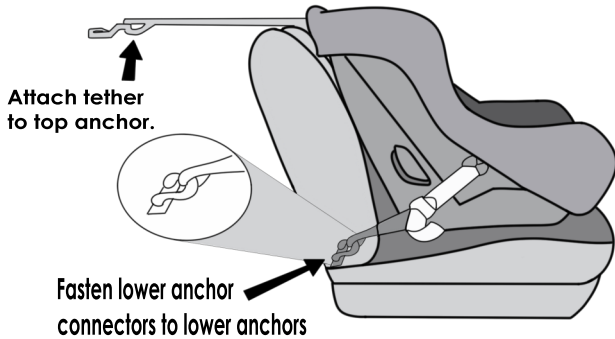


LATCH SYSTEM

LATCH (Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children) can be used on Infant seats, convertible seats, and boosters with a harness. When the child is forward facing you need to use the top tether for the seat, even when using a seat belt. LATCH is available on most cars that are 2000 and newer. (see images below)



Forward-Facing Belt Path



Rear-Facing Belt Path

Always keep the manual for your child safety seat in the storage space on the seat, or in a safe place so you can refer to it as needed.

All vehicle owner's manuals show proper installation for the particular make and model of the vehicle.

Anyone riding in a vehicle should wear their seat belt

DO I QUALIFY FOR A CAR SEAT?

Do you live in Lewis County? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you the parent or legal guardian with at least 50% parenting time? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you WIC eligible? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have answered yes to all three questions, call Lewis County Opportunities to set up an appointment with a car seat technician.

New York State Child Car Seat Laws:

- ♦ Children must remain rear facing until 2 years of age.
- ♦ All children under the age of 4 must ride in child safety seats.
- ♦ All children must ride with child restraint systems until their 8th birthday.
- ♦ Children must meet the size and weight requirement based on the Federal requirements and recommendations of the seat manufacturer.
- ♦ An appropriate child safety restraint system can be a child safety seat, a harness, a vest or a booster seat attached to the vehicle seat belt. It can NOT be the vehicle seat belt alone.
- ♦ Child restraints should never be used in the front seat of the vehicle.

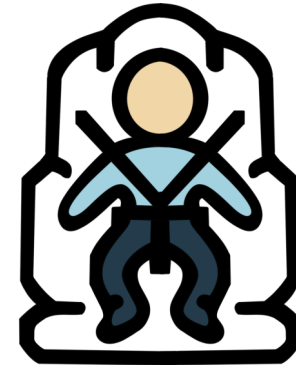
(Source: New York State DMV-Safety Restraints)

**If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact one of the car seat technicians at
Lewis County Opportunities
315-376-8202**



Child Passenger Safety

Parent Guide



Contact Us

8265 State Route 812
Lowville, NY 13367
Telephone: (315) 376-8202
Fax: (315) 376-8421

Opportunity Knocks Thrift Store
315-376-2981

24 Hour Crisis Hotline
315-376-HELP (4357)

www.lewiscountyopportunities.com



WHAT TYPE OF SEAT DO I NEED?

INFANT SEAT:

- Usually two parts - consisting of a base and seat. The seat can be used alone, secured with a seat belt (per instructions).
- Used from birth to 2 years of age or until specified weight and height have been met.
- Can only be used rear facing.

CONVERTIBLE SEAT:

- Can be used rear and forward facing. Each direction has specified weight and height restrictions.
- Can be used from birth to 4 years of age.
- Use rear facing until 2 years of age and maximum weight and/or height has been reached.

HIGH BACK BOOSTER:

- Can be used with or without internal five point harness (specified height and weight restrictions made by manufacturer).
- Child must be at least 40 pounds and less than 4' 9" tall (57 inches).
- Can be used from ages 4-8.

BACKLESS BOOSTER:

- Always used with a lap and shoulder belt.
- Child must be less than 4' 9" tall (57 inches)
- Can be used for children ages 4-8.

LAP & SHOULDER SEAT BELT ONLY:

- Child must be 4' 9" tall (57 inches).
- Child must be over 8 years old.

CHILD SAFETY SEAT CHECK LIST

- ☐ Is your child outside the age, weight, and height limits of their current seat?
- ☐ Is the seat expired? (you will find this stamped on the seat itself or on a sticker with the manufacture date and model number)
- ☐ Has the seat been in an accident?
- ☐ Is your seat missing any parts? (check car seat manual if unsure)
- ☐ Are the labels and/or stickers missing?
- ☐ Is your child facing the right direction? (refer to information at left)
- ☐ Harness straps on seats rear-facing are at or below child's shoulders?
- ☐ Is your rear-facing seat reclined at a 45 degree angle? (most seats have a leveling system to help ensure this)
- ☐ Harness straps on forward-facing seats are at or above child's shoulders?
- ☐ The harness straps are snug? (you should not be able to pinch webbing)

- ☐ Harness clip is at armpit level?
- ☐ When using a booster seat with a lap/shoulder belt, is the lap belt resting across the stomach?
- ☐ When using a booster seat with a lap/shoulder belt, is the shoulder belt resting close to the neck, under the arm, or behind the back?
- ☐ There is no head rest behind the child sitting in a booster seat.
- ☐ Is your child under the age of 13, riding in the front seat? (safest place for all children under 13 is the backseat)

If you have checked any of these boxes, please contact Lewis County Opportunities. You may be in need of a new seat.

Newborn babies can not leave the hospital without a car seat ... so plan ahead. Don't wait until the last minute to call!