LOOKING OUT FOR CHILD SAFETY

SEATING CHILDREN SAFELY IN A VOLVO

When it comes to safe vehicle travel for children, how do you know what’s best? Sitting in a rearward-facing child seat is the safest way for a 1- to 4-year-old child to travel. According to the Volvo Child Safety Center, this type of restraint provides 90 percent better protection in an accident than no restraint at all. A forward-facing child seat or booster cushion provides approximately 80 percent better protection, while a standard seatbelt provides approximately 60 percent better protection than no restraint at all.

VOLVO RECOMMENDATIONS

All occupants, including children, should be properly restrained in a vehicle. LATCH/ISO-FIX attachments make it convenient to install child seats (see information on LATCH/ISO-FIX). Some restraint systems for children are designed to be secured in the vehicle by lap belts or the lap portion of a lap-shoulder belt. Such child restraint systems can help protect children in vehicles in the event of an accident only if they are used properly.

THREE MAIN TYPES OF SEATS

There are three main types of child restraint systems: infant seats, convertible seats, and booster cushions. They are classified according to the child’s age and size. Please read this information very carefully.

SECURING A CHILD RERAINT USING SEATBELTS

The center position in the rear seat of Volvo vehicles is not equipped with LATCH/ISO-FIX anchors. To secure an infant or convertible seat in this position, attach the seat’s top tether strap (if so equipped) to the top tether anchorage point and secure the restraint with the vehicle’s center seatbelt. To do this, attach the seatbelt to the infant seat according to the manufacturer’s instructions, and then fasten the seatbelt by inserting the latch plate into the buckle (lock) until you hear a click. Then pull the shoulder section of the seatbelt out to activate the automatic locking function, press the seat firmly in place, let the seatbelt retract, and pull it taut. Push and pull the seat to ensure it is held securely in place by the seatbelt.
Volvo recommends that the inner loops from the outboard LATCH anchors NOT be used when installing a child seat in the center position. Child seats and booster cushions may be installed in the third row of the XC90 utilizing the seatbelt. The LATCH system is not available in the third row of the XC90 or the auxiliary seat of the V70/XC70.

WHEN IT’S TIME TO LOOK FORWARD

Booster cushions are recommended for children who have outgrown convertible seats, around 33 to 80 pounds, and should be used until the child’s feet can touch the floor with their back against the rear of the seat. The cushion positions the child so the seatbelt can be more effective and not cause harm to the child. When used with a backrest, it provides added support to the child’s neck and back and greater protection in rear-end collisions.

Volvo offers several types of these restraints.

• Integrated center cushions are integrated into the center position of the rear seat in the XC90. They are standard on the V8 and available in a package for the 3.2 model.

• Integrated child cushions, which are part of the second-row seat cushions located in both outboard positions, are optional on the XC70 and V70.

• A Volvo child cushion and backrest are available as an accessory at your local Volvo Retailer.

SECURING A BOOSTER CUSHION USING SEATBELTS

Place the booster cushion in the rear seat of the vehicle, and position the child on the cushion. Attach the seatbelt to or around the cushion according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Fasten the seatbelt by inserting the latch plate into the buckle. Ensure that the seatbelt is pulled taut and fits snugly around the child. The belt should fit snugly across the hips, not across the stomach, and should never be placed behind the child’s back or under the arm.

WARNING

DO NOT USE child safety seats or child booster cushions/backrests in the front passenger seat. Children less than 4 feet 7 inches (140 cm) who have outgrown these devices should sit in the rear seat with the seatbelt fastened.

CHILD SAFETY IS A HIGH PRIORITY AT VOLVO

Volvo’s concern for the safety of child passengers is one more way Volvo demonstrates its commitment to providing the highest level of safety for all occupants of a vehicle.