

Marathon™

User Guide



Britax



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WARNING!

DEATH or SERIOUS INJURY can occur if the following are not observed:

- Use only with children who weigh between 5 and 65 pounds (2.3 and 29.5 kg.) and whose height is 49 inches (124.5 cm.) or less. Use rear-facing for children 5 – 35 pounds (2.3 –15.9 kg.) and forward-facing 20 – 65 pounds (9.1 – 29.5 kg.).
- Adjust the belts provided with this child seat so they fit snugly around your child. A snug strap 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.
- Secure the top tether strap provided with this child seat.
- Secure this child seat with vehicle's child seat Lower Anchors and Tethers for CHildren (LATCH) system if available or with a vehicle belt.
- Follow all instructions on this child seat and in the written instructions.
- Register your child seat with the manufacturer, Britax Child Safety, Inc. by visiting www.BritaxUSA.com/registration, OR fill out the registration card that was shipped with this child seat.
- Refer to your vehicle owner's manual or contact the vehicle manufacturer for the maximum weight rating for their LATCH anchors. Use vehicle belt (not LATCH connectors) for installations with children who weigh more than the vehicle LATCH anchor limit. Unless specified otherwise by the vehicle manufacturer, assume a 40 pound (18.1 kg.) child is the vehicle LATCH anchor limit.
- HUGS™ chest pads must be used in forward-facing mode. Removal of HUGS is optional only for rear-facing mode.
- To prevent injury due to deterioration or hidden damage, discontinue use of a child seat that is older than six years or has been in a moderate or severe crash. See date of manufacture located on child seat.
- This child seat must not be used in the home, in boats, or other non-certified applications.
- Based on crash statistics, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recommends that parents select the back seat as the safest location for a properly installed child seat. Please study [*Vehicle Compatibility*](#) on pages 10-11 to ensure your child's safety and consult your vehicle owner's manual.
- Secure this child seat even when it is not occupied. In a crash, an unsecured child seat may injure vehicle occupants.
- When using in a vehicle with air bags, refer to your vehicle owner's manual for child seat installation instructions and precautions.
- Child seat must be in the full upright position when installed in forward-facing mode with children who weigh more than 33 pounds (15.1 kg.).
- Never use adjuster strap to lift or carry this child seat. Doing so could cause damage to harness adjuster and webbing. Always carry this child seat by its shell or tether straps.
- The primary protection for occupants of a vehicle in a collision is the body of the vehicle itself; a child seat will not protect a child when a vehicle is seriously impacted. However, correctly installed, a child seat will substantially improve chances for survival in most crashes. Make sure all users fully understand the correct ways to use this child seat in a vehicle.

Important Notes

- Verify that the child seat is secure and the harness is properly adjusted around the child each time the child seat is used.
- Adjust the harness to fit the clothes the child is wearing. Remove bulky coats and/or jackets before putting the child in the child seat.
- Cover the child seat when the vehicle is parked in direct sunlight. Parts of the child seat could become hot enough to burn a child.
- Store the child seat in a safe place when it is not being used. Avoid placing heavy objects on top of the child seat.
- Do not leave children alone in a vehicle, even for a short time.
- Do not, except as described in this booklet, attempt to disassemble any part of the child seat or change the way its harness or the vehicle's seat belts are used.
- Do not leave loose objects, e.g. books, bags, etc., in the back of a vehicle. In the event of a sudden stop, loose objects will keep moving, potentially causing serious injuries.
- Do not leave folding vehicle seats unlatched. In event of a sudden stop, a loose seat back could cause the child seat not to perform as intended.
- Do not allow children to play with this or any child seat.
- Do not use anything to raise the child seat off the vehicle seat except as described in these instructions. In a crash, this could cause the child seat not to perform as intended.

Certification

This child seat system conforms to all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards. This child seat is certified for use in motor vehicles and aircraft.

Registration

Child seats could be recalled for safety reasons. You must register this child seat to be reached in a recall. Send your name, address, and the child seat's model number and manufacturing date to Britax Child Safety, Inc., 13501 South Ridge Drive Charlotte, NC 28273, or call 1-888-4BRITAX, or register online at www.BritaxUSA.com/registration. 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>.



WARNING! DO NOT place a child seat rear-facing in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger air bag unless deactivated. DEATH or SERIOUS INJURY can occur. The back seat is the safest place for children under 12.

Important Harness Adjustments

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics:

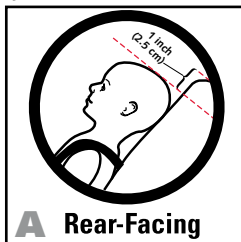
All infants should ride rear-facing until they have reached at least 1 year of age and weigh at least 20 pounds. That means that if your infant reaches 20 pounds before her first birthday, she should remain rear-facing at least until she turns 1 year old. It is best for children to ride rear-facing to the highest weight or height allowed by the manufacturer.

Rear-Facing

Weight 5 – 35 pounds (2.3 – 15.9 kg.).

Only use rear-facing with children:

- who weigh between 5 and 35 lbs. (2.3–15.9 kg.) and
- when the top of the child's head is 1" (2.5 cm.) or more below the top of the child seat shell (Fig. A) and
- when the harness straps are located in the nearest slots at or below the child's shoulders (Fig. A).



If the child cannot be secured within these requirements because the child exceeds height or weight requirements, review the forward-facing guidelines on page 7.

If the child cannot be snugly secured within these requirements because the child is too small, selection of a different child seat (such as an infant carrier) may be required.

IMPORTANT: See [How to Adjust Harness Slot Height](#) on page 33.



WARNING!

Do NOT use the child seat rear-facing if **any** of the following apply:

- the child is less than 5 lbs. (2.3 kg.) in weight or
- the child exceeds 35 lbs. (15.9 kg.) in weight or
- the top of the head is less than 1" (2.5 cm.) from the top of the child seat shell (Fig. A) or
- the harness straps are in slots above the child's shoulders.

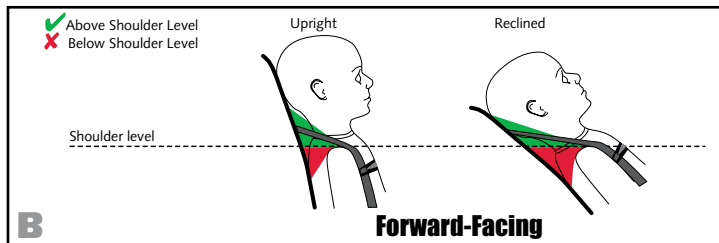
Forward-Facing

Weight 20 pounds (and 1 year) – 65 pounds (9.1 – 29.5 kg.)

Only use forward-facing with children:

- who are at least one year of age and
- who weigh between 20 and 65 lbs. (9.1 – 29.5 kg.) and
- who are 49" (124.5 cm.) or less in height and
- when the top of the child's ears are below the top of the child seat shell and
- when the harness straps are located in the nearest slots at or above the child's shoulders, parallel to level ground (Fig. B).

IMPORTANT: When using forward-facing recline mode, it may become necessary to adjust the harness to the next higher set of slots than would be used when the seat is upright (Fig. B). See [How to Adjust Harness Slot Height](#) on page 33.



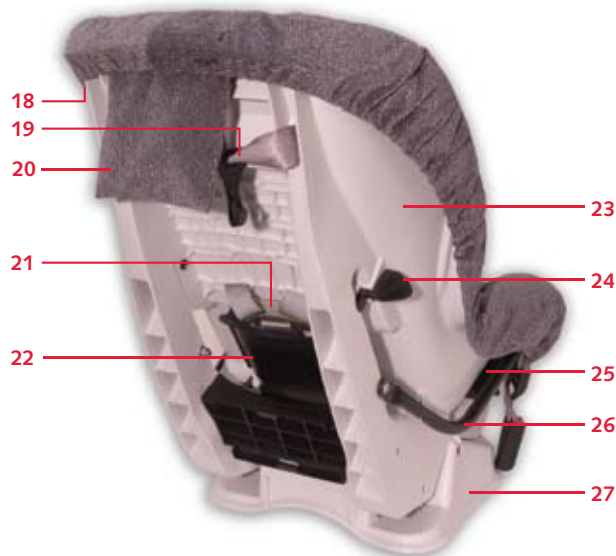
WARNING!

Do NOT use the child seat forward-facing if **any** of the following apply:

- the child is less than one year of age or
- the child is less than 20 lbs. (9.1 kg.) in weight or
- the child exceeds 65 lbs. (29.5 kg.) in weight or
- the child exceeds 49" (124.5 cm.) in height or
- the top of the ears are above the top of the child seat shell or
- the harness straps are in slots below the child's shoulders, parallel to level ground (Fig. B)

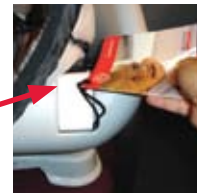


- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Cover | 10 Harness Holders |
| 2 LATCH Straps | 11 HUGS™ (Harness Ultra Guard System) Chest Pads |
| 3 LATCH Adjuster Release Buttons | 12 Harness |
| 4 LATCH Adjusters | 13 Buckle |
| 5 LATCH Connector Release Buttons | 14 Belly Pad |
| 6 LATCH Connectors (stored under cover) | 15 Harness Adjuster Lever (under cover) |
| 7 Harness Slots | 16 Harness Adjuster Strap |
| 8 Comfort Pads | 17 Recline Handle |
| 9 Chest Clip | |



- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 18 Manufactured Date Label (under cover) | 23 Shell |
| 19 Versa-Tether® (Top Anchorage Strap)-in pouch | 24 Forward-Facing Lock-offs |
| 20 Versa-Tether Storage Pouch | 25 Rear-Facing Lock-offs |
| 21 Harness Yoke | 26 LATCH Bar |
| 22 Belt Guard | 27 Base |

IMPORTANT: When not in use, this user guide should be stored under the cover. **DO NOT discard the foam inserts found under the cover.**



Vehicle Safety Belts

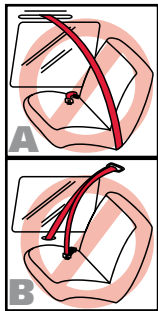
NOTE: The information in this section only applies to installation with vehicle safety belts.

IMPORTANT: Vehicle seats and safety belts differ from vehicle to vehicle. Refer to your vehicle owner's manual for specific information about vehicle safety belts and their use with child seats. Some vehicles have no seating positions which are compatible with this child seat or any other child seat. If in doubt, contact the vehicle manufacturer for assistance.

This child seat can fit securely in most vehicles using existing vehicle belts. However, some vehicle designs prevent a secure fit of the child seat. The vehicle owner's manual will have information on the types of vehicle belts in your vehicle. If your belt type is listed below, select another seating position or use Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children (LATCH).

! WARNING! The following types of vehicle belts are not compatible with this child seat:

- Front vehicle belts with top or bottom anchorage points in the door. (Fig. A & B)
- Motor-driven, automatic vehicle belts. (Fig. B)
- Lap-shoulder belts that have separate retractors for shoulder section and lap section in which lap section retractor does not lock.
- Non-locking, two-point Emergency Locking Retractor (ELR) vehicle belts.
- Lap-shoulder ELR vehicle belts without use of the lock-off.



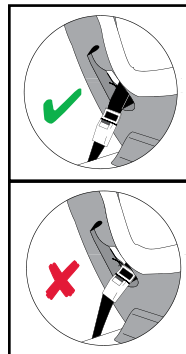
NOTE: Refer to your vehicle owner's manual to determine the kind of retractors used in your vehicle and how to operate them.

Vehicle Buckle Positions

! WARNING! The position of the vehicle belt buckle can adversely affect the stability of the child seat.

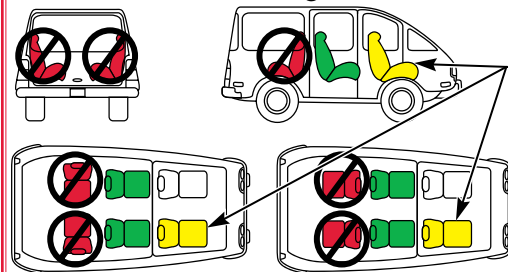
If the buckle lies near the position marked wrong (X) when the vehicle belt is tightened, try fitting the child seat in another seating position in the vehicle OR consult your vehicle owner's manual to see if you can lower the vehicle buckle position by twisting the vehicle buckle stalk.

If it is not possible to achieve the correct position (✓) for the buckle, then another seating position **MUST** be used.



Vehicle Seating Positions

! WARNING! Forward-facing vehicle seats **MUST** be used with this child seat. Side-facing or rear-facing seats **CANNOT** be used. See diagram below.



! WARNING! **DO NOT** place a child seat rear-facing in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger air bag unless deactivated. **DEATH** or **SERIOUS INJURY** can occur. The back seat is the safest place for children under 12.

LATCH Installation

- Figure A illustrates a typical rear-facing LATCH installation.
- Verify that your vehicle is equipped with LATCH anchors. If LATCH anchors are not available, you must use the vehicle belt installation methods.

IMPORTANT: LATCH connectors must be in an upright position (as shown in figure B) and the strap should be tight and not twisted to ensure proper installation.

- If stored, remove the LATCH connectors from the storage slots under the cover. See page 30.
- Press and hold the first LATCH adjuster button, then pull the LATCH strap to full length. Repeat for the remaining LATCH connector.
- Fully recline the child seat and place it sideways on the vehicle seat with the front facing you.
 - See [Recline Adjustment](#) on page 30.

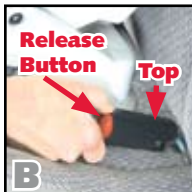
- Verify the LATCH strap is not twisted, then attach the closest LATCH connector to the vehicle seat back to the farthest LATCH anchor from you (Fig. C).

NOTE: It may be necessary to switch the LATCH connectors as shown on page 29 if ANY of the following conditions exist:

- LATCH connector is not in an upright position as shown in figure B.
- LATCH strap is twisted.
- A positive click is NOT heard when the LATCH connector and LATCH anchor are connected.

NOTE: If a positive click is not heard, but the LATCH connector is in an upright position, you should not switch the LATCH connector. The strap may be too tight or twisted, or there may be debris in the LATCH connector.

- Rotate the child seat into the rear-facing position.
- Verify that the LATCH strap is not twisted and attach the remaining LATCH connector to the adjacent LATCH anchor (Fig. D).



- Align each LATCH strap on the LATCH bar with the "LATCH Strap Here Rear-Facing" label on each side of the child seat. (Fig. E and F).
- Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while pulling each LATCH strap tight (Fig. G).
- Verify that all connections are secure, the LATCH strap is aligned to the "LATCH Strap Here Rear-Facing" label on each side of the child seat, and that the child seat is stable.

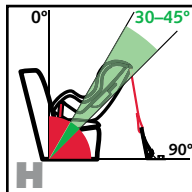
- When properly installed in the rear-facing position, the back angle of the child seat should be 30° – 45° from vertical (not to exceed 45°) when the car is parked on a level surface (Fig. H).
- If necessary, the proper recline angle can be achieved by placing a rolled towel or pool noodle in the crease of the vehicle seat to level the child seat's base.
- Rear-facing installation can be improved by the use of the Versa-Tether® see pages 25 – 28.
- The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved more than one inch (2.5 cm) front-to-back or side-to-side at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat the procedure or use an alternate seating location.



WARNING! Do not raise the child seat off the front edge of the vehicle seat. This could cause your child seat not to perform as intended.

Removal

- If connected, disconnect the Versa-Tether® from the tether anchor.
- Release each LATCH harness from the LATCH anchor by pressing the red release button on the LATCH connector.
- When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in storage slots. See page 30.



Lap-Shoulder Belt Installation

- Figure A illustrates a typical rear-facing, lap-shoulder belt installation.
- When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 30.

1 Fully recline the child seat then place it rear-facing on the vehicle seat.

- See *Recline Adjustment* on page 30.

2 Lift the cover to open the rear-facing lock-off farthest from where the vehicle belt will be buckled (Fig. B).

3 Pull the vehicle belt out then pass it through the farthest rear-facing belt slot from where the vehicle belt will be buckled (Fig. C).

- The vehicle belt can be routed over or under cover.

4 Route the vehicle belt across seat then through the second rear-facing belt slot.

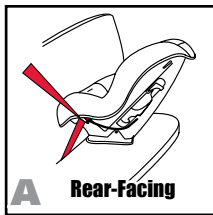
IMPORTANT: The vehicle belt must rest behind the child seat buckle.

5 Verify that the vehicle belt is not twisted, then buckle (Fig. D).

6 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while removing slack first from the lap portion of the vehicle belt, then the shoulder portion (Fig. E).

7 Position both sections of the vehicle belt through the open lock-off, tighten belt, close the lock-off arm (Fig. F) and replace the cover.

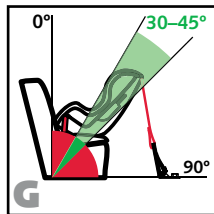
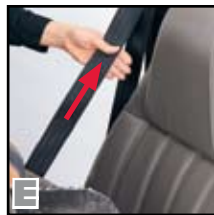
- The lock-off is properly closed when a click is heard.
- To prevent breakage, never extend the lock-off arm beyond its normal open position and always keep the lock-off closed when it is not in use.
- If your vehicle is equipped with an automatic locking retractor (ALR), use of lock-offs is not required as long as the ALR is locked. Check your vehicle owner's manual to determine the type of retractor your vehicle has, and how to lock the retractor.



8 Verify that all connections are secure and that the child seat is stable.

- When properly installed in the rear-facing position, the back angle of the child seat should be 30° – 45° from vertical (not to exceed 45°) when the car is parked on a level surface (Fig. G).
- If necessary, the proper recline angle can be achieved by placing a rolled towel or pool noodle in the crease of the vehicle seat to level the child seat's base.
- Rear-facing installation can be improved by the use of the Versa-Tether[®]. See pages 25–28.
- The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved more than one inch (2.5 cm.) front-to-back or side-to-side at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat procedure or use an alternate seating location.

WARNING! Do not raise the child seat off the front edge of the vehicle seat. This could cause your child seat not to perform as intended.



Removal

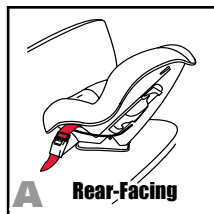
- If connected, disconnect the Versa-Tether[®] from the tether anchor.
- Release each LATCH harness from the LATCH anchor by pressing the red release button on the LATCH connector.
- When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 30.

Lap-Belt Installation

- Figure A illustrates a typical rear-facing, lap-belt installation.
 - When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 30.
- 1 Fully recline the child seat, then place it rear facing on the vehicle seat.
 - See [Recline Adjustment](#) on page 30.
 - 2 Lift the cover and open the rear-facing lock-off farthest from where the vehicle belt will be buckled (Fig. B).
 - 3 Pull the vehicle belt out, then pass it through the farthest rear-facing belt slot from where the vehicle belt will be buckled (Fig. C).
 - The vehicle belt can be routed over or under cover.
 - 4 Route the vehicle belt across the child seat then through the second rear-facing belt slot.

IMPORTANT: The vehicle belt must rest behind the child seat buckle.

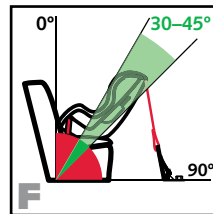
- 5 Verify that the vehicle belt is not twisted, then buckle (Fig. D).
- 6 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while removing slack from the vehicle belt.
- 7 Position the vehicle belt through the open lock-off, tighten the belt, close the lock-off arm and replace the cover (Fig. E).
 - The lock-off is properly closed when a click is heard.
 - To prevent breakage, never extend the lock-off arm beyond its normal open position and always keep the lock-off closed when not in use.
 - If your vehicle is equipped with an automatic locking retractor (ALR), use of the lock-offs is not required as long as the ALR is locked. Check your vehicle owner's manual to determine the type of retractor your vehicle has, and how to lock the retractor.



- 8 Verify that all connections are secure and that the child seat is stable.
 - When properly installed in the rear-facing position, the back angle of the child seat should be 30° – 45° from vertical (not to exceed 45°) when the car is parked on a level surface (Fig. F).
 - If necessary, the proper recline angle can be achieved by placing a rolled towel or pool noodle in the crease of the vehicle seat to level the child seat's base.
 - Rear-facing installation can be improved by the use of the Versa-Tether[®]. See pages 25–28.
 - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved more than one inch (2.5 cm.) front-to-back or side-to-side at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat procedure or use an alternate seating location.



WARNING! Do not raise the child seat off the front edge of the vehicle seat. This could cause your child seat not to perform as intended.



Removal

- If connected, disconnect the Versa-Tether[®] from the tether anchor.
- Release each LATCH harness from the LATCH anchor by pressing the red release button on the LATCH connector.
- When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 30.

LATCH Installation

- Figure A illustrates a typical forward-facing LATCH installation.
- Verify that your vehicle is equipped with LATCH anchors. If LATCH anchors are not available, you must use vehicle belt installation methods.



WARNING! This child seat must not be used forward-facing for children less than one year of age OR weighing less than 20 lbs.



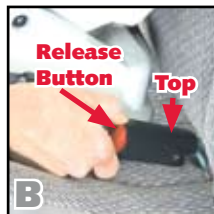
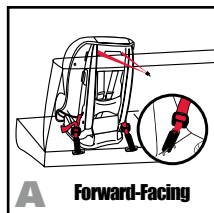
WARNING! This child seat must be in full upright position when installed in forward-facing mode with children over 33 pounds (15.1 kg.).

IMPORTANT: The LATCH connectors must be in an upright position (as shown in figure B) and the strap should be tight and not twisted to ensure proper installation.

- 1 If stored, remove the LATCH connectors from the storage slots under the cover (see page 30).
- 2 Press and hold the first LATCH adjuster button, then pull the LATCH strap to full length. Repeat for the remaining LATCH connector.
- 3 Place the child seat sideways on the vehicle seat, with the back of the child seat facing toward you.
- 4 Remove the Versa-Tether® from the pouch and place it up and over the child seat back.
- 5 Verify that the LATCH strap is not twisted, then attach closest LATCH connector to the vehicle seat back to the farthest LATCH anchor from you (Fig. C).

NOTE: It may be necessary to switch the LATCH connectors as shown on page 29 if **ANY** of the following conditions exist:

- the LATCH connector is not in an upright position as shown in figure B.
- the LATCH strap is twisted.



- A positive click is NOT heard when the LATCH connector and the LATCH anchor are connected.

NOTE: If a positive click is not heard, but the LATCH connector is in an upright position, you should not switch the LATCH connector. The strap may be too tight or twisted, or there may be debris in the LATCH connector.

- 6 Rotate the child seat into the forward-facing position.
- 7 Verify that the LATCH strap is not twisted, then attach the remaining LATCH connector to the adjacent LATCH anchor (Fig. D).
- 8 A positive click confirms attachment.
- 9 Push the child seat into the vehicle seat while pulling each LATCH strap tight (Fig. E).
- 10 Attach the Versa-Tether® hook to the vehicle's designated tether anchor. Remove all slack from the tether to secure. Store excess webbing in the tether pouch. See pages 25–28.
- 11 Verify that all connections and the child seat are secure.
 - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved front- to-back or side-to-side more than 1" (2.5 cm.) at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat this procedure or use an alternate seating location.



WARNING! Refer to your vehicle owner's manual or contact the vehicle manufacturer for the maximum weight rating for their LATCH anchors. Use vehicle belt (not LATCH connectors) for installations with children who weigh more than the vehicle LATCH anchor limit. Unless specified otherwise by the vehicle manufacturer, assume a 40 pound (18.1 kg.) child is the vehicle LATCH anchor limit.

Removal

- Disconnect the Versa-Tether® from the tether anchor.
- Release each LATCH harness from the LATCH anchor by pressing the red release button on the LATCH connector.
- When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in storage slots. See page 30.

Lap-Shoulder Belt Installation

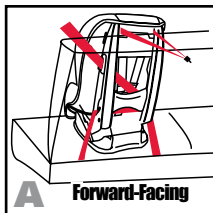
- Figure A illustrates a typical forward-facing lap-shoulder belt installation.
- When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 30.

WARNING! This child seat must not be used forward-facing for children less than one year of age OR weighing less than 20 lbs.

WARNING! This child seat must be in full upright position when installed in forward-facing mode with children over 33 pounds (15.1 kg.).

IMPORTANT: Britax recommends that the Versa-Tether® be used at all times. Using the tether will improve the stability of the child seat and reduce the risk of injury. Check your vehicle owner's manual for approved tether locations.

- 1 Place the child seat forward facing on the vehicle seat.
- 2 If the vehicle is equipped with a designated tether anchor for the chosen seating position, remove the Versa-Tether® from the pouch and place it up and over the child seat back.
- 3 Pull vehicle belt out, then thread it **over** the LATCH bar and through the forward-facing belt path (Fig. B).
- 4 Verify that the vehicle belt is not twisted and is routed **over** the LATCH bars, then buckle (Fig. C).



- 5 Rotate the lock-off lever to open the forward-facing lock-off farthest from where the vehicle belt will be buckled.
- 6 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while removing slack first from the lap portion of the vehicle belt, then the shoulder portion (Fig. D).
- 7 Hold the shoulder belt tight, then rotate the lock-off until the vehicle belt is secured (Fig. E).



- If your vehicle is equipped with an automatic locking retractor (ALR), use of lock-offs is not required as long as the ALR is locked. Check your vehicle owner's manual to determine the type of retractor your vehicle has, and how to lock the retractor.
- 8 Attach the Versa-Tether® hook to the designated tether anchor (if available according to the vehicle owner's manual) for the chosen seating position. Remove all slack from the tether to secure. Store excess webbing in the tether pouch. See pages 25 – 28.
 - 9 Verify that all connections are secure and that the child seat is stable.
 - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved front-to-back or side-to-side more than 1" (2.5 cm.) at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat this procedure or use an alternate seating location.

Removal

- Disconnect the Versa-Tether®, if necessary.
- While pushing the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat, release the lock-off and vehicle belt.

Lap-Belt Installation

- Figure A illustrates a typical forward-facing, lap-belt installation.
- When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 30.



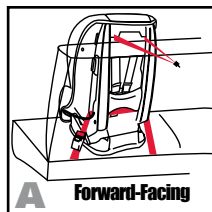
WARNING! This child seat must not be used forward-facing for children less than one year of age OR weighing less than 20 lbs.



WARNING! This child seat must be in full upright position when installed in forward-facing mode with children over 33 pounds (15.1 kg.).

IMPORTANT: Britax recommends that the Versa-Tether® be used at all times. Using the tether will improve the stability of the child seat and reduce the risk of injury. Check your vehicle owner's manual for approved tether locations.

- 1 Place the child seat forward facing on the vehicle seat.
- 2 If the vehicle is equipped with a designated tether anchor for the chosen seating position, remove the Versa-Tether® from the pouch and place it up and over the child seat back.
- 3 Pull the vehicle belt out, then pass it **under** the LATCH bar, through the forward-facing belt slots, then **under** the LATCH bar on the other side (Fig. B).
- 4 Verify that the vehicle belt is not twisted, is routed **under** the LATCH bars, then buckle (Fig. B).



- 5 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while removing slack from the vehicle belt (Fig. C).
- 6 Attach the Versa-Tether® hook to the designated tether anchor (if available according to the vehicle owner's manual) for the chosen seating position. Remove all slack from the tether to be secure. Store excess webbing in the tether pouch. See pages 25 – 28.
- 7 Verify that the vehicle belt is tight, locked and the child seat is secure.
 - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved front-to-back or side-to-side more than 1" (2.5 cm.) at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat this procedure or use an alternate seating location.

Removal

- If connected, disconnect the Versa-Tether® from the tether anchor.
- Press the red release button on the vehicle belt buckle and pull the vehicle buckle from the child seat path.

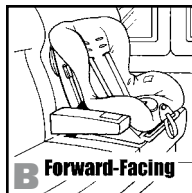
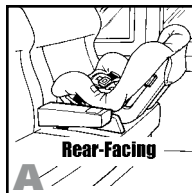
Aircraft Installation

This child seat is certified for aircraft use. Most airlines in the U.S. and Canada will allow the use of a child seat if it is labeled as an approved child seat for airline use and fits properly on the plane. Contact the airline about their policy prior to traveling.

- The FAA recommends that a child weighing up to 40 pounds use a certified, harnessed child seat while traveling on an aircraft.
- Install your child seat in a window seat to avoid blocking the aisle.
- If the aircraft lap belt is too short, ask the flight attendant for a belt extender.

Rear-Facing Installation

For rear-facing aircraft installation (Fig. A), follow the *Rear-Facing Lap-Belt Installation* instructions on pages 16–17.



Forward-Facing Installation

For forward-facing aircraft installation (Fig. B), follow the *Forward-Facing Lap-Belt Installation* instructions on pages 22–23.

Safety Information



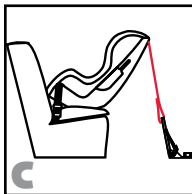
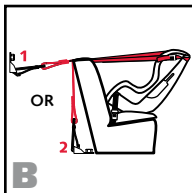
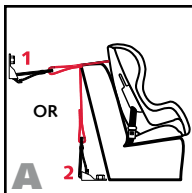
WARNING! When using the child seat in forward-facing mode, attach the Versa-Tether® only to tether anchors identified by the vehicle manufacturer as tether-anchorage points. Use of other locations is not approved or permitted. **DO NOT** modify the vehicle without advice from the vehicle manufacturer if a tether anchorage is not available. **DO NOT** hook the Versa-Tether® to the bottom of a vehicle seat adjuster.

IMPORTANT:

- Britax recommends that the tether be used at all times. Using the tether will improve the stability of the child seat and reduce the risk of injury.
- If your vehicle does not currently have a tether anchor attachment, refer to your vehicle owner's manual or contact the vehicle manufacturer for assistance.

Using the Versa-Tether®

- 1 Consult your vehicle owner's manual for approved tether anchorage locations.
- 2 Locate the tether on the rear of the child seat and remove the tether components from the pouch.
- 3 Place the tether components up and over the child seat back.
- 4 Install the child seat using the LATCH system or the vehicle belts according to the instructions in this manual.
- 5 Lift the tether release tab then pull to fully extend the tether strap into a "V" shape.
- 6 Locate the hook on the strap and loosely attach the tether to the vehicle's designated tether anchor.
 - See figure A for a forward-facing installation.
 - See figures B and C for a rear-facing installation.
- 7 Pull the tether adjuster strap to remove all slack.
- 8 Verify there is tension in the tether strap and that child seat is properly secured.
 - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved front-to-back or side-to-side more than 1 inch (2.5 cm.) at the belt path.

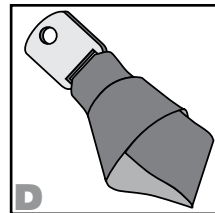


Tether Connector Strap



WARNING! Only use the tether connector strap for a rear-facing tether installation.

Because every vehicle model is different, sometimes you cannot find a location to properly anchor the tether or the structural part of the seat is too large for the hook. Use the tether connector strap to assist in creating an anchor point (Fig. D).



- 1 Find a fixed vehicle seat belt anchor or vehicle seat leg that is bolted to the floor.
 - If you cannot find an acceptable location to create an anchor point, contact the vehicle manufacturer to identify a suitable tether connection point.
 - 2 Route the strap around the fixed vehicle anchor point.
 - 3 Take the metal D-ring and thread it through the webbing loop on the other end of the strap.
 - 4 Pull the metal D-ring all the way through until the strap is tight around the metal anchor.
 - 5 Use the D-ring as an attachment point for the hook on the tether strap.
- NOTE:** Store the tether connector strap in the tether pouch when not in use.

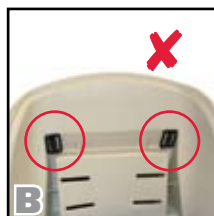
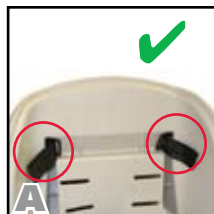
Energy-Absorbing Tether

WARNING! The energy-absorbing tether has been designed to help indicate when child seat has been in a moderate or severe crash and replacement of child seat is necessary.

Figure A shows the tether when the child seat is acceptable for continued use (provided the child seat has not been involved in a crash). The colored stitching will be intact.

Figures B and C show examples of when the child seat is unacceptable for continued use. If one or both of the loops have pulled through the back side of the shell and/or any of the colored stitching has ripped, the child seat is no longer acceptable for use. Discontinue use of the child seat.

IMPORTANT: Regardless of whether the loops have pulled through the back side of the shell and the colored stitching has been ripped, discontinue use of child seat if it has been involved in a moderate or severe crash.



Switching the LATCH Connectors

The LATCH connectors will properly connect with the LATCH anchors in the vehicle only when the connectors are correctly aligned and the harness is not twisted.

To ensure the LATCH connector is properly aligned with the vehicle's LATCH anchor, the connector's red release button should face away from vehicle seat back, and the larger of the two connector sections is on top (Fig. D).

- 1 Lift the front of cover to access the LATCH connector.
- 2 Slide both connectors through the rear-facing belt slots to the center of the child seat so both connectors are on the front side of the child seat (Fig. E).
- 3 Loosen the loop on one connector (Fig. F).
- 4 Thread the other connector through the loop created in step 3 to switch positions (Fig. G).
- 5 Slide each connector through the appropriate rear-facing belt slot to opposite side of the child seat.
- 6 Replace the cover and continue with the installation procedure.



Storing the LATCH Connectors

When the LATCH connector is not in use, lift the cover to access the LATCH storage slots (Fig. A). Fold the LATCH adjuster and the connector, then slide each set into the adjacent slot.

NOTE: Child seats are shipped from Britax with the LATCH connectors in the storage slots.

Recline Adjustment

Pull the recline handle (Fig. B) then slide the child seat shell into the desired position. Release the recline handle, then verify the child seat has locked into position.



WARNING! Child seat must be in full upright position when installed in forward-facing mode with children over 33 pounds (15.1 kg.).

NOTE: It will be necessary to loosen the tether, vehicle seat belt, and/or LATCH strap before adjusting the recline position. The tether, vehicle seat belt, and/or LATCH strap must be properly re-tightened after adjusting the recline position.

Chest Clip**Fastening the Chest Clip**

Fasten the chest clip by pushing the two halves together until a positive click is heard (Fig. D).

Releasing the Chest Clip

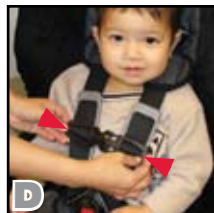
- 1 Squeeze the middle tabs together (Fig. E).
- 2 Pull the two pieces apart.

Adjusting the Chest Clip

- 1 Slide the chest clip up or down (Fig. F) on the harness so it is positioned at the middle of the child's chest, level with the child's armpits.
- 2 Slide the HUGS™ chest pads and comfort pads to a comfortable location for the child.

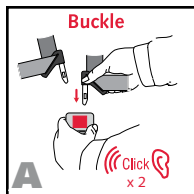
HUGS™ Chest Pads

WARNING! HUGS™ chest pads must be installed for forward-facing use. Removal of HUGS is optional only for rear-facing use.

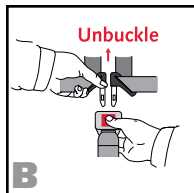


Harness Buckle**Fastening the Harness Buckle**

- 1 Hold the harness buckle with one hand.
- 2 Use your other hand to insert one buckle tongue at a time into the harness buckle (Fig. A).
 - A proper connection is confirmed with a positive click after inserting each buckle tongue.

**Releasing the Harness Buckle**

- 1 Brace the rear of the harness buckle with one hand.
- 2 Use your thumb to press the release button and slide both buckle tongues to remove from the buckle (Fig. B).

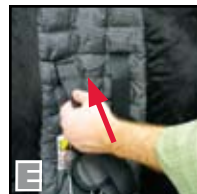


IMPORTANT: Periodically clean the harness buckle to ensure safe operation (pg. 39).

How to Adjust Harness Slot Height

IMPORTANT: See *Important Harness Adjustments* on pages 6–7 for instructions on proper harness fit based on your child's height and weight.

- 1 Loosen the harness by lifting the harness adjuster lever while pulling the harness straps forward as far as possible (Fig. C).
- 2 From the rear of the child seat, unhook the shoulder harness from the harness yoke (Fig. D).
- 3 Pull the harness straps through the shell, foam, and cover to the front of the child seat.
- 4 Thread the harness straps through the appropriate harness slots in the cover, foam, and child seat shell (Fig. E).
- 5 Reattach the harness straps to the harness yoke (Fig. D).
- 6 Pull the harness-adjuster strap to tighten the harness.
- 7 Verify that all straps are threaded at the same height and are not twisted.



Securing Your Child

Once the child seat is installed in the vehicle and adjustments have been made, follow these instructions to secure the child.

- 1 Loosen the harness by lifting the harness adjuster lever located on the front of the child seat while pulling the shoulder straps forward (Fig. A).
- 2 Release the chest clip by squeezing the tabs and sliding the pieces apart (Fig. B).
- 3 Unfasten the harness buckle by pressing the release button and sliding the tongues out.
- 4 Move the harness straps to the side of the child seat.
 - Use the harness holder located on the straps and the side of cover to aid in holding the straps.
- 5 Place child in the child seat.
- 6 Position harness straps around the child and fasten the harness buckle (Fig. C) and chest clip.
 - Proper connection of the harness buckle is confirmed with a positive click after inserting each buckle tongue.
- 7 Gently pull up on the harness straps to tighten lap section of the harness which should fit across the child's upper thighs.
- 8 Slowly pull the adjuster strap to tighten the harness around the child (Fig. D).



- 9 Position the chest clip at the middle of the child's chest, level with the child's armpits (Fig. E).
- 10 Verify that the harness is not twisted and the child is properly secured.



WARNING! HUGS™ chest pads must be installed for forward-facing use. Removal of HUGS is optional for rear-facing use.



IMPORTANT:

- Always pull on the harness after securing the child to ensure the buckle tongues are secure in the harness buckle. If the buckle will not fasten with a positive click after insertion of each buckle tongue, the harness buckle or adjuster area may be clogged with food, drink or other debris that needs to be removed. See page 39 for cleaning instructions.
- Adjust the belts provided with the child seat so they fit snugly around your child. A snug strap 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.

Cover Removal

WARNING! Do not take apart the harness. Never remove the buckle tongues from the harness. They cannot be reattached after removal. If reassembled incorrectly, the child seat may not perform as intended.

- 1 Loosen the harness by lifting the harness adjuster lever while pulling the shoulder straps forward as far as possible.
- 2 Unhook the shoulder straps from the harness yoke on the rear of the child seat (Fig. A).
- 3 Pull the upper harness straps through the shell and cover to the front of the child seat.
- 4 Remove the buckle and belly pad (pg. 38).
- 5 Gently remove the upper portion of the cover. Be careful not to damage the energy-absorbing foam.
- 6 Pull the lower harness straps, buckle tongues, HUGS™ chest pads, and chest clip through the lower slots in cover.
- 7 Remove the entire cover from the child seat.



For additional demonstration please visit www.BritaxUSA.com.

Refitting the Cover

To refit the cover, reverse the above directions. Make sure that the shoulder straps are not twisted, and are threaded properly through the chest clips, cover, foam, and shell.

Cleaning the Cover

- HAND WASH using cold water and mild soap.
- LINE or LIE-FLAT DRY to prevent the cover from shrinking.
- **DO NOT** bleach, machine wash, machine dry or iron.

Cleaning the Shell

- SPONGE CLEAN using warm water and mild soap.
- TOWEL DRY
- **DO NOT** use solvents, abrasive cleaners or disassemble the harness.

Cleaning the Harness

- SPONGE CLEAN using warm water and mild soap.
- TOWEL DRY
- **DO NOT** bleach, machine wash, machine dry or disassemble the harness.

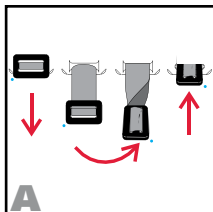
Cleaning the Harness Adjuster

Periodically check the adjuster area to be sure it is clean and free of food, drink or other debris. If debris is present, it must be removed to prevent interference with the adjuster mechanism.

- BRUSH AWAY LOOSE DEBRIS using a soft-bristled brush.
- SPONGE CLEAN using warm water and a mild soap.
- TOWEL DRY
- **DO NOT** use solvents, abrasive cleaners or disassemble the harness.

Harness Buckle Removal

- 1 Fully recline the child seat.
- 2 Locate the metal buckle strap retainer on the bottom of the child seat.
- 3 Pull the retainer away from the child seat to loosen.
- 4 Turn the retainer so the short side will fit through the slot in the child seat shell (Fig. A).
- 5 Push the retainer through the slots in the shell and cover, to the top of the child seat.



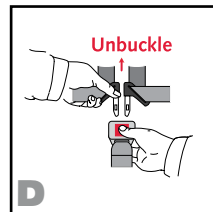
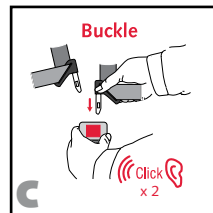
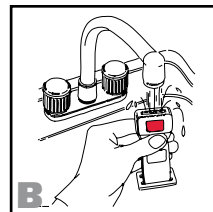
Re-threading the Harness Buckle

- 1 Locate the slot in cover and shell for the harness buckle.
- 2 Turn the buckle retainer so the short side will fit through the slot in the cover and the child seat shell (Fig. A).
- 3 Push the retainer through the slots in the shell and cover, to the bottom of the child seat.
- 4 Pull the harness buckle away from the child seat until tight and verify the strap is not twisted and the release button is facing outward.

Cleaning the Harness Buckle

If a child eats and drinks while in the child seat, the harness buckle may need to be periodically checked and cleaned of any food, drink or other debris.

- REMOVE BUCKLE as described on page 38.
- THOROUGHLY RINSE using warm water (Fig. B).
- TEST THE HARNESS BUCKLE by fastening (Fig. C) and unfastening (Fig. D) until a positive click is heard after inserting each buckle tongue. If either click is not heard, repeat cleaning procedure.
- TOWEL DRY
- **DO NOT** lubricate, use solvents, abrasive cleaners, soap or other household detergents.



This child seat was manufactured by Britax Child Safety, Inc. Britax® warrants this product to the original retail purchaser as follows:

LIMITED ONE-YEAR WARRANTY

This product is warranted against defective materials or workmanship for one year from the date of original purchase. Proof of purchase is required. The exclusive remedy for this warranty is that Britax will, at its option, provide repair or replacement components for this product or refund the original purchase price of the product. Britax reserves the right to discontinue or change fabrics, parts, models or products, or to make substitutions.

To make a claim under this warranty, contact Britax Consumer Services at 1-888-427-4829 or write to us using the address on the back cover of this booklet. Proof of purchase is required.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL THE OWNER REGISTRATION CARD WITHIN (30) DAYS OF PURCHASE OR VISIT WWW.BRITAXUSA.COM/REGISTRATION.

WARRANTY LIMITATIONS

This warranty does not include damages which arise from negligence, misuse or use not in accordance with the product instruction.

The use of non-Britax Child Safety, Inc. covers, inserts, toys, accessories, or tightening devices is not approved by Britax. Their use could cause this child seat to fail Federal Safety Standards or not perform as intended in a crash. Their use automatically voids the Britax warranty.

LIMITATION OF DAMAGES

The warranty and remedies as set forth above are exclusive and in lieu of all others, oral or written, express or implied. In no event will Britax, or the retailer selling this product, be liable for any damages, including incidental or consequential damages, arising out of the use or inability to use this product.

LIMITATIONS OF WARRANTIES AND OTHER WARRANTY TERMS AND STATE LAWS

Any implied warranties, including implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, shall be limited to the duration and terms of the express written warranty. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations may not apply. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights, which vary from state to state. Neither Britax, nor the retailer selling this product, authorizes any person to create for it any other warranty, obligation, or liability in connection with this product.



IMPORTANT:

DOUBLE CHECK EVERY TIME YOU USE THIS CAR SEAT.

Double Check Car Seat-to-Vehicle Installation:

- Check that the LATCH or vehicle seat belt connections to the vehicle are tight and secure.
- Verify the car seat cannot be moved front-to-back or side-to-side more than one inch at the belt path.

Double Check Child-to-Car Seat Installation:

- Tug on the buckle to ensure a proper connection.
- Confirm that the harness straps are snug and over both shoulders and hips. You should not be able to pinch excess harness strap webbing at the child's shoulder.
- Make sure the chest clip is properly fastened and positioned in the middle of the child's chest at armpit level.

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WITH GLOBAL COMPONENTS

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