

# Safe Rides to Day Care

## Guidelines for Parents

Car crashes are the number one cause of death and serious injury for children. How can you keep your child as safe as possible on every ride?

### **STEP 1**

Make sure you know how to keep your child safe *in your own car*. Can you answer all of these questions?

- How do I choose the right kind of seat for my child?
- Are used car seats safe?
- Is my child's safety seat on recall?
- How long should children ride facing the back of the car?
- How can you tell if a child is ready to wear just a safety belt?
- Why should children ride in the back seat?
- How can I keep my child from getting out of his safety seat?

The answers to all of these questions and more can be found at [www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org) or by calling the Safe Ride Helpline (800-745-SAFE).

### **STEP 2**

If you are planning to have a child care provider pick up or drop off your child or take your child on a field trip or an errand, you need to find out the following information:

- How old is the driver?
- Does the driver have a valid driver's license?
- Does the driver have auto insurance?
- How old is the vehicle?
- Does the car have lap-shoulder belts for kids in boosters or, for older children, wearing safety belts only?
- Which car safety seat will be used for your child?
  - Is it the right type and size?
  - Is it new, used, or on recall?
  - Has it been inspected by a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician?
- Has your child care provider attended a class about how to use safety seats and safety belts correctly?

Ask your provider to complete the Child Care Provider Transportation Information Form. For a copy, go to [www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org) or call the Safe Ride Helpline (800-745-SAFE).

<p><b>SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.</b> P.O. Box 553, Altadena, CA 91003 <a href="http://www.carseat.org">www.carseat.org</a> 310/222-6860, 800/745-SAFE (English) 310/222-6862, 800/747-SANO (Spanish)</p>
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