

## Best Infant Car Seats of 2018

Pedia visits can happen every so often and travelling with your baby imposes the need to consider buying an infant car seat. Mothers can be overwhelmed with the varieties of car seat models and picking the right one for your baby can be really difficult.

### Types of car seats

The government requires all new car seat models to meet their safety regulations. If ever you are tight in budget and chose to buy a less expensive car seat doesn't mean it is less safe. Still there are infant car seat models which offer more like larger canopies, additional safety features and simple installation.

Across the country car seat laws varies. Infants should be in rear-facing seats while toddlers can be in either rear- facing seats too or front-facing seats and older kids can sit on a booster seat.

### Infant Car Seats

These are used for newborn babies until the baby reaches the 22 to 35 pounds height or weight limit. Infant car seats are designed to always be placed facing the rear of the car.

### Convertible Car Seats

As the name suggests, it is a convertible and can be transformed from rear-facing seats to forward-facing seats once the baby becomes a toddler. It can hold children up to 65 pounds on the forward-facing position.

### Booster Car Seats

These are used to transition your child from using a car seat until the time they can use the adult-sized seat belt. It helps correct the position of your child for the seat belt to hold them properly. It is designed for four year old children.

### How to Choose a Car Seat

Before buying one, here are some of the things we all should consider.

#### Buying Used?

These are usually affordable however it may no longer pass the current safety regulation for car seats. Ensure to check the model as well since it may have some issues in the past or could have been recalled by the supplier. At least try to get one from a close relative or someone you trust.

#### Fitting With Your Car

Also consider if the car seat will fit nicely in your car. Some car seats need more space and may not fit well in smaller cars. Also think about purchasing an extra car seat base if you need to switch vehicles at certain times. Car seat bases can be easily damaged if frequently removed and reinstalled.

### Convertible vs. Infant

Some parents prefer the convertible car seat because of its efficiency however if your baby likes to sleep perhaps infant car seat is the right choice. You just need to lift the infant car seat from its base to avoid ruining your baby's peaceful nap. Unlike the convertible car seat, you have to unbuckle your baby to lift them out of the car.

Deciding on which stroller is also important if you choose to buy an infant car seat. Checking that both car seat and stroller are compatible can save a lot of trouble since you just need to snap the car seat to the stroller and move on. Usually they are compatible if both of them are from the same brand. However, if you prefer a different brand of car seat from the stroller, see if there is an available adapter to solve the problem.

### How We Chose Our Best Picks

Thousands of mothers have spoken and have shared their top picks. The following will help us know more about the best car seats as experienced by mothers.

### The Longtime Favorite

Chicco KeyFit 30 Infant Car Seat claims the top spot. It has exceptional safety features and easy to install. The base has one tightener in the middle that locks it and an Easy-to-read level allows you to ensure that the carrier is properly inserted into the base. Choosing a stroller won't be difficult because it has a KeyFit adapter which works on most of them. Although the canopy is small, it won't cover much of the sun however for some extra dollars you can upgrade to KeyFit 30 Magic which has an extendable canopy and comfortable footmuff. Chicco's child weight or height guidelines are 4 to 30 pounds and up to 30 inches. The car seat weight is 9.6 pounds. Chicco KeyFit 30 Infant Car Seat costs \$199.99.

### Primo Design

Second from the top is Nuna PIPA Infant Car Seat which is smooth and lightweight, weighing 7.7 pounds. It features the True Lock safety system which uses color-coded pointers to indicate that it has been properly installed which is big help for new parents. In addition, it has a fold-down stability leg that outspreads from the base to the car floor to absorb impact. Furthermore, it has the extendable "dream drape" which offers full coverage for babies. Nuna PIPA Infant Car Seat is easy to install in most of type of cars without the base. Its child weight or height guidelines are 4 to 32 pounds. and up to 32 inches. Nuna PIPA Infant Car Seat costs at around \$299.95.

### Wallet Friendly

Next one is the Babies Graco SnugRide Click Connect 35 Infant Car Seat which offers light gear in one piece. The seat is comfy and has plenty of cushioning. The cushioning comes with a newborn head support which is detachable. It is compatible in all Graco strollers. Its child weight guideline is 4 to 35 pounds while the height guideline is up to 32 inches. The car seat weight is just 7.5 pounds. Babies Graco SnugRide Click Connect 35 Infant Car Seat costs \$564.64.

#### The 5-Star Seat

Remarkably, there is a car seat which has been awarded with a 5-star ease-of-use rating, the UPPAbaby MESA Infant Car Seat. No straps for installation, you just need to clip in the latch connection and gently push the base downwards. You won't also have to rethread the harness as your baby grows. One of the new models is the Henry, which passed the federal safety standards. Although the car seat is heavy, weighing at 9.9 pounds, it can be forgiven since due to the ease of installation. Apart from that it can connect easily to Uppababy strollers without using an adapter. Mesa's child weight guideline is 4 to 35 pounds and up to 32 inches for the height guideline. The UPPAbaby MESA Infant Car Seat costs around \$349.99.

#### Compact & Convenient

Both convenience and compact combined, the Britax B-Safe 35 Infant Car Seat offers standout safety features at an affordable price. The car seat is deep and narrow with energy-absorbing foam sidewalls. This is great for small cars as it will take up much space. It has SafeCenter Latch System which is easy to use and to install. The seat's steel frame adds extra safety and extra weight as well. This may not be the best for babies who grow up quickly. Britax B-Safe 35 Infant Car Seat child weight guideline is 4 to 35 pounds and for the height guidelines is up to 32 inches. Britax weighs 10 pounds and costs at about \$158.00

#### Hassle-Free Cleaning

If you don't like cleaning then you may consider the Maxi-Cosi Mico Max 30 Infant Car Seat. The seat pad can be removed and machine washed. The design is stylish and lightweight. It features Self-wicking fabric that keeps babies dry and comfy on a warm weather. Its safety features are the anti-rebound bar and the AirProtect side impact protection. Maxi-Cosi's child weight guideline is 4 to 30 pounds and up to 32 inches for the height guideline. The Maxi-Cosi Mico Max 30 Infant Car Seat costs \$242.14.

#### Euro Style

If you want something different take a look at Peg Perego Primo Viaggio which is made from Italy. It can be easily installed without a base. It features a dual stage cushion system. The first stage allows extra head and neck support for newborns while offering a comfortable cushion to your growing child on the second stage. Its handle bar also acts as an anti-rebound bar. Moreover, the no-rethread harness can be altered to six different positions. It works best with Peg Perego strollers so if you prefer another stroller brand you may need to buy an adapter. Their child weight guideline is 4 to 35 pounds while for the height guideline it is up to 32 inches. Peg Perego Primo Viaggio weighs 9.5 pounds and costs \$299.97.

## Choosing What's Right For You

It is highly suggested to test the car seat in your vehicle right away before taking off the tags and throwing the box away. Ensure that it fits well and is really worth the price. New car seats are all safe so you can think about what other things are important for your baby and yourself. It boils down to being able to travel with your baby comfortably and conveniently.