



DOERNBECHER  
CHILDREN'S  
Hospital

# 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](mailto: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](http://SafeKids.org)