

Kids Should Be in Booster Seats Until the Seat Belt Fits

usually until they are between 8 to 10 years old.

Virginia law requires children to be in a booster seat until they reach a minimum of 8 years old.

If your vehicle has a low back seat and your child's ears are above it, you need a high back booster seat to protect her head.

A booster seat makes the lap and shoulder belt fit correctly: fitting on the collar bone and hip bones.

Booster seats *must* be used with a seat belt that has a lap and shoulder belt, not just a lap belt. Kids this size are too small to fit correctly in an adult seat belt alone.



Violators of this Virginia child restraint law shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$50, subsequent violations shall be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$500.

Booster Seats Are For Big Kids.

Did you know most kids need to ride in a booster seat from about age 4 until the age of 8?

If your child isn't using a booster seat, try this simple test the next time you ride in a car together.

The 5-Step Test

1. Does the child sit all the way back against the vehicle seat?
2. Do the child's knees bend comfortably at the edge of the vehicle seat?
3. Does the seat belt cross the shoulder between the neck and arm?
4. Is the lap belt as low as possible, touching the thighs?
5. Can the child stay seated like this for the whole trip?

If you answered "no" to any of these questions, your child needs a booster seat to ride safely in the car. Kids like boosters because they are more comfortable, too!

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Here's how
to keep your
kids safe
in the car!

