



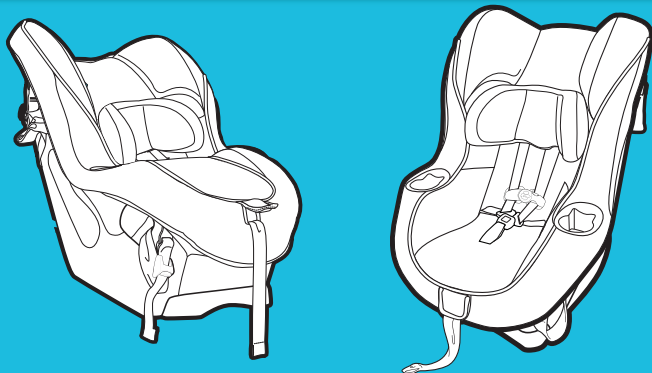
[www.gracobaby.com](http://www.gracobaby.com)

**MY RIDE™ 65**

CONVERTIBLE CAR SEAT



## Read This Instruction Manual



Do not install or use this child restraint until you read and understand the instructions in this manual.

**FAILURE TO PROPERLY USE  
THIS CHILD RESTRAINT  
INCREASES THE RISK OF  
SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH  
IN A SUDDEN STOP OR  
CRASH.**

PD285530A 9/14

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## 1-A Welcome to the Graco Family!

Your child's safety depends on you. No car seat can guarantee protection from injury in every situation, but proper use helps reduce the risk of serious injury or death.

Even if this car seat seems easy to figure out on your own, you must follow the detailed instructions in this instruction manual to ensure the steps below are performed correctly.

<b><i>SAFE USE CHECKLIST</i></b>	<b><i>For More Information...</i></b>
<p>Choose the correct mode of use for your child, depending on their weight.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rear-Facing:</b> 4-40 lb (1.8-18 kg)</li> <li>• <b>Forward-Facing:</b> 20-65 lb (9-30 kg) 49" (125 cm) or less</li> <li>• Children less than 20 lb (9 kg) <b>MUST</b> use this car seat rear-facing.</li> </ul>	<p>Review section 1-D.</p>
<p>Choose a suitable location for this car seat in your vehicle.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Never</b> place a child rear-facing in a seating position with an active frontal airbag.</li> </ul>	<p>Review section 9-A and 9-B.</p>

<b>SAFE USE CHECKLIST</b>	<b>For More Information...</b>
<p>Install this car seat tightly in your vehicle.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car seat should not move at the belt path more than 1" (2.5 cm) from side to side, front to back when installed rear facing or forward-facing.</li> <li>• Use the top tether strap when using forward-facing. When used properly, the top tether helps reduce injury in a sudden stop or crash.</li> </ul>	<p>Review sections:</p> <p>Rear-Facing section 3.</p> <p>Forward-Facing section 4.</p>
<p>Secure your child tightly in this car seat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rear-Facing:</b> Harness strap height <b>MUST</b> be at or just below top of child's shoulders. Top of head <b>must</b> be 1" (2.5 cm) below the headrest adjustment lever.</li> <li>• <b>Forward-Facing:</b> Harness strap height <b>MUST</b> be at or just above top of child's shoulders. Top of child's ears <b>below</b> top of car seat.</li> <li>• Harness strap snug enough you cannot pinch the strap at the shoulders.</li> <li>• Chest clip at armpit level.</li> </ul>	<p>Review section 5.</p>



1 Important

## 1-B Before You Begin

### *Register This Child Restraint*

Please fill out the prepaid registration postcard attached to the harness and mail it in today **or register online at [www.gracobaby.com/carseatregistration](http://www.gracobaby.com/carseatregistration).**

Child restraints could be recalled for safety reasons. You must register this restraint to be reached in a recall. Send your name, address, and the restraint's model number and manufacturing date to:

Graco Children's Products, Inc.

Attn: Customer Service

3 Glenlake Parkway Atlanta, GA 30328

**or register online at**

**[www.gracobaby.com/carseatregistration](http://www.gracobaby.com/carseatregistration)**

or call 1-800-345-4109

For recall information, call the U.S. Government's Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.NHTSA.gov>.

For future reference or if you change addresses, record the model name, model number, date of manufacture and purchase date of this car seat on the below. You can find this information either on the registration card if you still have it or on the date label located on the back of the car seat.

Model Name \_\_\_\_\_

Model Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Manufacture \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Purchase \_\_\_\_\_

### *If You Need Help*

In the U.S.A, please contact our Customer Service Department with any questions you may have concerning parts, use, or maintenance. When you contact us, please have your product's model number and date of manufacture ready so that we may help you efficiently. These numbers can be found on a sticker on the back side of your car seat.

For additional resources or to get your car seat checked by a child passenger safety technician, please visit the following web sites:

[www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov) • [www.seatcheck.org](http://www.seatcheck.org) • [www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org) • [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)





1 Important

### *Certification*

This child restraint meets or exceeds all applicable requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213 for use in motor vehicles.



This child restraint is certified for use in aircraft.

Contact the airline for their specific policies.

### *Car Seat's Useful Life*

STOP using this car seat and throw it away 7 years after the date of manufacture. Look for this sticker on back of the car seat.

Graco Children's Products Inc. advises against loaning or passing along a car seat unless you know the complete history of the product. We also advise against purchasing a car seat second hand.

### *Vehicle Seat Protection*

Protect vehicle seat. Use a car seat mat, towel, or thin blanket under and behind car seat.

### *Warm Weather Use*

Car seat parts can get very hot in the sun or warm weather. **To avoid burns, always check before putting child in car seat.**

## 1-C Safety Warnings

**No car seat can guarantee protection from injury in every situation, but proper use helps reduce the risk of serious injury or death.**

**READ THIS MANUAL CAREFULLY.**



1 Important

## **! WARNING!**

Failure to follow these instructions and child restraint's labels can result in child striking the vehicle's interior during a sudden stop or crash.



**! NEVER PLACE THIS CHILD RESTRAINT REAR-FACING IN A VEHICLE SEATING LOCATION THAT HAS AN ACTIVE FRONT AIR BAG.**

If an air bag inflates, it can hit the child and car seat with great force and cause serious injury or death to your child.

**! Review your vehicle owner's manual for more information about air bags and car seat use.**

**! If your vehicle does not have a back seat, review your vehicle owner's manual.**

**! The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recommends that children be rear-facing until age 2 or until they reach the maximum rear-facing height and weight rating for their seat.**



- ! Choose the correct mode of use for the car seat depending on your child's size. Infants less than 20 lb (9 kg) MUST use this car seat rear-facing.**
- ! Select a suitable location for the car seat in your vehicle.**
- ! Secure car seat with a vehicle seat belt or LATCH that is properly routed as shown in this manual.**
- ! Vehicle seat belt system MUST hold car seat securely. Not all vehicle seat belts can be used with a car seat.**
- ! If vehicle seat belt does not hold car seat securely, read "Vehicle Seat Belts" section 9-F and your vehicle owner's manual.**
- ! Always secure car seat with LATCH or a vehicle seat belt, even when unoccupied. In a crash, an unsecured car seat can injure passengers.**
- ! If car seat is in a crash, it must be replaced. DO NOT use it again! A crash can cause unseen damage and using it again could result in serious injury or death.**
- ! DO NOT use car seat if it is damaged or missing parts.**



## 1 Important

**! DO NOT use accessories or parts other than those provided by Graco. Their use could alter the performance of the car seat.**

**! DO NOT remove LATCH system from car seat. If using vehicle seat belt to secure car seat, LATCH hooks must be stored.**

**! Never leave child unattended, even when sleeping. Child may become tangled in harness straps and suffocate or strangle.**

**! Rear-facing car seat must be properly leveled:**

- Too reclined can result in injury or ejection.
- Too upright can result in breathing difficulties.



**! Never attach two LATCH hooks to one vehicle lower anchor point unless specifically allowed by the vehicle manufacturer.**

**! Do not use both the vehicle seat belt and LATCH strap at the same time when using the car seat rear-facing or forward-facing.**

## 1-D Right Mode of Use

**i**  
1 Important

4 lb (1.8 kg)	20 lb (9 kg)	40 lb (18 kg)	65 lb (30 kg)
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### Rear-Facing with 5-Point Harness

4-20 lb (1.8-9 kg) less than 1 year old **MUST** be rear-facing.

20-40 lb (9-18 kg) **CAN** be rear-facing.

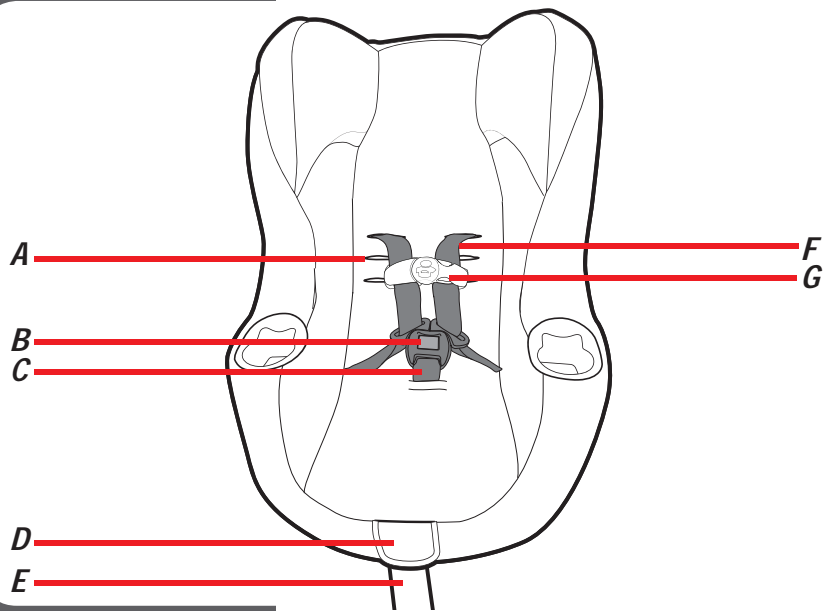
### Forward-Facing with 5-Point Harness

20-40 lb (9-18 kg) can sit upright unassisted **CAN** be forward-facing.

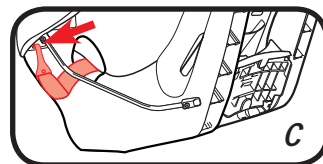
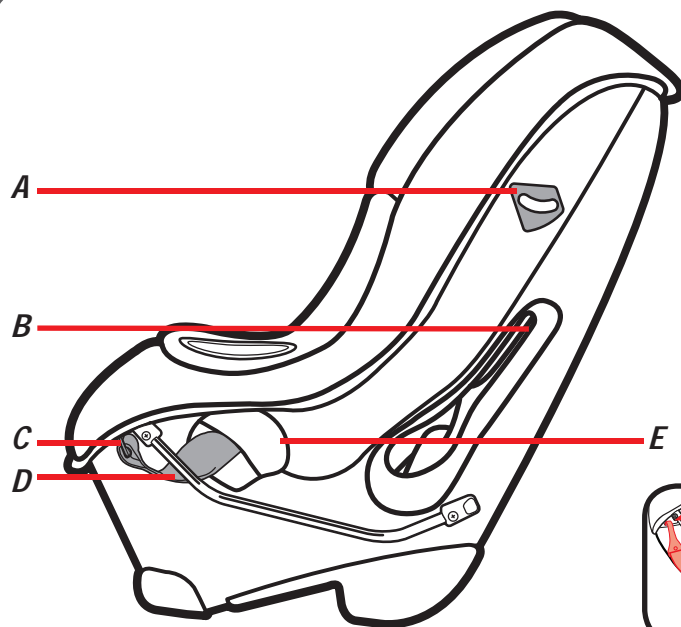
40-65 lb (18-30 kg) **SHOULD** be forward-facing.

**Note:** Preterm or low birth weight infants may be at special risk in a vehicle or aircraft. According to the AAP, these infants may suffer breathing issues if improperly reclined in a car seat. When rear-facing, use the corrected age for preemies. Graco advises that you have your physician or hospital staff evaluate your infant and recommend the proper car seat or car bed before you and your infant leave the hospital.

## 2-A Car Seat Features



- A Harness Slots*
- B Harness Buckle*
- C Buckle Strap*
- D Harness Release Lever  
(under flap)*
- E Harness Adjustment Strap*
- F Harness Straps*
- G Chest Clip*



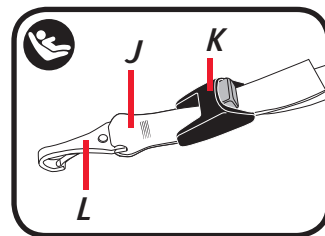
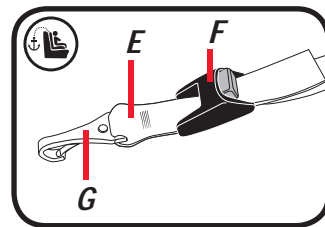
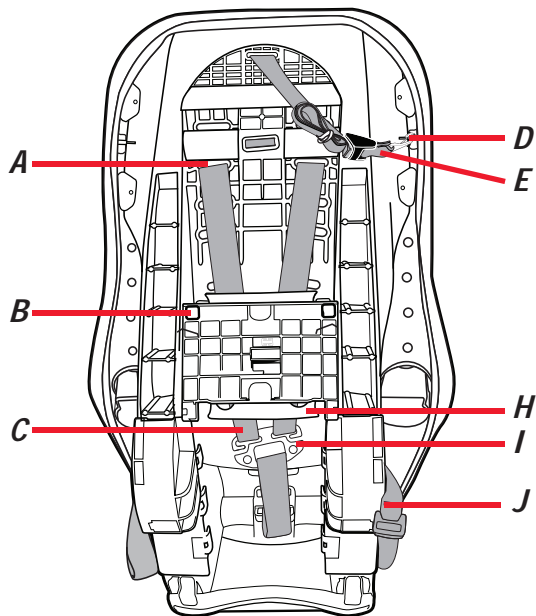
***A Level Indicator***

***B Forward-Facing Belt Path***

***C LATCH Storage Bar***

***D LATCH Strap (stored)***

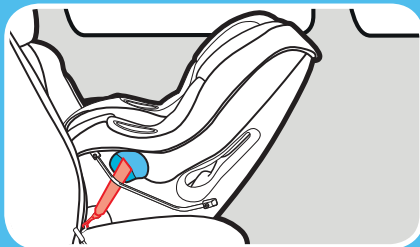
***E Rear-Facing Belt Path***



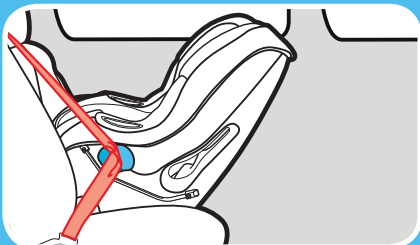


- A Harness Slots***
- B Forward Facing LATCH  
Storage bars***
- C Harness Straps***
- D Tether Storage Bar***
- E Tether Strap***
- F Tether Adjuster***
- G Tether Hook***
- H Harness Cover Plate***
- I Splitter Plate***
- J LATCH Strap***
- K LATCH Adjuster***
- L LATCH Hook***

## 3-A Rear-Facing



***LATCH Strap***



***Vehicle Seat Lap/Shoulder Belt***

### ***Rear-Facing: 4-40 lb (1.8-18 kg)***

- Place car seat rear-facing in the vehicle back seat.
- Make sure LATCH strap or vehicle seat belt is routed through the rear-facing belt path marked with a blue label.
- Install this car seat tightly in your vehicle. Car seat **should not move** at the rear-facing belt path more than 1" (2.5 cm) from side to side, front to back.
- Check recline level making sure the bubble is within the blue area.
- Harness straps need to be **even with or just below** the top of child's shoulders and chest clip is at **armpit level**.



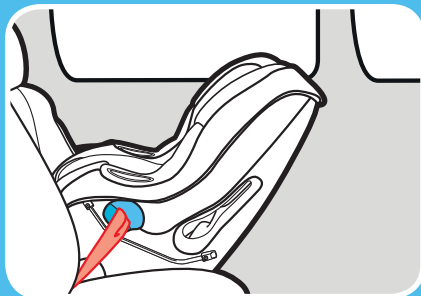
3 Rear  
Facing

- Infants who weigh less than 20 lb (9 kg) **MUST be rear-facing.**
- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and NHTSA recommend that children be rear-facing until the age of 2 or until they reach the maximum rear-facing height and weight. This car seat can remain rear-facing up to 40 lb (18 kg) or less.

**⚠ WARNING!**



**NEVER place this child restraint rear-facing in a vehicle seating location that has an active front air bag.**



*Vehicle Seat Lap Belt*



3 Rear  
Facing

### How to Read the Level Indicator:



### Use *corrected age* for preemies.

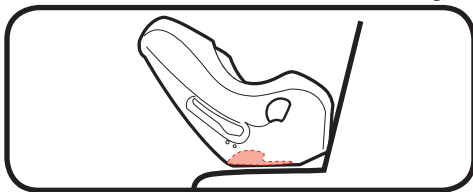
- If the ball is entirely in light blue, the restraint is level for infants 0+ months in age.
- If the ball is in light blue and dark blue, the restraint is level for a child 3+ months in age.
- If the ball is in **RED**, child restraint is **NOT** level. You must adjust your recline position.

## 3-B Install Rear-Facing with LATCH Strap

*Review your vehicle's owner manual for LATCH location and use.*

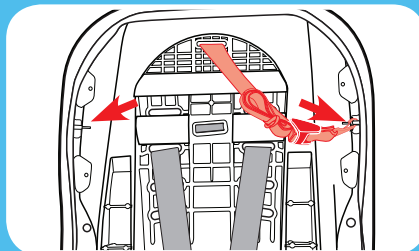
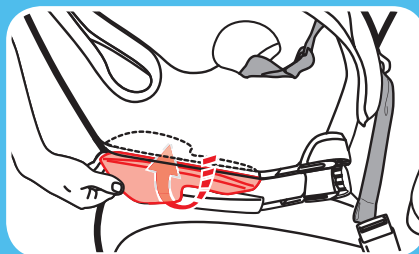
### 1. Recline the Car Seat

Flip recline feet under car seat for rear facing use.



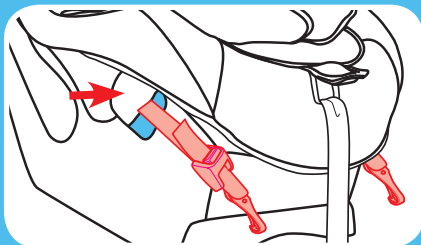
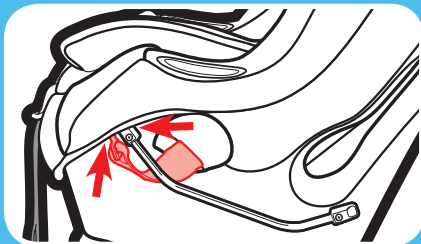
### 2. Store Top Tether Strap

Attach tether hook to the plastic bar on either side of the car seat.





3 Rear  
Facing



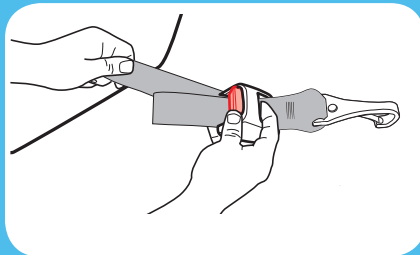
### ***3. Remove LATCH Strap from Storage Location***

### ***4. Make Sure LATCH Strap is in the Rear-Facing Belt Path Marked With a Blue Label***

If it is not, see section 6-A to move LATCH strap.

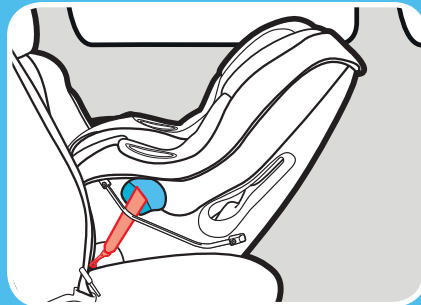
### **5. *Extend the LATCH Strap***

For easier installation, extend the LATCH strap to its maximum length by pressing the grey button and pulling on the strap.



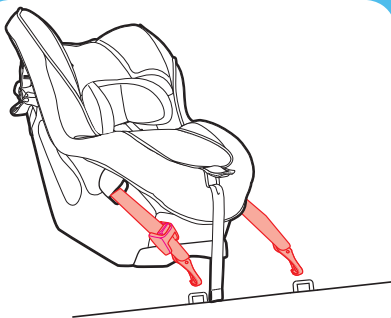
### **6. *Place Car Seat Rear-Facing in Back Seat of the Vehicle***

Place rear-facing in vehicle seat and center the car seat between the lower LATCH anchors. The bottom of the car seat should sit as flat as possible on the vehicle seat.





3 Rear  
Facing



## 7. Check the Level Indicator

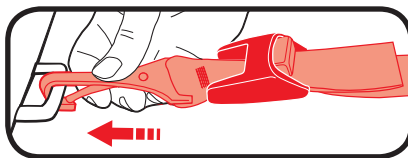
Vehicle **MUST** be on level ground. Ball **must be completely in the blue zone**. Readjust if needed.

For infants 3 months and under, the **ball must completely cover** the light blue circle.

If needed, rolled towels may be placed under the car seat at the vehicle seat crease, until the ball is completely in the blue zone.

## 8. Attach LATCH Hooks to Vehicle's Lower LATCH Anchors.

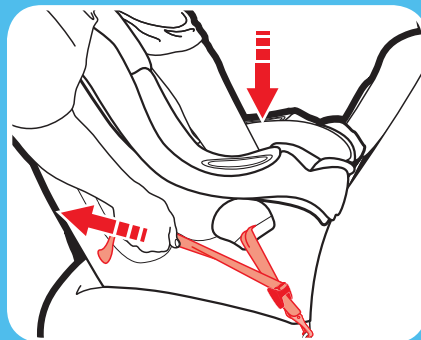
LATCH strap should lie flat and not be twisted.





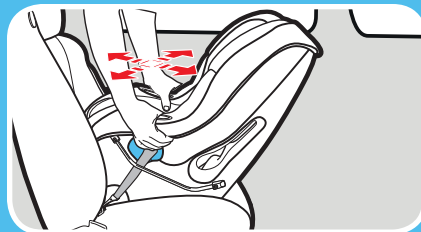
### 9. *Tighten the LATCH Strap*

Press down firmly in the center of the car seat while tightening the LATCH strap.



### 10. *Test For Tightness*

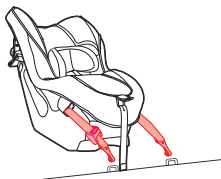
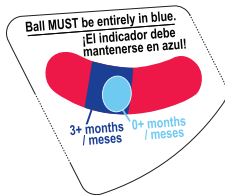
Grab the sides of the seat where the LATCH strap is and slide the car seat side-to-side and front-to-back. If the seat moves less than 1" (2.5 cm), it is tight enough.



3 Rear  
Facing



3 Rear  
Facing



### 11. Check the Level Indicator

Vehicle **MUST** be on level ground. Ball **must be completely in the blue zone**. Readjust if needed.

For infants 3 months and under, the **ball must completely cover** the light blue circle.

If needed, rolled towels may be placed under the car seat at the vehicle seat crease, until the ball is completely in the blue zone.

**See section 5-A to secure your child.**

Recheck the level indicator with child in seat.

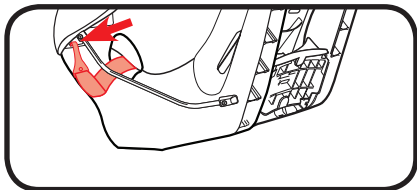
### 12. To Remove LATCH Strap From Vehicle

See section 9-E.

## 3-C Installing With Vehicle Seat Belt

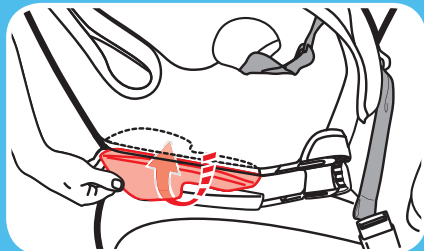
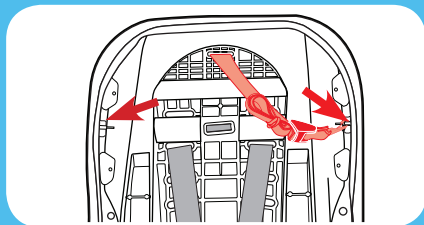
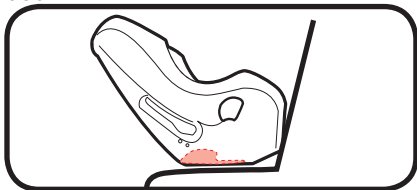
### 1. Store Top Tether and LATCH Strap

Attach tether hook and LATCH hooks to the plastic bars as shown.



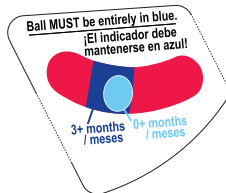
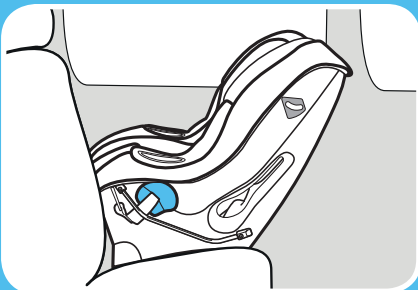
### 2. Recline the Car Seat

Flip recline feet under car seat for rear facing use.





3 Rear  
Facing



### ***3. Place Car Seat Rear-Facing in Back Seat of the Vehicle***

Place rear-facing in vehicle seat. The bottom of the car seat should sit as flat as possible on the vehicle seat.

### ***4. Check the Level Indicator***

Vehicle **MUST** be on level ground. Ball **must be completely in the blue zone**. Readjust if needed.

For infants 3 months and under, the **ball must completely cover** the light blue circle.

If needed, rolled towels may be placed under the car seat at the vehicle seat crease, until the ball is completely in the blue zone.

***Review your vehicle's owner manual for vehicle seat belt use***

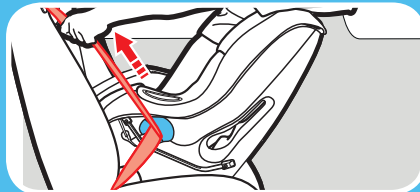
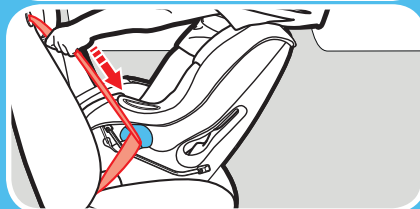
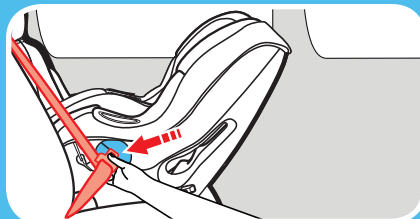
### ***5. Route the Vehicle Seat Belt***

Thread vehicle seat belt through the rear-facing belt path (marked with a blue label) and out the other side. Buckle it. The seat belt should lie as flat as possible and not be twisted.

### ***6. Tighten the Vehicle Seat Belt***

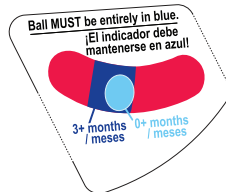
In most vehicles today, slowly pull the shoulder belt all the way out and then let it go back in. You will hear a clicking sound. Slowly pull out on the belt and it should be locked. If not, review your car's owner manual and section 9-F.

Press down firmly in the center of the car seat. Pull on the shoulder belt to tighten while feeding the slack back in the retractor.





3 Rear  
Facing



## 7. Test For Tightness

Grab the sides of the seat where the vehicle seat belt is and slide the car seat side-to-side and front-to-back.

If the seat moves less than 1" (2.5 cm), it is tight enough.

## 8. Check the Level Indicator

Vehicle **MUST** be on level ground. Ball **must be completely in the blue zone**. Readjust if needed.

For infants 3 months and under, the **ball must completely cover** the light blue circle.

If needed, rolled towels may be placed under the car seat at the vehicle seat crease, until the ball is completely in the blue zone.

**See section 5-A to secure your child.**

Recheck the level indicator with child in seat.

## 4-A Forward-Facing

### *Forward-Facing:*

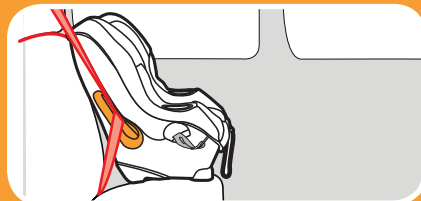
**20-65 lb (9-30 kg)**

**49" (125 cm) or less**

- Place car seat forward-facing in the vehicle back seat.
- Make sure LATCH strap or vehicle seat belt is routed through the forward-facing belt path marked with an orange label.
- Install this car seat tightly in your vehicle. Car seat **should not move** at the forward-facing belt path more than 1" (2.5 cm) from side to side, front to back.
- Harness straps need to be **even with or just above** the top of child's shoulders and chest clip is at **armpit level**.



***LATCH Strap***  
***Do not install by this method***  
***for a child weighing more***  
***than 45 lb (20 kg)***



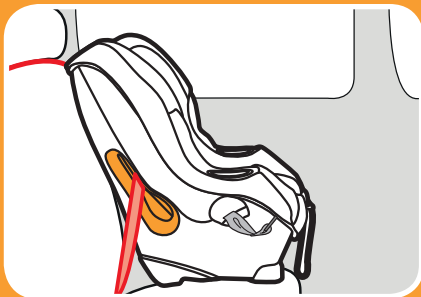
***Vehicle Lap/Shoulder Seat Belt***



**4 Forward  
Facing**



4 Forward  
Facing



***Vehicle Seat Lap Belt***

- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and NHTSA recommend that children be rear-facing until the age of 2 or until they reach the maximum rear-facing height and weight. This car seat can remain rear-facing for children 40 lb (18 kg) or less.





4 Forward  
Facing

## 4-B Install Forward-Facing with LATCH Strap

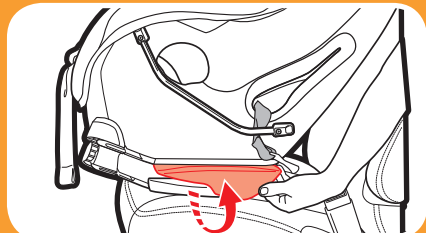
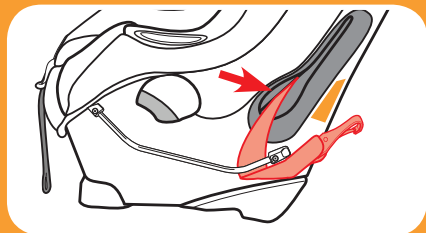
*Review your vehicle's owner manual for LATCH location and use.*

*Do not install by this method for a child weighing more than 45 lb (20 kg)*

- 1. Make Sure LATCH Strap is in the Forward-Facing Belt Path Marked with Orange Label**

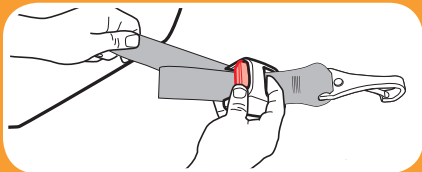
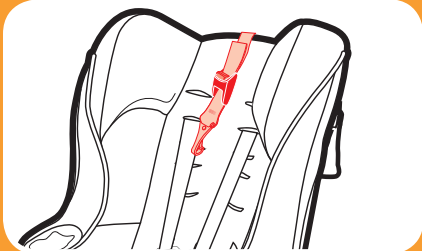
If it is not, see section 6-A to move LATCH strap.

- 2. Flip recline feet out for forward facing use.**



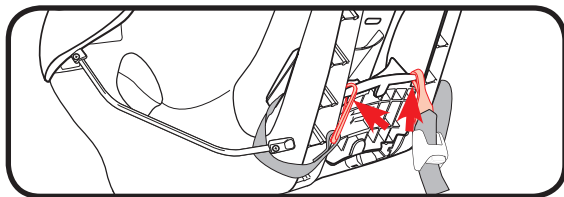


#### 4 Forward Facing



### 3. Remove **LATCH Hooks and Top Tether Straps** from Storage Locations

Unhook tether and lay it in the seat.



### 4. **Extend the LATCH Strap.**

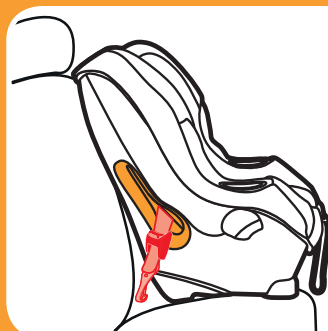
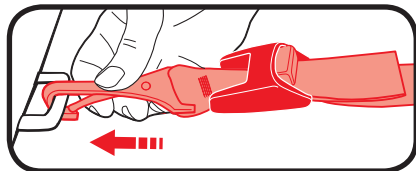
For easier installation, extend the LATCH strap to its maximum length by pressing the red button and pull out on the strap.

### **5. Place Car Seat Forward-Facing in Back Seat of the Vehicle**

Place forward-facing in vehicle seat. The bottom of the seat should sit as flat as possible on the vehicle seat.

### **6. Attach LATCH to Vehicle's Lower LATCH Anchors.**

LATCH strap should not be twisted.



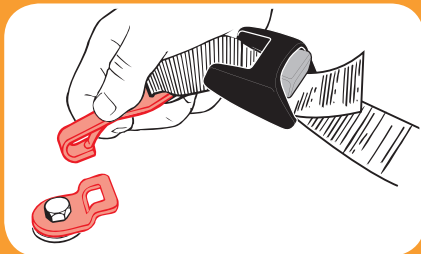


4 Forward  
Facing



### **7. Tighten the LATCH Strap**

Press down firmly in the center of the car seat while tightening the LATCH strap.



### **8. Attach Top Tether Strap**

Consult vehicle's owner manual for specific location.



### **9. Tighten Top Tether Strap**

Remove all the slack.

## 10. Test For Tightness

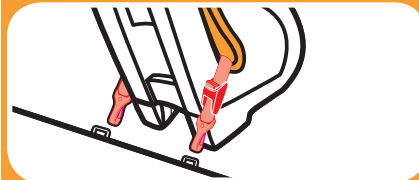
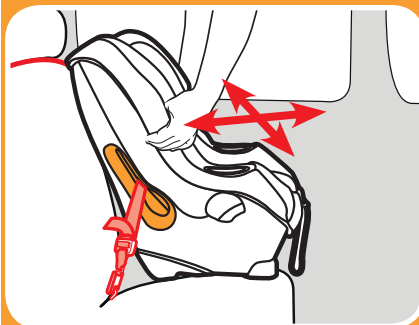
Grab the sides of the seat where the LATCH strap is and slide the car seat side-to-side and front-to-back.

If the seat moves less than 1" (2.5 cm), it is tight enough.

See section 5-A to secure your child.

## 11. To Remove LATCH Strap From Vehicle

See section 9-E.

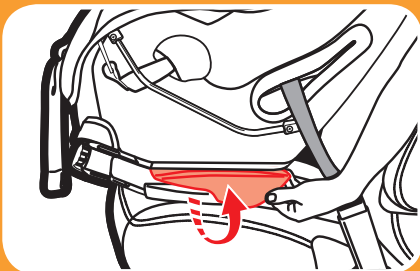
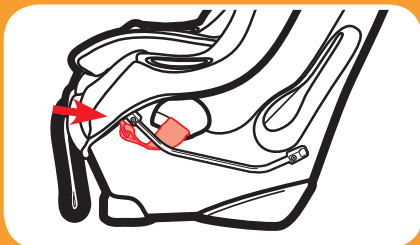


4 Forward  
Facing



4 Forward  
Facing

## 4-C Installing With Vehicle Seat Belt



### 1. *Store LATCH Strap*

Attach LATCH hooks to the plastic bars as shown.

### 2. *Adjust child restraint to Upright position.*

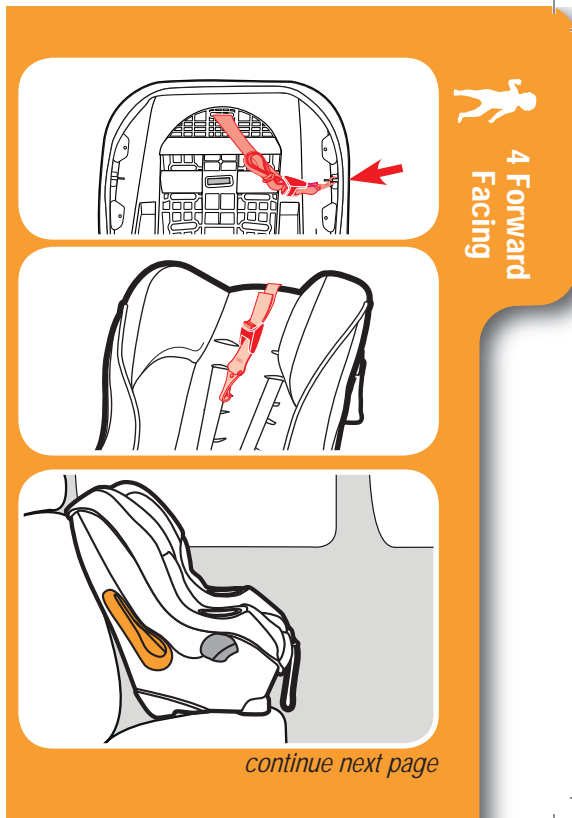
Flip recline feet out for forward facing use.



**3. Unhook Top Tether Strap From Storage location and Lay it in the Seat**

**4. Place Car Seat Forward-Facing in Back Seat of the Vehicle**

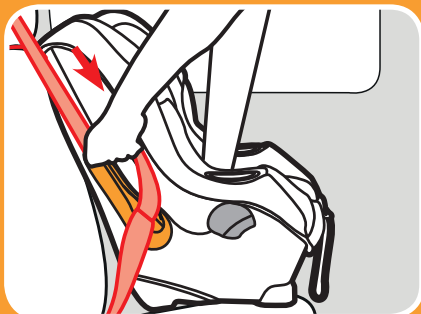
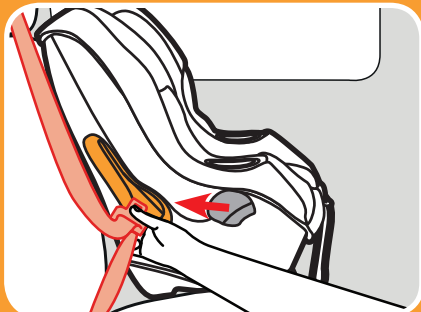
Place forward-facing in vehicle seat. The bottom of the seat should sit as flat as possible on the vehicle seat.





4 Forward  
Facing

*Review your vehicle's owner manual for vehicle seat belt use*



### **5. Route the Vehicle Seat Belt**

Thread vehicle seat belt through the forward-facing belt path (marked with an orange label) and out the other side. Buckle it. The seat belt should lie as flat as possible and not be twisted.

### **6. Lock the Vehicle Seat Belt**

In most vehicles today, slowly pull the shoulder belt all the way out and then let it go back in. You will hear a clicking sound. Slowly pull out on the belt and it should be locked. If not, review your car's owner manual and section 9-F.



### **7. Tighten the Vehicle Seat Belt**

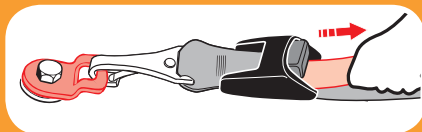
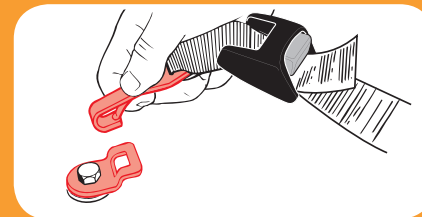
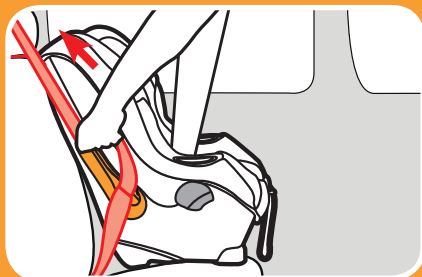
Press down firmly in the center of the car seat. Pull on the shoulder belt to tighten while feeding the slack back in the retractor.

### **8. Attach Top Tether Strap**

Consult vehicle's owner manual for specific location.

### **9. Tighten the Tether Strap**

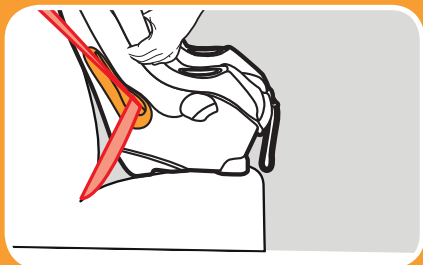
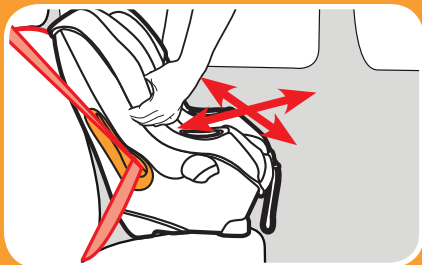
Push the car seat back while tightening the tether strap to remove all the slack.



**4 Forward Facing**



4 Forward  
Facing



### ***10. Test For Tightness***

Grab the sides of the seat where the vehicle seat belt is and slide the car seat side-to-side and front-to-back.

If the seat moves less than 1" (2.5 cm), it is tight enough.

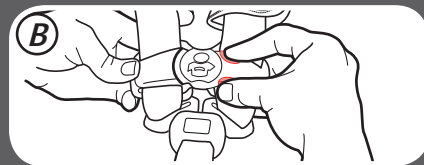
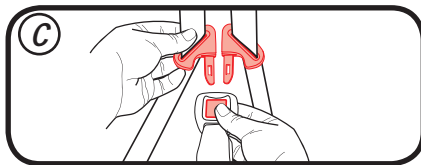
**See section 5-A to secure your child.**

## 5-A Securing Child 5-point Harness

### 1. Loosen Harness Straps

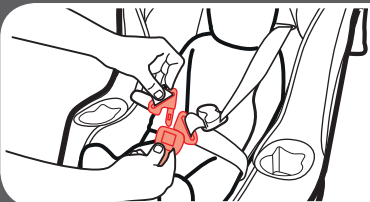
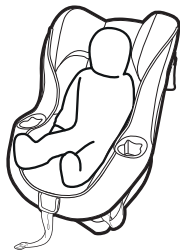
Lift up on the harness release lever while pulling out on the harness straps at the chest clip.

Unbuckle the chest clip and the crotch buckle. Place harness straps off to the sides.



5 Securing  
Child





## ***2. Place Your Child in the Seat***

Make sure their back is flat against the car seat back.

Avoid bulky or heavy clothing when it is cold out. Doing so will prevent the harness straps from being tightened properly. If needed, place a blanket over the child after you have secured the child.

## ***3. Place Harness Straps Over Child's Shoulders and Buckle***

You will hear a "click" when buckle tongues are securely attached. Pull up on each buckle tongue to make sure it is securely attached.

#### 4. Be Sure the Harness Straps Are at the Proper Height

**Rear-Facing:** Harness straps should be **at or just below** the child's shoulders. Top of head **must** be 1" below the top of car seat.

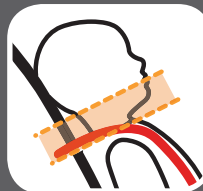
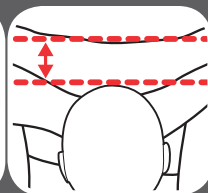
**Forward-Facing:** Harness straps should be **at or just above** the child's shoulders. Top of child's ears **below** top of car seat.

#### 5. To Change Harness Location

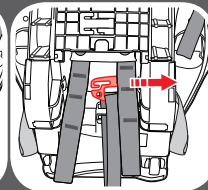
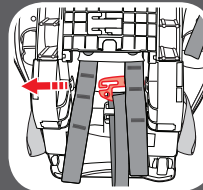
With harness loose, from the back of the seat, remove both harness straps from the splitter plate.



Rear-Facing

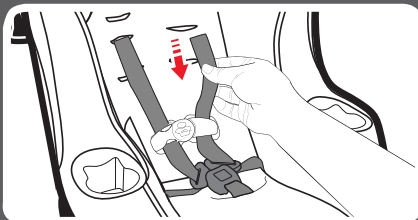


Forward-Facing

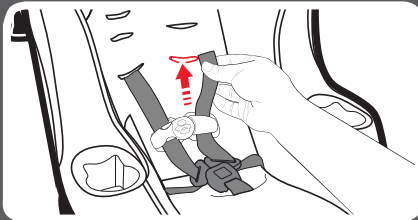


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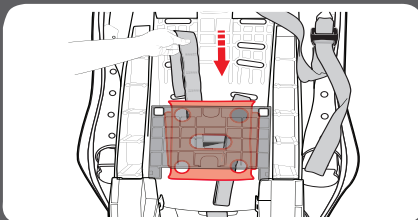
**6. Pull Harness Straps Out From the Front**



**7. Insert Harness Straps Into Desired Slots**

Make sure harness straps are threaded through matching slot of seat pad and child restraint.

It may be necessary to remove seat pad from top of child restraint while relocating slots.



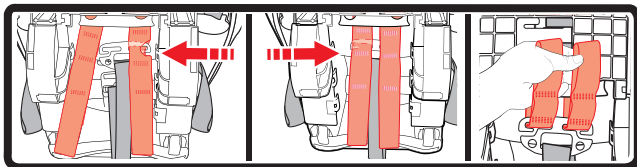
**8. Insert Harness Straps Behind Harness Cover Plate.**

## 9. Attach Harness Straps to Splitter Plate.

### For Infants or Small Toddlers:

(When using harness slot 1)

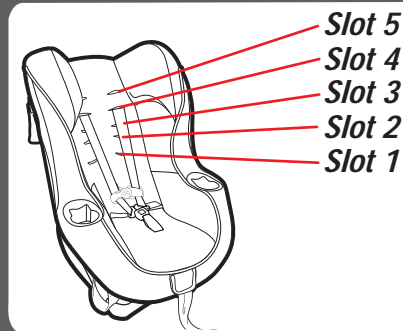
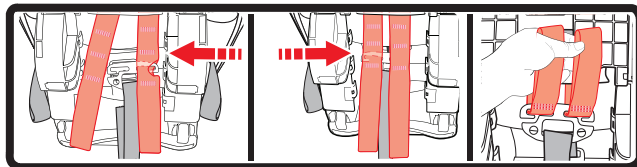
- Put **Top** right strap loop on splitter plate first, then attach **Top** left strap loop.



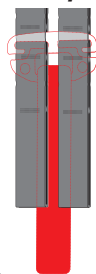
**OR** (When using harness slots 2 or 3)

- Put **Middle** right strap loop on splitter plate first, then attach **Middle** left strap loop.

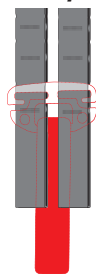
**NOTE:** Make sure ends of straps are in front of splitter plate.



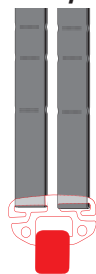
**Top  
Loop**



**Middle  
Loop**

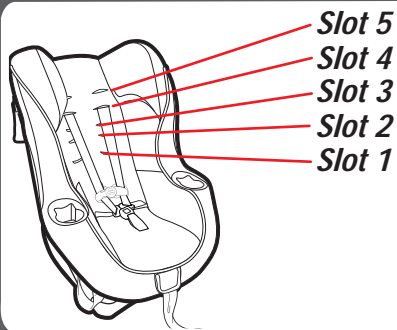


**Bottom  
Loop**

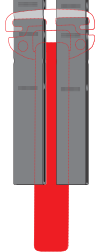


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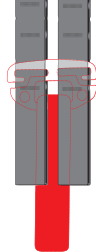




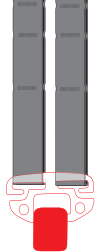
Top  
Loop



Middle  
Loop



Bottom  
Loop

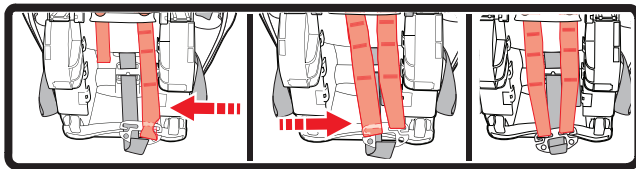


*For Toddlers:*

*(When using harness slots 4 or 5)*

- Put **Bottom** right strap loop on splitter plate first, then attach **Bottom** left strap loop.

**CHECK** that the loops are completely within the splitter plate. Make sure both harness straps are set to the same harness slot level.



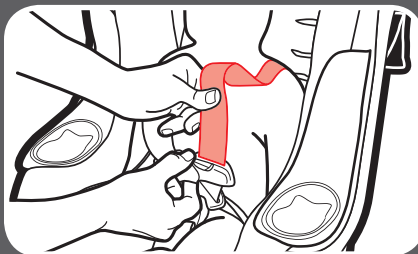
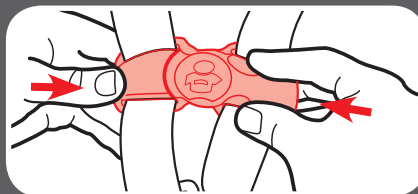


### **10. Buckle the Chest Clip**

You will hear a “click” when the chest clip is securely buckled.

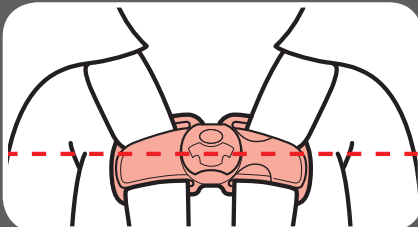
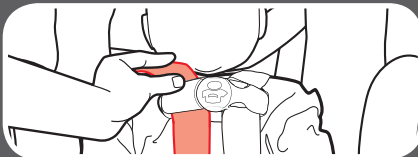
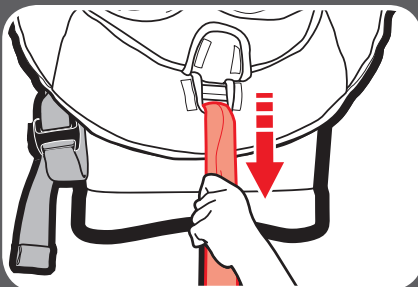
### **11. Pull All the Slack Out From Around the Waist**

Pull up on the harness strap while pushing the chest clip down. Do this to both sides.



5 Securing  
Child





## ***12. Tighten the Harness by Pulling the Harness Adjustment Strap***

A snug harness should not allow any slack. It lies in a relatively straight line without sagging. It does not press on the child's flesh or push the child's body into an unnatural position.

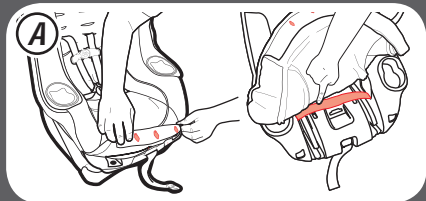
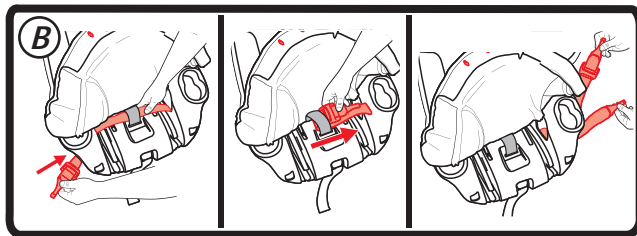
When you are not able to pinch any of the harness webbing at your child's shoulder, the harness is tight enough.

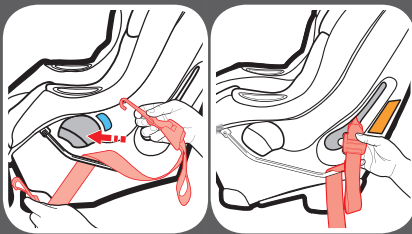
## ***13. Raise the Chest Clip to Child's Armpit Level***

## 6-A Moving the LATCH Strap

### 1. For Ease of Moving the LATCH Strap

- A. Unclip the seat pad from the front of the child restraint.
- B. Pull the LATCH strap out of the belt path opening, so that the LATCH hooks end up on the same side of the child restraint.



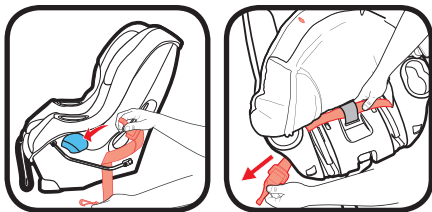


## 2. Slide Entire LATCH Strap Along Bar to Correct Belt Path Opening

**Rear-Facing:** Slide LATCH strap down to the blue label.

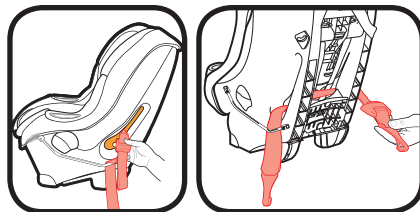
**Forward-Facing:** slide the LATCH strap up to the orange label.

## 3. Feed the LATCH Hook with the Adjuster Closest to it Through the Chosen Belt Path



**Rear-Facing:** Make sure the LATCH strap is routed behind the buckle strap, is flat and is not twisted.

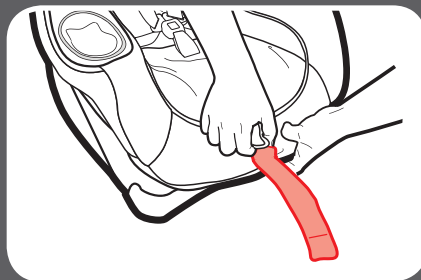
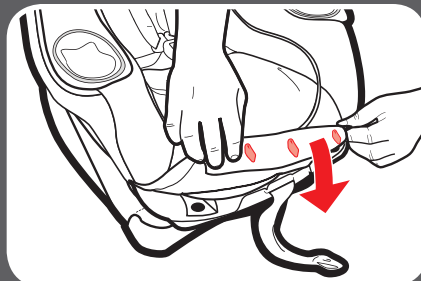
OR



**Forward-Facing:** Make sure the strap is flat and not twisted.

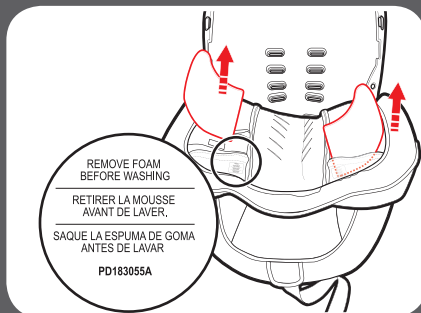
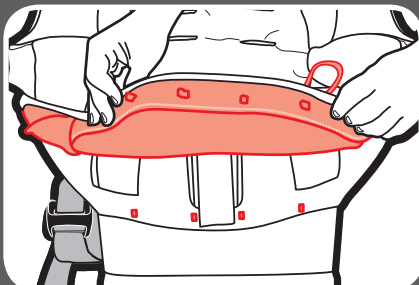
**4.** Replace the seat pad fabric on the front of the child restraint.

**5.** Thread the harness adjustment strap through pad opening.



6 Moving  
LATCH

## 7-A Cleaning Seat Pad



Clean with a damp sponge using mild soap and cool water. If needed, cover may be removed for cleaning. Refer to seat pad car tag for washing instructions.

### **Seat Pad**

Remove both harness strap loops from splitter plate on back of child restraint and pull through front of pad. Open chest clip, release tongues from buckle.

1. Unhook seat pad from around child restraint shell.
2. Pull 2-button clips out of lower front edge of child restraint shell and pull seat pad from around the cup holders. Refer to seat pad care tag for washing instructions.
3. Unfasten pockets and remove foam inserts before washing seat pad. **DO NOT WASH foam inserts.**
4. **To re-attach seat pad**, reinsert the foam inserts and wrap seat pad around edges of seat. Make sure to tuck seat pad around the cup holders on both sides of seat. Re-attach 2 button clips to front of seat.

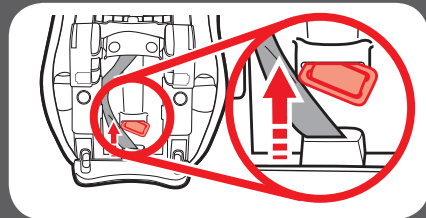
## 7-B Cleaning Crotch Buckle

Recline the car seat and locate the metal retainer. Rotate the metal retainer up through the shell and pad. From the front, pull the crotch buckle out.

To clean buckle, place in a cup of warm water and gently agitate the buckle. Press the red button several times while in the water.

**DO NOT SUBMERGE THE BUCKLE STRAP.** DO NOT USE SOAPS, HOUSEHOLD DETERGENTS or LUBRICANTS.

Shake out excess water and allow to air dry. Repeat steps as needed until it fastens with a click. Re-insert the buckle into the same slot it was removed. Pull up on crotch buckle to make sure it is secured.



**WARNING!** Inspect and clean buckle from time to time to remove any objects or debris that could prevent latching.

## 7-C Cleaning Harness and LATCH Straps

Surface wash only with mild soap and damp cloth. **DO NOT IMMERSE THE HARNESS STRAPS or LATCH STRAP IN WATER.** Doing so may weaken the straps.

If harness straps or LATCH strap are frayed or heavily soiled, contact Customer Service at [www.gracobaby.com](http://www.gracobaby.com) or 1-800-345-4109.

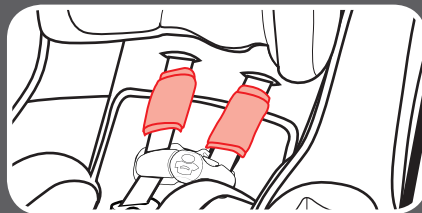


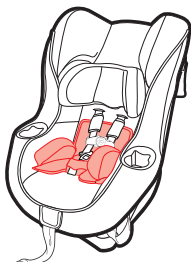
## 8-A Accessories *(on select models)*

### ***Harness Covers***

Make sure that harness covers do not interfere with placement of the chest clip at armpit level.

To remove, undo the fastening strips and remove.



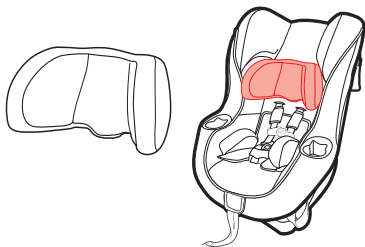


### ***Body Support***

Use only in the rear-facing mode.

Body support must be used if shoulders are below the lowest harness setting.

Never allow body support to bunch or fold behind child.



### ***Headrest Support***

Only use this head support on this child restraint.

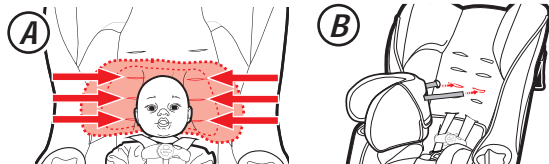
Never use this head support on any other product.

To get the full benefit of the Safety Surround features, we strongly recommend that the head support is used until the child is large enough that his or her head is aligned with the built in Safety Surround features at the top of the seat.

### ***Attaching Head Support (certain models)***

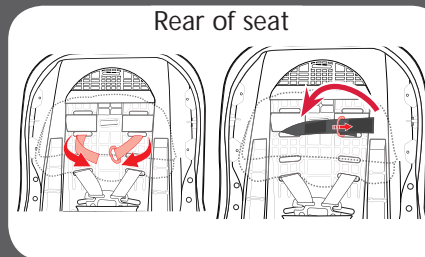
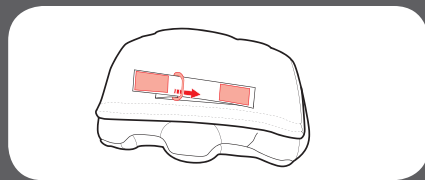
1. Unfasten hook and loop tape on straps on back of head support and pull through D-ring.

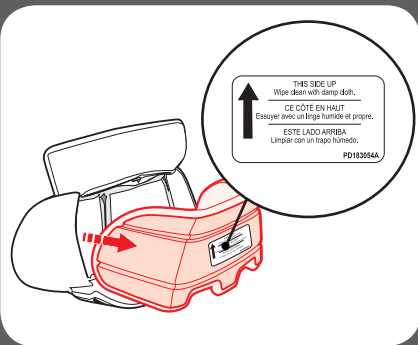
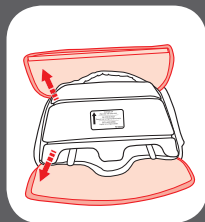
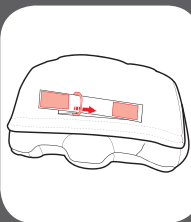
2. Insert head support straps into the harness slots identified in **A** that center the head support on the child's head **B**.



3. Reinsert strap into D-ring and reattach hook and loop tape on back of restraint.

4. To remove, reverse steps.





To clean, unfasten hook and loop tape on back of head support as shown.

Remove head support from cover.

To reattach head support cover, make sure the arrow on the label points up when inserting head support back into cover.

To reattach head support cover, see page 63.

## 9-A Choosing Vehicle Seat Location

*Review your vehicle owner's manual for seating locations.*

***The best seating location for this car seat is one that:***

- Is recommended by your vehicle owner's manual, and
- Results in a secure installation of this car seat

According to accident statistics, the safest place for your child in any vehicle is the back seat. The center of the back seat can be the safest during a possible side impact.



Some vehicles have specific requirements for where the car seat can be installed, so be sure to check your vehicle owner's manual for available seating positions, if any. For example, sometimes the center rear seat has a lap belt only vehicle seat belt, which cannot be used when this car seat is in Booster mode.

In the event there is no available back seat and / or you have no other option than to place a child other than an infant in a rear-facing car seat in a front passenger seating position, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recommends that you take the following steps:

- Ensure the child is properly restrained according to their age and size
- Move the seat as far back as possible
- Make sure the child is not leaning out of position, such as leaning forward into the deployment path of the air bag
- Set the air bag ON-OFF switch, if available, to the OFF position
- Move the seat as far back as possible

## 9-B Unsafe Vehicle Seat Locations

Never install this car seat in any of the following vehicle seating locations:



rear-facing or side-facing  
vehicle seats



rear-facing with an  
active front air bag

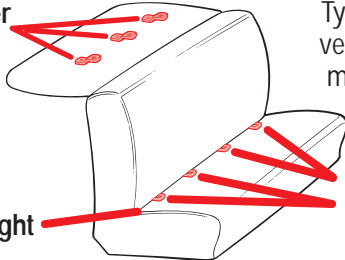
## 9-C What is LATCH?

This car seat can be installed using your vehicle's LATCH system, if your vehicle is equipped with LATCH. All 2003 and newer model year vehicles are required to have a LATCH system, although some manufacturers began including LATCH earlier. Some vehicle owner manuals use the term ISOFIX to identify the LATCH system.

LATCH consists of lower anchors and top tether anchors, which are built-in to your vehicle, and connecting hooks that are built-in to your car seat. Lower anchors are used INSTEAD of the vehicle's seat belt to secure the child seat to the vehicle. Top tethers are used IN ADDITION to the lower anchors OR the vehicle's seat belt to secure a forward-facing car seat to the vehicle.

***Review your vehicle's owner manual for exact location and use.***

**Vehicle Top Tether  
Anchor Points**



Typical seat in a passenger vehicle. Other vehicle types may have different LATCH locations.

**Vehicle Seat Belt**

**Vehicle Lower  
Anchor Points**



## 9-D Choosing LATCH or Seat Belts

This car seat can be installed in your vehicle using either the vehicle seat belt OR the LATCH system.

The LATCH system allows you to securely attach your safety seat in your car without using the vehicle seat belt and possibly to get a better fit. For more information on LATCH and how to determine if your vehicle is equipped with LATCH, see section 9-C: What is LATCH?.

For seating positions equipped with LATCH, experts recommend trying the LATCH installation first and only using the seat belt in that seating position if LATCH, for some reason, results in a looser fit. If you want to use the center rear seat and LATCH is not available in that position (check the vehicle owner's manual), try the seat belt to be sure you can get a tight installation. If you cannot, try using LATCH in a different seating position. Remember to only use LATCH in seating positions recommended by your vehicle manufacturer.



## 9-E How to Remove LATCH and Tether

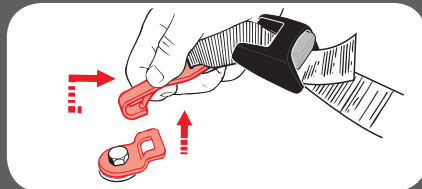
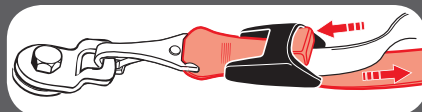
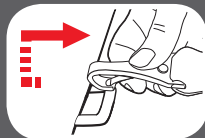
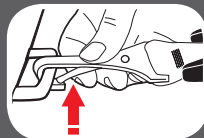
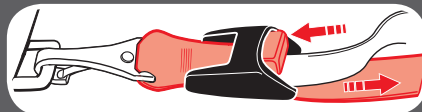
### **LATCH**

1. To remove LATCH, push button while pulling on the LATCH strap as shown.
2. Press and hold LATCH release hinge.
3. Push hook in, lift hook up and pull out (away from anchor point).

Repeat step 1, 2 and 3 for other hook.

### **Top Tether Strap**

1. To remove TETHER, push button while pulling on the TETHER strap as shown.
2. Press in on the hook's spring. Push tether hook in, then lift up and pull away from tether anchor.

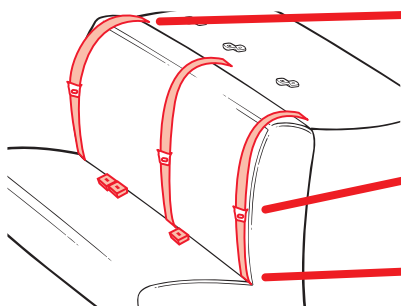


## 9-F Vehicle Seat Belts

*Review your vehicle owner's manual for vehicle seat belt use*

This car seat can be installed using a vehicle seat belt. To do this, you will need to change the seat belt to a locked mode for use with car seats. With some vehicle seat belts, this is done with the latchplate; with other vehicle seat belts, this is done with the retractor.

### *Vehicle Seat Belt Terms*



#### ***Retractor***

A device that winds up the unused vehicle seat belt. It is often hidden inside the panels on the walls of the vehicle or in the vehicle seatback.

#### ***Latch Plate***

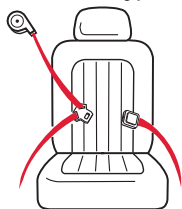
The male end of the seat belt with the silver tongue.

#### ***Seat Bight***

The crease where the vehicle seat back and seat bottom meet.

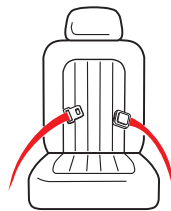
## Identify Your Seat Belt Type

There are two different types of vehicle seat belts that can be used with this car seat:



**Lap/Shoulder Belt**

3 connections points. Can be used in all car seats modes of use.



**Lap Belt Only**

2 connection points. **Can ONLY be used in harness mode.**

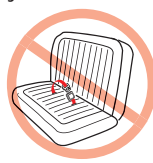
The following types of vehicle seat belts **CANNOT** be used safely with this car seat:



Lap Belt with Motorized Shoulder Belt



Lap Belt or Shoulder Belt Mounted on Door



Belts Forward of the Seat Bight

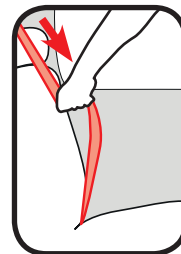
## *Lap/Shoulder Belt Installation - Rear-Facing/Forward Facing Modes*

**Always review your vehicle owner's manual for specific information about your vehicle seat belts.**

There are three types of retractors: **ELR (Emergency Locking Retractor)**, **ALR (Automatic Locking Retractor)**, and **Switchable (ELR switch to ALR)**. To determine your type of retractor, follow these steps:

1. **Slowly** pull the belt out about halfway and stop.
2. Let the belt retract back several inches.
3. Try to **slowly** pull the belt out more. If the belt cannot be pulled any further, it is **ALR**. If it can be pulled further, go to the next step.
4. **Slowly** pull the belt all the way out, and then allow it to retract several inches.
5. Try to pull the belt all the way out again. If it cannot be pulled out, it is **Switchable**. If it can still be pulled out freely, it is **ELR**.

**Note:** Most vehicles manufactured after 1996 will have Switchable retractors in the back seat. If you have any questions about your retractor type, consult your vehicle owner's manual or call Graco for assistance.



## How to Lock Your Lap and Shoulder Vehicle Seat Belt

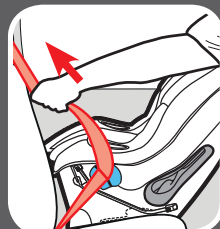
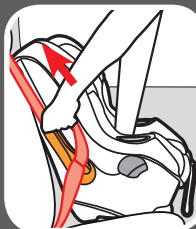
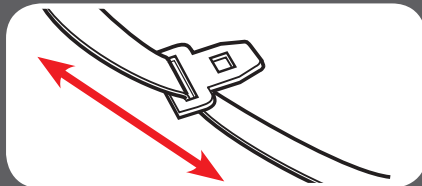
### Sliding Latch Plate and Switchable Retractor

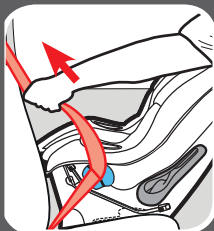
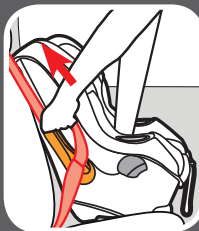
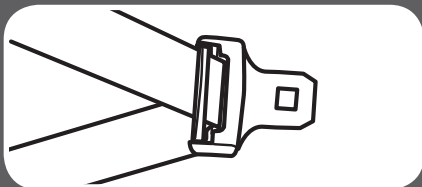
A latchplate that slides freely on the belt webbing and cannot, by itself, hold the belt snug around a car seat.

When installing the car seat, route the vehicle seat belt through the proper belt path and buckle it in. **Slowly pull the shoulder belt all the way out to switch it to locking mode.** Then, as you pull the vehicle seat belt tight, feed all the slack back into the retractor.

Grab the sides of the seat at the belt path and slide the seat side-to-side and front-to-back. The seat should not move more than 1" (2.5 cm).

**Note:** With the vehicle seat belt in this locking mode, all the tension is upwards in the shoulder belt. This may start to tilt your car seat sideways. If this happens, use a locking clip instead of this switching the retractor. See Sliding Latch Plate and ELR Retractor.





### ***Locking Latchplate and ELR Retractor***

A latchplate that holds the lap belt snug after it has been adjusted; contains a metal bar on the underside of the hardware that “locks” the belt in position.

When installing the car seat, route the vehicle seat belt through the proper belt path and buckle it in. Then, pull upwards on the shoulder belt so that the lap belt gets tight around the car seat.

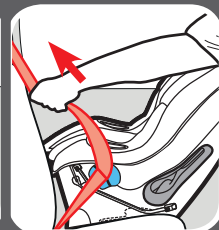
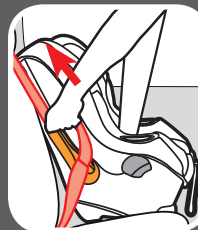
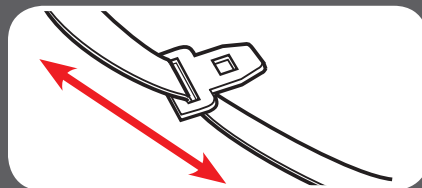
Grab the sides of the seat at the belt path and slide the seat side-to-side and front-to-back. The seat should not move more than 1” (2.5 cm).

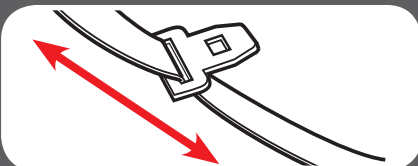
### ***Sliding Latch Plate and ALR Retractor***

A latchplate that slides freely on the belt webbing and cannot, by itself, hold the belt snug around a car seat.

**Slowly pull the shoulder belt all the way out.** Route the vehicle seat belt through the proper belt path and buckle it in. Then, as you pull the vehicle seat belt tight, feed all the slack back into the retractor.

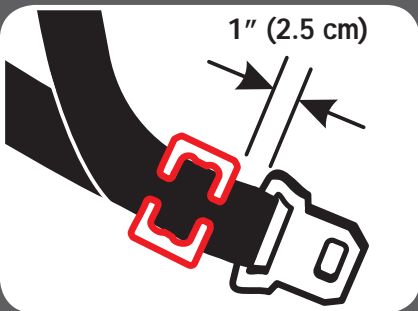
Grab the sides of the seat at the belt path and slide the seat side-to-side and front-to-back. The seat should not move more than 1" (2.5 cm).





**Locking Clip**

located on the back of the backrest.



### ***Sliding Latch Plate and ELR Retractor***

A latchplate that slides freely on the belt webbing and cannot, by itself, hold the belt snug around a car seat.

With this retractor, you will need to use the locking clip to lock the vehicle seat belt.

Route the vehicle seat belt through the proper belt path and buckle it in. Pull the vehicle seat belt tight. While pushing down on seat, pinch the two straps together behind the buckle tongue. Unbuckle the belt without allowing it to slip.

Attach locking clip to lap and shoulder belts as shown.

Rebuckle belt. Check that lap belt does not move by pulling hard. If belt loosens or lengthens, repeat procedure.



## Lap Belt Installation

Always review your vehicle owner's manual for specific information about your vehicle seat belts.

### ***Locking Latch Plate and No Retractor***

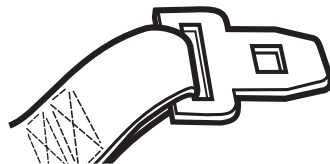
When installing the car seat, route the lap seat belt through the proper path and buckle it in. Then, pull upwards on the tail of the belt so that the lap belt gets tight around the car seat.

### ***Sewn On Latch Plate and ALR***

**Slowly pull the lap belt all the way out.** Route the vehicle seat lap belt through the proper belt path and buckle it in. Then, pull the lap belt tight while feeding all the slack back into the retractor.



Grab the sides of the seat at the belt path and slide the seat side-to-side and front-to-back. The seat should not move more than 1" (2.5 cm).



Notes:

Notes:

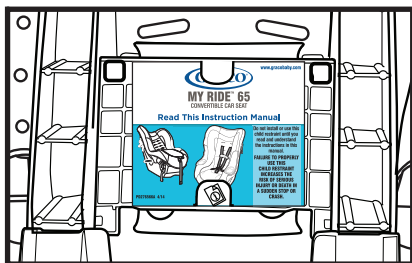
## Replacement Parts

To purchase parts or accessories in the United States, please contact us at the following:

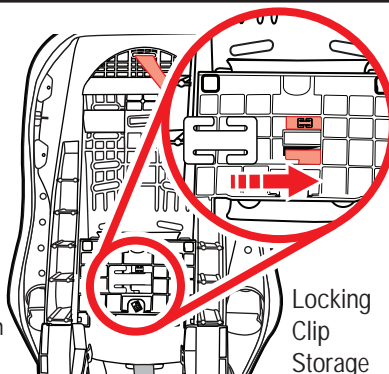
**[www.gracobaby.com](http://www.gracobaby.com)**

or

**1-800-345-4109**



Store instruction manual behind the tab with the instruction book icon as shown.



Locking  
Clip  
Storage