

RECYCLE



When your car seat has expired, been in an accident, or been recalled, it can no longer be used. But don't put it in the trash. There is still some life in that seat—recycle it! The materials are **valuable** and can be made into **something new**. Less goes into the landfill and you're helping reduce greenhouse gases.

Please check our webpage or your recycler's guidelines where programs are available to find out if you need to remove the straps, cover or other parts before you bring your car seat in for recycling.

For a current list of recycling options in Seattle and King County, visit:
recycleyourcarseat.org

For updated information on safe car seat use, reuse, and recycling, visit:
recycleyourcarseat.org or call
206-441-1790.

For free quarterly seat checks, call Seattle Children's Hospital at:
206-987-5999

For seat check locations and a list of recalls:
seatcheck.org

For videos and tips on securing your child in a car seat: **thecarseatlady.com**

For help in selecting and installing the proper car seat: **safercar.gov/parents/CarSeats.htm**



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REVIEW REUSE RECYCLE

Secure
a safer
environment
for your kids





It's a fact — used correctly, car seats save lives. **Review** your car seat usage with a seat check. Secure your child *and* your peace of mind.

What to do with that car seat your child has outgrown? Consider donating it for **reuse**.

And at the end of your car seat's life, give it a new one: **recycle** it.



REVIEW

Always have your child in a car seat or booster seat while driving around town? You're doing the right thing—helping to prevent serious injury to your child in the event of an accident. Your child is safest when they are

snugly secured in the **back seat** of your vehicle **every time** you drive, even for short trips.

90%
of car seats
are not used
properly.

Is your car seat right for your child's age and size? Car seat needs change as your child grows. Take a minute to review your car seat usage and check your car seat's instruction manual. Your child's safety depends on it.

Children **0-2 years** should use a rear-facing seat. Straps should be snug and the clip should be at armpit level.



2-6 years Forward-facing children should remain in a 5 point harness as long as possible. Booster seats should not be used until your child outgrows their forward-facing seat.

6-12 years Older children need booster seats until they can touch the floor with both feet while their back is against the seat and their knees are bent at the edge of the seat. The lap belt should rest on the tops of their thighs and the shoulder belt should rest between their shoulder and neck.

Car seats need to be replaced when they expire, are recalled or if they are involved in a car accident.

Double check that your seat is installed correctly by checking the manual or by getting help from a car seat technician. Visit recycleyourcarseat.org for resources and information.

REUSE



Most children will use 3 car seats before they "graduate" to a standard seat belt. That's a lot of car seats! Reuse one for your new baby, give it to a friend or **donate** it to a family in need. You'll save money, resources, and reduce waste. But not every car seat can be reused. If you can answer yes to all three statements below, your car seat can be safely passed on to another child.

YES My car seat has not been in an accident, is not visibly damaged and has not been recalled.

YES My car seat has not expired, typically 6 years old or newer. Expiration dates are on the bottom of most seats.

YES My car seat's straps have not been cleaned with harsh chemicals.

Never accept a used seat unless you can answer yes to all three statements AND make sure the seat has all of its parts including the manual.

It's true!

Car seats with a known, safe history can be reused.