

## **Automobile Restraints for Children with Special Needs: Quick Reference List**

Many innovative products are available to safely transport children with special needs. Unfortunately, education for parents of these children and the professionals serving them has not kept up with the strides in the technology serving these youngsters. Due to lack of awareness, many programs are not providing or utilizing available products. SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. believes that federal leadership is needed to encourage targeted efforts, such as those addressing treatment needs of those with “orphan diseases,” to give these children the protection they deserve.

### **Products and Recommendations for Low-Birth-Weight Babies**

Infant-only seats with no minimum weight specified: **Combi Connection, Graco Assura, Mia Moda Viva**. Minimum 4 pounds: **Britax Baby Safe or Companion, Chicco KeyFit, KeyFit 30, Dorel SureFit/onBoard, Learning Curve I 400, Mia Moda Viva**.

For premature or small infants, use an infant-only seat or convertible seat without a shield. Select a seat with very low shoulder strap slots and two crotch strap locations. Secure harness on infant, wearing lightweight clothing, according to manufacturer's instructions; then place rolled diapers or receiving blankets along both sides of infant's body and head. Do not place blankets or padding between baby and the safety seat or harness. Exception: to limit slumping, place wedged diaper between infant's crotch and the crotch strap. Use a side-facing car bed certified for use in motor vehicles if baby must lie flat for medical reasons. Some small infants must not travel in the semi-upright position; the consequences could be fatal. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that infants born at less than 37 weeks gestation be monitored in a semi-upright position prior to discharge to detect possible breathing and heart rhythm problems. Policy statement: <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics;104/4/986>.

### **Side-Facing Car Beds (For babies who must lie flat)**

**Angel Guard Angel Ride Infant Car Bed**. Side-facing car bed for babies up to 9 lbs. Baby may ride on back, front, or right side if ordered by doctor.

**Dorel Cosco Dream Ride SE**. Side-facing car bed for babies 5 to 20 lbs. Baby must lie on back.

**Snug Seat Car Bed**. Side-facing car bed for babies up to 21 lbs. Baby is held in place with fabric bunting instead of harness. Available on special order only.

### **Large Convertible Seats (Most may be used for children over 40 lbs.; only lap belt required.)**

**Britax Boulevard, Decathlon, Marathon**. Rear facing 5-33 lbs.; forward facing up to 65 lbs. **Hippo**, distributed by Snug Seat. For children in a spica cast; rear facing 5-33 lbs. (casted weight); forward facing 34-65 lbs.

**Evenflo Titan Elite, Triumph Advance**. Rear facing 5-35 lbs.; forward facing up to 50 lbs.

**Fisher-Price Safe Voyage Deluxe Convertible** by Britax. Rear facing 5-33 lbs.; forward facing up to 55 lbs.

**Learning Curve True Fit Convertible Car Seat**. Rear facing 5-35 lbs.; forward facing up to 65 lbs.

**Recaro Como or Signo** (5-35 lbs. rear facing; forward facing up to 70 lbs.)

**Sunshine Kids Radian65** (5-65 lbs.) or **Radian80** (5-80 lbs.). Only lap belt required.

**Triple Play Sit 'n Stroll**. Rear facing birth to 30 lbs.; forward facing up to 40 lbs. Converts to stroller.

### **Forward-Facing Child Restraints with Harness (May require tether strap or lap-shoulder belt)**

Child must be at least one year of age. Recommend using a rear-facing seat until age two, if possible.

**Bergeron Special Tomato Multi-Positioning Seats**. 20 to 80 lbs. Must be tethered for children over 50 lbs. Larger model for 80 to 150 lbs. Adjustable headrest, positioning features, mobile floor base, push chair base.

**Britax Regent**. 22 to 80 lbs. Must be tethered 50-80 lbs. **Britax Frontier**. 25-80 lbs. with harness. Must be tethered 65-80 lbs.; may be used as booster with lap and shoulder belt from 40 lbs. until child is too tall.

**Columbia #2000**. 20 to 102 lbs.; #2500 65 to 130 lbs. Adjustable pads for positioning. Must be tethered for children over 65 lbs. Can be fitted on wheelchair or stroller.

**Dorel Apex 65**. 22 to 65 lbs. with harness; 40 to 100 lbs. as booster with lap and shoulder belt. Must be supported by vehicle seatback. Only lap belt required.

**E-Z-On Vest, Y Harness, or Kid Y Harness**. For children and adults with behavioral issues or poor trunk control. Models for school bus use (uses cam wrap instead of safety belt) or casted child to lie flat on rear seat. Some harnesses may be used with **Safety Angel Ride Ryte Booster**. Tether required.

**Graco Nautilus**. 20-65 lbs. with harness; 30 to 100 lbs. as booster with lap and shoulder belt.

**SafeGuard Child Seat**. 22 to 65 lbs. Only lap belt required. **SafeGuard Go** 30-60 lbs. with harness, tether required; 40-100 lbs. as backless booster.

**Merritt Manufacturing Roosevelt**. 35-115 lbs. Optional positioning pads and seat extenders (2 sizes) to support longer legs. Conventional tether use is recommended, but not required with the long routing of a lap-shoulder belt and use of the provided EZ-Tether Connector Strap.

**Reha-Partner** distributes the **Peppino** for 20-55 lbs. (with stroller base) and **Recaro Start Plus** for 30-80 lbs (padded tray, footrest, swivel base). Both seats have a 5-point harness but require lap and shoulder belt in the car.

**Safe Traffic System Ride Safer Travel Vests.** 35-60 lbs. or 50-80 lbs. Both vests may be used with lap-shoulder belt OR lap belt and tether strap up to 60 lbs. Larger vest with lap belt and dual tether up to 80 lbs.

**Sammons Preston Rolyan Tumble Forms Carrie Seats.** Various sizes. Tether required.

**Snug Seat Traveller Plus.** 22 to 105 lbs. Tether required. Two tether anchors required for child over 80 lbs. Includes recline bar, crotch pommel, and seat extension for larger children.

### **Wheelchair Tie-Downs (For transport in buses and vans; must be installed forward facing)**

**Gresham Secure-Lok.** Metal hooks, webbing straps. Lap and shoulder belt available.

**Kinedyne Sure-Lok.** Wheelchair tie-down and occupant restraint systems.

**Ortho Safe Systems Protector.** Wheelchair tie-down.

**Q'Straint by Q'Straint.** Four straps used to attach chair; vehicle lap and shoulder belt used for occupant.

### **Safety Seat Use for Ambulance Transport**

**EVS Ltd. Hi-BAC Safety Seat** for ambulances has a built-in harness system for children at least one year old who weigh 20-50 lbs. If no child is present, the attendant may use the Hi-BAC; the rear-facing orientation improves protection. For rear-facing infants, use the lap belt to attach a regular convertible safety seat with harness straps in lowest slots, reclined, and installed so baby faces the rear of the vehicle, not the seatback of the Hi-BAC.

Convertible seats held by both sets of tie-downs on the gurney, either with raised or flat head area, are recommended when child is patient. Seat faces rear; harness slots at or below child's shoulders should be used.

**Dorel DreamRide:** use side-facing with loops on each side; put a tie-down on gurney through each set of loops, not safety belt path.

**SafeGuard Transport** is a cot-mounted restraint for ambulances. It has a 5-point harness to fit 22 to 100 lbs.

### **Manufacturers or Distributors of Products Listed**

Angel Guard Products (330) 723-5928 [www.angel-guard.com](http://www.angel-guard.com)

Bergeron Health Care (800) 371-2778 [www.adaptivemall.com](http://www.adaptivemall.com)

Britax Child Safety (888) 427-4829 [www.childseat.com](http://www.childseat.com)

Chicco (717) 735-6200 [www.chiccousa.com](http://www.chiccousa.com)

Columbia Medical (800) 454-661 [www.columbiamedical.com](http://www.columbiamedical.com)

Combi USA (800) 992-6624 [www.combi-intl.com](http://www.combi-intl.com)

Dorel Juvenile Group (800) 544-1108 [www.djgusa.com/mainpg.html](http://www.djgusa.com/mainpg.html)

EVS Ltd. (800) 364-3218 [www.evsltd.com](http://www.evsltd.com)

E-Z-On Products (800) 323-6598 [www.ezonpro.com](http://www.ezonpro.com)

Gresham Driving Aids (800) 521-8930 [www.greshamdrivingaids.com](http://www.greshamdrivingaids.com)

Graco Children's Products (800) 345-4109 [www.gracobaby.com](http://www.gracobaby.com)

Kinedyne (785) 841-4000 [www.sure-lok.com](http://www.sure-lok.com)

Learning Curve (630) 573-7200 [www.learningcurve.com](http://www.learningcurve.com)

Merritt Manufacturing (317) 409-0148 [www.eztether.com](http://www.eztether.com)

Mia Moda (866) 642-6632 [www.miamodainc.com](http://www.miamodainc.com)

Ortho Safe Systems International (609) 587-9444

Q'Straint USA (800) 987-9987 [www.qstraint.com](http://www.qstraint.com)

Recaro North America (800) 873-2276 [www.recaro-nao.com](http://www.recaro-nao.com)

Reha-Partner (866) 282-4558 [www.reha-partner.com](http://www.reha-partner.com)

Safe Traffic System (847) 329-8111 [www.safetrafficsystem.com](http://www.safetrafficsystem.com)

SafeGuard (800) 586-7839 [www.safeguardseat.com](http://www.safeguardseat.com)

Safety Angel/Safe Start (888) 743-3798 [www.safetyangel.com](http://www.safetyangel.com)

Sammons Preston Rolyan (800) 323-5547 [www.sammonspreston.com](http://www.sammonspreston.com)

Snug Seat, (800) 336-7684 [www.snugseat.com](http://www.snugseat.com)

Sunshine Kids Juvenile Products (888) 336-7909 [www.skjp.com](http://www.skjp.com)

Triple Play Products (800) 829-1625 [www.tripleplayproducts.com](http://www.tripleplayproducts.com)

***SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.***, P.O. Box 553, Altadena, CA 91003 (310)222-6860, [www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org)

This document was developed by SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. and may be reproduced in its entirety.  
Important: Call to check if there is a more recent version before reproducing this document.