Is your car seat fake or not approved?

Here are important things to look for when buying or using a car seat to transport your baby. Does your car seat meet U.S. safety standards? Car seats manufactured for other countries do not meet all required U.S. safety standards and fake car sets are not safe for use.

**Approved**

- Federally mandated airbag warning and suffocation risk
- Seat has chest clip and five point harness with hip straps
- Lots of information on side of seat, including weight and height limits, federal wording for use in vehicles, additional sticker for manufacturer contact, date seat was made, and model number

**Not approved or fake**

- Basic warning label with little information
- No chest clip and no hip straps
- Limited information, stickers may or may not be present, no manufacturer or model information
Approved

Labels on the car seat base

Federally required lower anchors

Not approved or fake

No labels

No lower anchors, flimsy base release lever, base may not be included

Other indicators

Federally required textile tag on the car seat

Federally required label says: This child restraint system conforms to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Federally required recall card will be included with the car seat. This will have manufacturer information and is ready to mail.

Next steps

If you feel like you might have a not approved/fake car seat, please follow these next steps to ensure your child’s safety.

• STOP using your car seat, borrow one from a friend or purchase a new one in-person (Walmart, Target, etc.)

• Contact the Doernbecher Injury Prevention Program at 503-418-5666 or email safety@ohsu.edu and a Certified Car Seat Technician will work with you to ensure your child is traveling safely

• You can also find a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician at SafeKids.org

Injury Free Coalition for Kids®

DOERNBECHER CHILDREN’S Hospital