

Fundación MAPFRE

BETTER FACING BACKWARDS

Facing backwards when traveling by car is safer. While a child seat facing forwards can help to reduce injuries by 50%, a rear-facing child seat brings this up to 80%.

Babies' heads are relatively large and heavy in proportion to their bodies. For this reason it is particularly 12 important to protect their head and neck area. The head can account for one-third of the child's total body weight and yet has to be supported by a weak, fragile neck with very little musculature or

1 They offer greater **protection for the head, neck and spinal column.**

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01 Current legislation states that children with a height equal to or lower than 135 centimeters should use child restraint systems in the back seat of the car.

Our recommendation is to continue for as long as possible and at least until the age of four, provided that the child's physical characteristics permit.

- which is safer.
- 02 manufacturer.
 - head is no higher than the seatback.
 - has been given a good rating in the different safety tests.
 - install.
- O7 Choose a seat that has passed the Plus-test and has the relevant certificate.

Children whose height is equal to or less than 1.35 cm must travel in the back seat in a child restraint system suitable for their height and weight. There are some exceptions: if the vehicle has no back seats; if the back seats are already occupied by other children in child restraint systems; or if it is impossible to install a CRS in these seats.

If the child has to travel in the front seat, facing backwards, make sure you always deactivate the airbag of the passenger seat. If it cannot be deactivated, the child should not travel in the front at all.

Always follow the **manufacturer's instructions for the correct installation of the seat.** A lot will depend on whether you have the ISOFIX system (much easier to install) or if it has to be secured with the seat belt.

Many of these CRS have an anti-roll bar (this should be adjusted against the seatback to prevent a rebound effect and also offer additional space for the legs) and a support leg (this should rest securely on the car floor to give the seat greater stability).

Don't put the child in heavy or voluminous clothing that might not allow him/her to be secured properly, and remember that the harness should not be loose.





It is important to choose a child seat that will allow the child to travel facing backwards,

The child should not exceed the maximum weight and height specifications given by the

Even though the child's feet may extend beyond the seat, the important thing is that the

Choose the CRS that best meets your child's physical requirements and check that it

Test the CRS before you buy it to check that it suits your child and that it is easy to

Choose a CRS covered by European standards ECE R44/04 or ECER129 (i-Size). The latter guarantees that all rear-facing seats can be used up to the age of 15 months.