufacturer recommends for ages 2 years and older and 40–164 pounds.	None; for waists 22"–43"	Behavioral conditions; decreased trunk control	Standard and fully adjustable sizes. Optional crotch strap. Tether required for vehicle installation; cam wrap required for school bus installation. Styles include "adjustable" zippers and shoulder straps.
	E-Z-On 86-Y Universal Harness	E-Z-On Products, Inc of Florida 605 Commerce Way W Jupiter, FL 33458 800/323-6598 www.ezonpro.com	\$60–\$80	Manufacturer recommends for ages 4 years and older and 40–164 pounds.	None	Behavioral conditions	Harness supplements vehicle lap belt with 2 straps to hold upper body. Attaches to car with single bolt.
	Q'Vest	Q'Straint 5553 Ravenswood Rd Bldg 110 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312 800/987-9987 www.qstraint.com	\$84	Two sizes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20–60 pounds • 60 pounds or more 	None	Behavioral conditions; decreased trunk control	Manufacturer recommends for school bus use only.
Travel vests (reclined)	Modified E-Z-On Vest	E-Z-On Products, Inc of Florida 605 Commerce Way West Jupiter, FL 33458 800/323-6598 www.ezonpro.com	\$111–\$132	Manufacturer recommends for ages 2–12; 20–100 pounds.	Child must fit lengthwise on a bench seat. Sizes are for hips 22"-32".	For older children who must lie down because of conditions such as spinal injuries, body casts, long leg casts, or hip spica casts	Need hip measurement to determine size. Standard and adjustable models. Optional crotch strap. Requires 2 seat belts for installation.
Mobility base systems	Kid Kart Xpress	Sunrise Medical 7477 E Dry Creek Pkwy Longmont, CO 80503 800/388-5278 www.sunrisemedical.com	\$2,195 (standard package)	Seat is built on basis of child's measurements; maximum user weight of 55 pounds.	Based on specific measurements of child.	Decreased head, neck, and trunk control and other conditions requiring use of wheelchair	For use in school bus or van. Tie-down locations on mobility base tested and approved for transit. Manufacturer recommends use of Q'Straint tie-down system. Center mount joystick. Seating system options and accessories, including vent base frame, IV pole, and spica cast support.

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	Kid Kart TLC	Sunrise Medical 7477 E Dry Creek Pkwy Longmont, CO 80503 800/388-5278 www.sunrisemedical.com	\$2,750 (standard package)	Seat is built on basis of child's measurements ; maximum user weight of 75 pounds.	Based on specific measurements of child	Decreased head, neck, and trunk control and other conditions requiring use of wheelchair	For use in school bus or van. Tie-down locations on mobility base tested and approved for transit. Manufacturer recommends use of Q'Straint tie-down system. Seating system options and accessories, including vent and battery tray, and IV pole.
<i>Mobility base systems continued</i>	Mulholland Growth Guidance System	Mulholland Positioning Systems, Inc 215 N 12th St PO Box 391 Santa Paula, CA 93061 800/543-4769 www.mulhollandinc.com	\$2,500– \$4,500	Up to 50 pounds	None	Decreased head, neck, and trunk control	Postural support system with stroller base. Remove from stroller for installation in vehicle. Requires a tether. Install in bus or van only with Positioning Systems, Inc tie-down system.
	Pixie Positioning Chair	Sammons Preston PO Box 5071 Bollingbrook, IL 60440-5071 800/323-5547 www.sammonspreston.com	\$1,435– \$1,625	Children ages 3–12; small and large sizes up to 110 pounds	None	Cerebral palsy and conditions that require positioning	Height-adjustable footrest and multiple harness settings. Folds for storage and travel.

Resources

The *Emergency Information Form for Children With Special Needs* is available from the AAP and the American College of Emergency Physicians. This form is on the Internet at www.aap.org/advocacy/emergprep.htm.

American Academy of Pediatrics

www.aap.org

Medem, an e-health network

www.medem.com

Automotive Safety for Children Program

Riley Hospital for Children

575 West Dr, Room 004

Indianapolis, IN 46202

317/274-2977

www.preventinjury.org

Easter Seals

230 W Monroe, Suite 1800

Chicago, IL 60606

800/221-6827

www.easter-seals.org

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)

Office of Occupant Protection-NTS-13

400 7th St, NW

Washington, DC 20590

888/DASH-2-DOT (888/327-4236)

www.nhtsa.dot.gov

Web site devoted to issues related to wheelchairs.

www.wheelchairnet.org

There may be car safety seats/restraints available that are not listed in this brochure. The products listed here are current only as of the date of publication. Some of the products noted may accommodate children with medical conditions not listed here. Addresses, phone numbers and Web site addresses are as current as possible, but may change at any time.

Suggested retail prices may vary.

The appearance of the name American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) does not constitute a guarantee or endorsement of the products listed or claims made.

The information contained in this publication should not be used as a substitute for the medical care and advice of your pediatrician. There may be variations in treatment that your pediatrician may recommend based on individual facts and circumstances.

Although the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is not a testing or standard-setting organization, this guide sets forth the Academy's recommendations based on the peer-reviewed literature available at the time of its publication and sets forth some of the factors that parents should consider before selecting and using a car safety seat or safety restraint.