



# Marathon™ CS

User Guide





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# WARNING!

DEATH or SERIOUS INJURY CAN OCCUR:

- Use only in a rear-facing position when using it with an infant weighing less than 20 lbs (9.1 kg) **OR** is less than 1 year of age.
- Use only with children who weigh between 5 and 65 lbs (2.3 and 29.5 kg) and whose height is 49 inches (124.5 cm) or less. Rear-facing for children who weigh between 5 and 35 lbs (2.3 and 15.9 kg) and forward-facing for children who weigh between 20 and 65 lbs (9.1 - 29.5 kg) and are at least 1 year of age.
- Snugly adjust the belts provided with this child restraint around your child. A snug strap should not allow any slack. It lies in a relatively straight line without sagging. It does not press into the child's flesh or push the child's body into an unnatural position.
- Secure the top anchorage strap provided with this child restraint.
- Secure this child restraint with the vehicle's child restraint anchorage system if available or with a vehicle belt.
- Follow all instructions on this child restraint and in the written instructions located under the child seat cover.
- Register your child restraint with the manufacturer.
- 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 *Serial Number and Manufacture Date Label* located on child seat (see page 9).
- 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 the *Vehicle Compatibility* (pages 10-11) section in this booklet 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- HUGS™ chest pads must be installed for forward-facing use. Removal of HUGS is optional only for rear-facing use.

## Important Notes

- Verify child seat is secure and harness is properly adjusted around child each time child seat is used.
- Adjust harness to fit clothes the child is wearing. Remove bulky coats and/or jackets before putting child in child seat.
- Cover child seat when vehicle is parked in direct sunlight. Parts of child seat could become hot enough to burn a child.
- Store child seat in a safe place when it is not being used. Avoid placing heavy objects on top of it.
- 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 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 unsecured or unlatched. In event of a sudden stop, a loose seat back could prevent child seat from protecting the child as well as it should.
- Do not allow children to play with this or any child seat.
- Do not use anything to raise child seat off vehicle seat except as described in these instructions. In a crash, child seat could slide and may not adequately protect the child.



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

## Certification

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

## Registration

Child seats can 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](http://www.BritaxUSA.com/registration). For recall information, call the US Government's Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.NHTSA.gov>.

Serial Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Batch Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Manufacture: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 (9.1 kg). That means that if your infant reaches 20 pounds (9.1 kg) 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

Use rear-facing only with children:

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



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 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 *Adjusting Harness Slot Height* on page 31.



### WARNING!

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

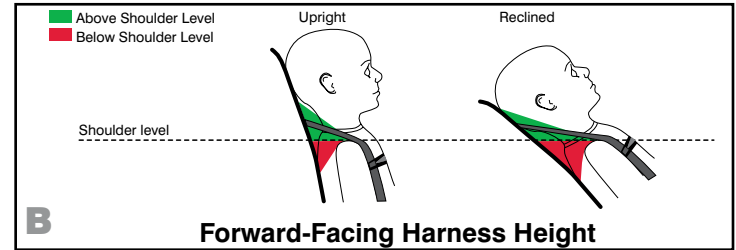
- *the child is less than 5 lbs (2.3 kg) in weight or*
- *the child exceeds 35 lbs (15.9 kg) in weight or*
- *the top of the head is less than 1" (2.5 cm) from the top of the child seat (Fig. A) or*
- *the harness straps are in a slot above the child's shoulders.*

## Forward-Facing

Use forward-facing only with children:

- *who are at least one year of age and*
- *who weigh between 20 and 65 lbs (9.1 – 29.5 kg) and*
- *49" (124.5 cm) or less in height and*
- *the top of the child's ears are below the top of the child seat and*
- *the harness straps are 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. See *Adjusting Harness Slot Height* on page 31.



### 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 or*
- *the top harness slots fall below the child's shoulders, parallel to level ground (Fig. B)*



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Cover                                 | 11 HUGS™ (Harness Ultra Guard System) Chest Pads     |
| 2 LATCH Straps                          | 12 Harness   |
| 3 LATCH Adjuster Release Buttons        | 13 Buckle  |
| 4 LATCH Adjusters                       | 14 Belly Pad   |
| 5 LATCH Connector Release Buttons       | 15 Harness Adjuster Lever (under cover)              |
| 6 LATCH Connectors (stored under cover) | 16 Click & Safe Snug Harness Indicator (under cover) |
| 7 Harness Slots                         | 17 Harness Adjuster Strap                            |
| 8 Comfort Pads                          | 18 Recline Handle                                    |
| 9 Chest Clip                            |  |
| 10 Harness Holders                      |  |



- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 19 Serial Number & Manufactured Date (under cover) | 24 Shell                   |
| 20 Versa-Tether® (Top Anchorage Strap)-in pouch    | 25 Forward-Facing Lock-off |
| 21 Versa-Tether Storage Pouch                      | 26 Rear-Facing Lock-off    |
| 22 Harness Yoke                                    | 27 LATCH Bar               |
| 23 Belt Guard                                      | 28 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.**

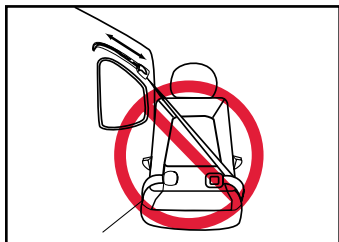


## Incompatible Vehicle Belts

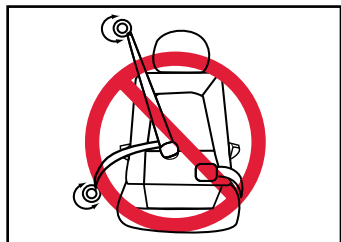
**⚠ WARNING!** The following types of vehicle belts are NOT compatible with this child seat:



**1** Vehicle belts with top or bottom anchor points on the vehicle door.



**2** Motorized, automatic vehicle belts



**3** Lap-shoulder belts that have a separate retractor each for the lap section and shoulder section



**4** Lap belts forward of the vehicle seat bight.

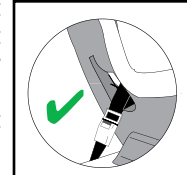
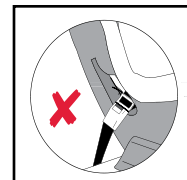
**5** Lap belts that have a retractor that locks only in case of a sudden stop (emergency locking retractor or ELR).



## Vehicle Buckle Positions

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

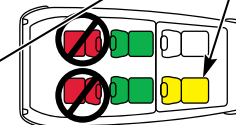
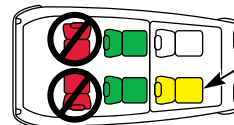
If the buckle lies near the incorrect position (X) when the vehicle belt is tightened, try fitting the child seat in another seating position in the vehicle OR consult your vehicle owner's manual to see if you can lower the vehicle buckle position by twisting the vehicle buckle stalk. If it is not possible to achieve the correct position (✓) for the buckle, then another seating position MUST be used.



## Vehicle Seating Positions

**⚠ WARNING!** 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.

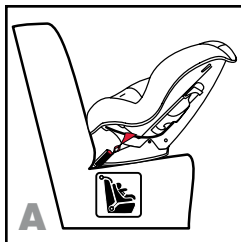
Forward-facing vehicle seats MUST be used with this child seat. Side-facing or rear-facing seats CANNOT be used. See diagram below.



**⚠ 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. See your vehicle owner's manual for child seat installation instructions. The back seat is the safest place for children 12 and under.

**LATCH Installation**

- Figure A illustrates a 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.
- 1 If stored, remove the LATCH connectors from the storage slots under the cover (page 29) and pass them through their adjacent belt slots.
  - 2 Press and hold the first LATCH adjuster release button, then pull the LATCH strap to full length. Repeat for the remaining LATCH connector.
  - 3 Recline the child seat and place rear-facing on the vehicle seat. This child seat must be in the recline position when installed rear-facing. See *Recline Adjustment* on page 29.
  - 4 Attach one LATCH connector to its adjacent vehicle LATCH anchor (Fig. B) in the upright position (Fig. C).
    - An audible click confirms attachment.
    - Ensure that the LATCH strap is not twisted.
- TIP:** You may need to turn the front of the child seat toward you for easier access to the vehicle LATCH anchor.
- 5 Attach the remaining LATCH connector to its adjacent vehicle LATCH anchor (Fig. D) in the upright position (Fig. C).
    - An audible click confirms attachment.
    - Ensure that the LATCH strap is not twisted.
- NOTE:** If an audible click is not heard when connecting either LATCH connector, the LATCH strap may be twisted, or there may be debris in the LATCH connector. Correct either situation before continuing with the installation process.
  - 6 Align each LATCH strap on the LATCH bar



with the “LATCH Strap Here Rear-Facing” label on each side of the child seat. (Figs. E and F).

- 7 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while pulling each LATCH strap tight (Fig. G).
 

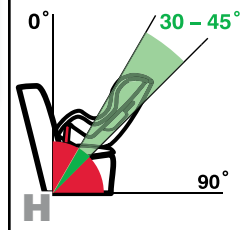
**IMPORTANT:** Ensure the LATCH strap does not fold into the LATCH adjuster while tightening.

- 8 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.
  - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved more than 1 in. (2.5 cm) front-to-back or side-to-side at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat the installation process or use an alternate seating location.

- When properly installed in the rear-facing position, the back angle of the child seat should be  $30^{\circ}$  –  $45^{\circ}$  from vertical (not to exceed  $45^{\circ}$ ) 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 vehicle seat bight to level the child seat's base.
- Rear-facing installation can be improved by the use of the Versa-Tether. See pages 25 – 28.



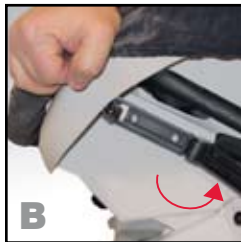
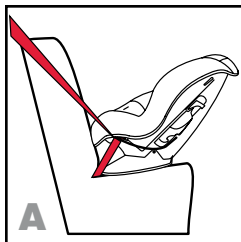
**WARNING!** Do not raise the child seat off the front edge of the vehicle seat. This could cause your child seat not to perform as intended.



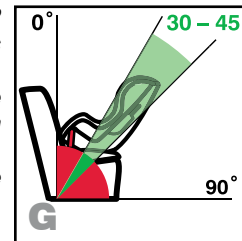


### Lap-Shoulder Belt Installation

- Figure A illustrates a rear-facing, lap-shoulder belt installation.
  - When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 29.
- 1 Recline the child seat then place it rear-facing on the vehicle seat. This child seat must be in the recline position when installed rear-facing. See Recline Adjustment on page 29.
  - 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 **under** the LATCH bar and through the rear-facing belt slot (Fig. C).
    - The vehicle belt can be routed over or under the cover.
  - 4 Route the vehicle belt across seat then through the opposite rear-facing belt slot and **under** the LATCH bar.
- IMPORTANT:** The vehicle belt must rest behind the child seat buckle strap.
- 5 Verify that the vehicle belt is not twisted, position the lap belt portion through the open lock-off, 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 the shoulder portion 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 damage, 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 vehicle belt is tight and that the child seat is secure.
    - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved more than 1 in. (2.5 cm) front-to-back or side-to-side at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat the installation process or use an alternate seating location.
    - When properly installed in the rear-facing position, the back angle of the child seat should be  $30^{\circ}$  –  $45^{\circ}$  from vertical (not to exceed  $45^{\circ}$ ) 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 vehicle seat tight to level the child seat's base.
    - Rear-facing installation can be improved by the use of the Versa-Tether. See pages 25 – 28.



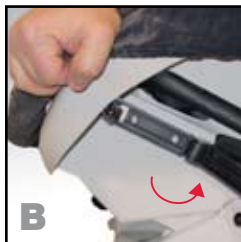
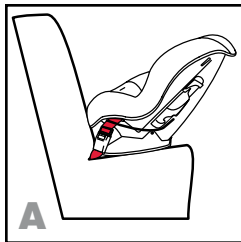
**⚠ WARNING!** Do not raise the child seat off the front edge of the vehicle seat. This could cause your child seat not to perform as intended.

### Lap-Belt Installation

- Figure A illustrates a rear-facing, lap-belt installation.
  - When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 29.
- 1 Recline the child seat, then place it rear facing on the vehicle seat. This child seat must be in the recline position when installed rear-facing. See Recline Adjustment on page 29.
  - 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 **under** the LATCH bar and through the rear-facing belt slot (Fig. C).
    - The vehicle belt can be routed over or under cover.
  - 4 Route the vehicle belt across the child seat then through the opposite rear-facing belt slot and **under** the LATCH bar.

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

- 5 Verify that the vehicle belt is not twisted, position the belt through the open lock-off, then buckle (Fig. D).
- 6 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while removing slack from the vehicle belt.
- 7 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 damage, never extend the lock-off arm beyond its normal open position and always keep the lock-off closed when not in use.

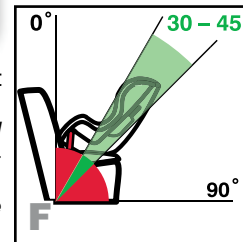


- If your vehicle is equipped with an automatic locking retractor (ALR), use of the lock-offs is not required as long as the ALR is locked. Check your vehicle owner's manual to determine the type of retractor your vehicle has, and how to lock the retractor.

**⚠ WARNING!** Do not use this seat with a non-locking, two-point Emergency Locking Retractor (ELR) vehicle belt.



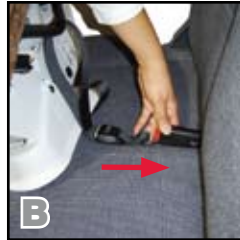
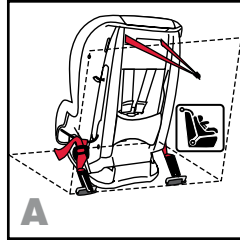
- 8 Verify that vehicle belt is tight, locked, and that the child seat is secure.
  - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved more than 1 in. (2.5 cm) front-to-back or side-to-side at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat the installation process or use an alternate seating location.
  - 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.



**⚠ 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.

## LATCH Installation

- Figure A illustrates a 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 who weigh less than 20 lbs (9.1 kg).
- This child seat must be in full upright position when installed forward-facing for children who weigh more than 33 pounds (15.1 kg).

- 1 If stored, remove the LATCH connectors from the storage slots under the cover (page 29) and pass them through their adjacent belt slots.
- 2 Press and hold the first LATCH adjuster release button, then pull the LATCH strap to full length. Repeat for the remaining LATCH connector.
- 3 Remove the Versa-Tether from the pouch and place it up and over the child seat back.
- 4 Place the child seat forward-facing on the vehicle seat.

**TIP:** You may need to raise or remove the vehicle head restraint to achieve best fit of the child seat.

- 5 Attach one LATCH connector to its adjacent vehicle LATCH anchor (Fig. B) in the upright position (Fig. C).
  - An audible click confirms attachment.
  - Ensure that the LATCH strap is not twisted.

**TIP:** You may need to turn the back of the child seat toward you for easier access to the vehicle LATCH anchor.

- 6 Attach the remaining LATCH connector to its adjacent vehicle LATCH anchor (Fig. D) in an upright position (Fig. C).
  - An audible click confirms attachment.
  - Ensure that the LATCH strap is not twisted.

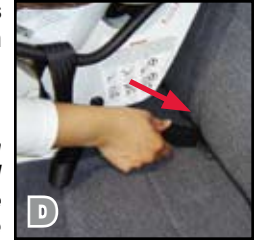
**NOTE:** If an audible click is not heard when connecting either LATCH connector, the LATCH strap may be twisted, or there may be debris in the LATCH connector. Correct either situation before continuing with the installation process.

- 7 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while pulling each LATCH strap tight (Fig. E).

**IMPORTANT:** Ensure the LATCH strap does not fold into the LATCH adjuster while tightening.

- 8 Attach the Versa Tether® hook to the vehicle's designated tether anchor for the chosen seating position. Remove all slack from the tether to secure. Store excess webbing in the tether pouch. See pages 25 – 28.

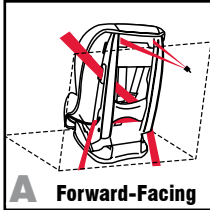
- 9 Verify that all connections are secure and that the child seat is stable.
  - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved front-to-back or side-to-side more than 1 in. (2.5 cm) at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat the installation process or use an alternate seating location.



**⚠️ 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 lbs (18.1 kg) child is the vehicle LATCH anchor limit.

## Lap-Shoulder Belt Installation

- Figure A illustrates a forward-facing lap-shoulder belt installation.
- When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 29.



### ⚠ WARNING!

- This child seat must not be used forward-facing for children less than one year of age OR who weigh less than 20 lbs (9.1 kg).
- This child seat must be in full upright position when installed forward-facing for children who weigh more than 33 pounds (15.1 kg).

- 1 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.

**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.

- 2 Place the child seat forward-facing on the vehicle seat. Ensure the bottom of the child seat base is in full contact with the vehicle seat.

**TIP:** You may need to raise or remove the vehicle head restraint to achieve best fit of the child seat.

- 3 Rotate the lock-off lever to open the forward-facing lock-off farthest from where the vehicle belt will be buckled.

- 4 Pull vehicle belt out, then pass it **over** the LATCH bar, through the forward-facing belt path, then **over** the LATCH bar on the opposite side (Fig. B).

**TIP:** Turning the back of the child seat toward you can make routing the vehicle belt easier (Fig. C).

- 5 Verify that the vehicle belt is not twisted and is routed **over** the LATCH bars, 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 Hold the shoulder belt tight, then rotate the lock-off until the vehicle belt is secured (Fig. F).

- 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.

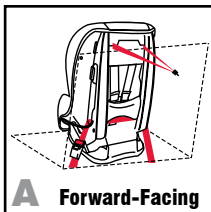


- 9 Verify that the vehicle belt is tight and the child seat is secure.

- The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved front-to-back or side-to-side more than 1 in. (2.5 cm) at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat this procedure or use an alternate seating location.

## 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 29.



### **WARNING!**

- This child seat must not be used forward-facing for children less than one year of age OR who weigh less than 20 lbs.
- This child seat must be in full upright position when installed forward-facing for children who weigh more than 33 lbs (15.1 kg).

- 1 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.

**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.

- 2 Place the child seat forward-facing on the vehicle seat. Ensure the bottom of the child seat base is in full contact with the vehicle seat.

**TIP:** You may need to raise or remove the vehicle head restraint to achieve best fit of the child seat.

- 3 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.

- 4 Pull the vehicle belt out, then pass it **under** the LATCH bar, through the forward-facing belt path, then **under** the LATCH bar on the opposite side (Fig. B).

**TIP:** Turning the back of the child seat toward you can make routing the vehicle belt easier (Fig. D).

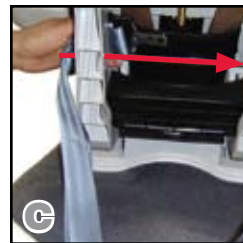
- 5 Verify that the vehicle belt is not twisted, is routed **under** the LATCH bars, then buckle (Fig. B).

- 6 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while removing slack from the vehicle belt (Fig. C).

- 7 Attach the Versa-Tether<sup>®</sup> 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.

- 8 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 in. (2.5 cm) at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat this procedure or use an alternate seating location.



**WARNING!** Do not use this seat with a non-locking, two-point Emergency Locking Retractor (ELR) vehicle belt.



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

The FAA recommends that a child weighing up to 40 pounds (18.1 kg) use a certified, harnessed child seat while traveling on an aircraft.

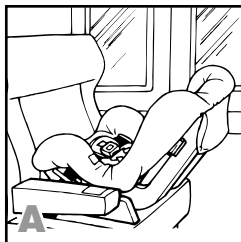
Install your child seat in a window seat to avoid blocking the aisle.

If the aircraft lap belt is too short, ask the flight attendant for a belt extender.

### **Rear-Facing Installation**

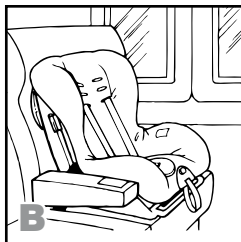
For rear-facing aircraft installation (Fig. A), follow *Rear-Facing Lap-Belt Installation* instructions on pages 16–17.

→ To aid installation on aircraft, open the rear-facing lock-offs to allow routing of large buckles.



### **Forward-Facing Installation**

For forward-facing aircraft installation (Fig. B), follow *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 designated 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.

### **IMPORTANT:**

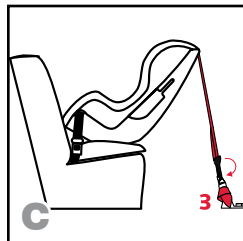
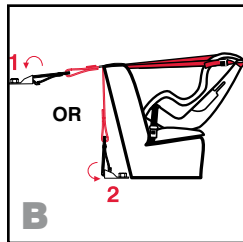
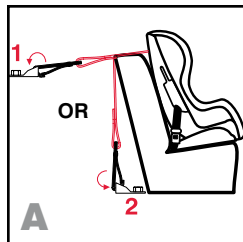
- Britax recommends that the tether be used at all times. Using the tether will improve the stability of the child seat and reduce the risk of injury.
- If your vehicle does not currently have a tether anchor attachment, refer to your vehicle owner's manual or contact the vehicle manufacturer for assistance.

## Using the Versa-Tether

- 1 Consult your vehicle owner's manual for designated tether anchorage locations.
- 2 Locate the tether on the rear of the child seat and remove the tether from the pouch.
- 3 Place the tether 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 Tilt the tether release tab then pull to fully extend the tether strap into a "V" shape.
- 6 Locate the hook on the strap and attach the tether hook 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.

**IMPORTANT:** The tether should be hooked over, not under, the vehicle tether anchor.

- 7 Pull the tether adjuster strap to remove all slack. Roll up excess webbing and store in tether pouch.
- 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 in. (2.5 cm) at the belt path.



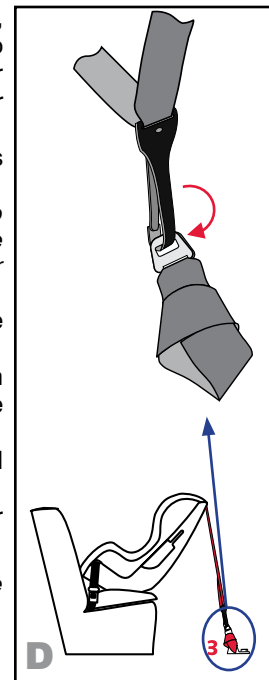
## Tether Connector Strap

**⚠ 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. Use the tether connector strap to assist in creating an anchor point (Fig. D).

- 1 Find a fixed vehicle anchor point 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 (Fig. D).
- 4 Pull the metal D-ring all the way through until the strap is tight.
- 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.



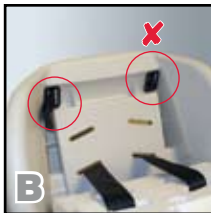
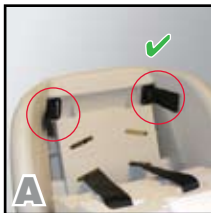
## Energy-Absorbing Versa-Tether®

The energy-absorbing Versa-Tether was designed to enhance the performance of the child seat tether. By introducing a staged release of the tether webbing, the forward movement of the child seat is delayed while reducing the amount of energy transferred to the child seat during a crash. A secondary benefit of the energy-absorbing Versa-Tether is to help indicate when the child seat has been involved in a moderate or severe crash and replacement of the 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 and the webbing will be looped inside the shell.

Figures B and C show the tether when the child seat is unacceptable for continued use. If any of the loops have pulled through the back side of the shell and/or any of the colored stitching has been released on either side, the child seat is no longer acceptable for use. Discontinue use of the child seat.

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



## Storing the LATCH Connectors

When the LATCH connector is not in use, lift the cover to access the LATCH storage slots (Fig. D). 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. You will have to open the rear-facing lock-offs to remove the LATCH connectors from storage.

## Recline Adjustment

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



### **⚠ WARNING!**

- This child seat must be in the recline position when installed rear-facing.
- Child seat must be in full upright position when installed forward-facing with children who weigh more than 15 kg (33 lbs) optional only for rear-facing use.

**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. A).

#### **Releasing the Chest Clip**

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

#### **Adjusting the Chest Clip**

- 1 Slide the chest clip up or down (Fig. C) 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**

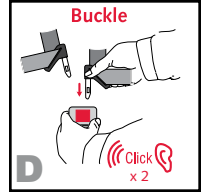


**WARNING!** HUGS™ chest pads must be installed for forward-facing use. Removal of HUGS is optional only for rear-facing use.

### Harness Buckle

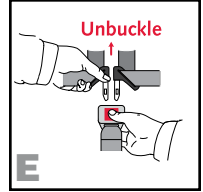
#### **Fastening the Harness Buckle**

- 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. D).
  - 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. E).



**IMPORTANT:** Periodically clean the harness buckle to ensure safe operation (page 37).

#### **Adjusting Harness Slot Height**

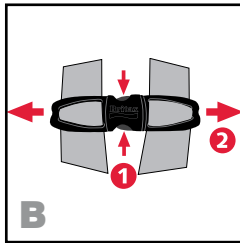
**IMPORTANT:** See *Important Harness Adjustments* on pages 6–7 for instructions on proper harness fit based on your child's height and weight.

- 1 Loosen the harness by lifting the harness adjuster lever while pulling the harness straps forward as far as possible (Fig. F).
- 2 From the rear of the child seat, unhook the shoulder harness from the harness yoke (Fig. G).
- 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. H).
- 5 Reattach the harness straps to the harness yoke (Fig. G).
- 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.



## Buckling and Tightening the Harness

- 1 Loosen the harness by lifting the harness adjuster release lever located on the front of the child seat while pulling both 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 holders located on the straps and both sides of the cover to aid in holding the straps.



**IMPORTANT:** Remove bulky coats and/or jackets before putting the child in child seat. Adjust the harness to fit the clothes the child is wearing.

- 5 Place child in the child seat.
- 6 Position harness straps around the child and fasten harness buckle (Fig. C) and chest clip (Fig. D).



- Proper connection of the harness buckle is confirmed with a positive click after inserting each buckle tongue.
- If the buckle will not fasten with an audible 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 37 for cleaning instructions.

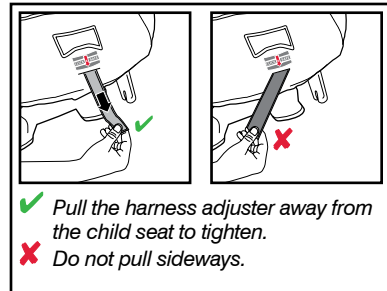
- 7 Slide the HUGS™ chest pads down towards the buckle.

### Important checklist before tightening the harness:

- ✓ Check for proper harness height (see pages 6 – 7).
- ✓ Remove slack from around the child's upper thighs.
- ✓ Remove slack between the Hugs™ chest pads and the buckle.

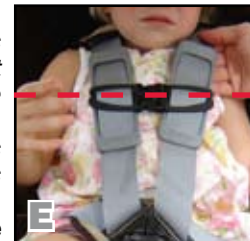
- 8 Slowly pull the adjuster strap until the harness is snug around the child. **The harness adjuster will click when the harness is snug.**

**NOTE:** The Click & Safe™ Snug Harness Indicator is an audible aide to help determine when the harness is within range of appropriate snugness. When tightening the harness, this audible click provides extra assurance that the harness is snug.



- ✓ Pull the harness adjuster away from the child seat to tighten.
- ✗ Do not pull sideways.

- 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.
- You should not be able to pinch excess webbing at the shoulder once the harness is properly secured.



- 9 If there is still slack in the harness, review the checklist and then pull the harness adjuster strap again until another click indicates a snug harness.
- 10 Position the chest clip at the middle of the child's chest, level with the child's armpits (Fig. E).
- 11 Verify that the harness is not twisted and the child is properly secured.

**IMPORTANT:** Always pull on the harness after securing the child to ensure the buckle tongues are secure in the harness buckle.

## 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 (page 36).
- 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](http://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 or abrasive cleaners.

## Cleaning the Harness

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

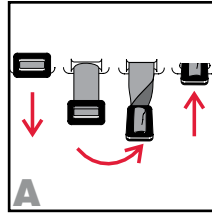
## Cleaning the Harness Adjuster

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.

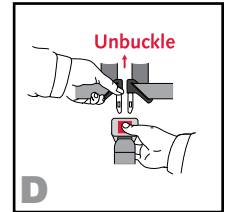
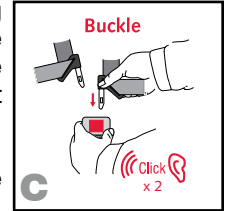
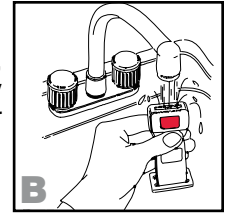
**Re-threading the Harness Buckle**

- 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 36.
- 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 replace 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](http://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 belts connections to the vehicle are tight and locked.
- Verify the car seat cannot be moved front-to-back or side-to-side more than one inch (2.5 cm) at the connection point.

## **Double Check Child-to-Car Seat Installation:**

- Tug on the buckle to ensure proper locking.
- Confirm 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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