

# **VIRGINIA**

## **BUCKLE-UP LAWS**

### **2010-11**

#### **CHILD RESTRAINT LAW: PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT**

##### **46.2-1095 (A)**

Summons driver if they fail to properly secure a child up to age eight in a child restraint device which meets federal standards. Rear facing restraints shall be placed in the back seat. If there is no back seat, the front seat may be used if the passenger side air bag is deactivated.

##### **46.2-1095 (B)**

Summons driver if they are transporting a person at least eight years of age, but less than 18 years of age, who is not properly secured by an appropriate safety belt system.

##### **46.2-1100**

Use of a standard seat belt is permitted if the child is at least four years old but less than eight years old and their weight and size would make use of an approved child restraint impractical. The driver must carry a waiver signed by a Virginia physician. (Note: Booster seats are available for children up to 100 pounds in weight and seats with an internal harness are available for children up to 80 pounds.).

##### **46.2-1095, 46.2-1096 & 46.2-1099**

Exemptions: interior design makes use impractical, public transportation, bus, school bus, farm vehicle, medical reasons if physician statement is displayed, taxicabs, executive sedans, and limousines.

##### **46.2-1156.1**

No person under age 16 shall be transported in the rear cargo area of a pickup truck. There are exemptions for certain parades and farming operations.

#### **SAFETY BELT LAW: SECONDARY ENFORCEMENT**

##### **46.2-1094**

Summons driver and each passenger 18 years of age and older occupying the front seat who is not wearing a safety belt. Exceptions: mail carriers, newspaper delivery persons, taxi drivers and passengers, certain law enforcement officers, waste collectors, meter readers and persons with physical or medical disability waivers.

(Before enforcement action is taken, review the applicable code sections.)

Compiled by:

Transportation Safety Training Center  
Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia

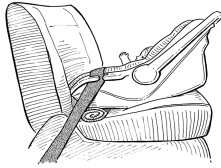


# THREE BASIC TYPES OF CHILD SAFETY SEATS

## Infant Safety Seat

Birth to 20 lbs.

Baby faces rear of vehicle. Reclined between 35 & 45 degree angle.



## Convertible

Birth to 40 lbs.

Face rear up to 1 year & min.20 lbs  
Forward 1+ year & 21 to 40 lbs.



**Rear Facing**

**Forward Facing**



**High Back**

## Boosters

Children too large for above seats. Must be used with vehicle lap/shoulder belt. (40 to 80 lbs. & less than 57" tall).



**Backless**

## SAFETY CHECKLIST

These dangerous mistakes\* are easy to spot. Correcting the problem by assisting the child's caretaker or issuing a warning or summons could save a life.

- \*Rear facing infants in front seat with passenger-side air bags.
- \*Infant (under 1 yr. & 20 lbs.) facing front of vehicle.
- \*Safety seat not anchored tightly in vehicle.
- \*Child not buckled in safety seat.
- \*Safety seat harness straps in wrong slots.
- \*Safety seat harness straps not over shoulders.
- \*Loose harness straps.
- \*Harness retainer clip not at armpit level.
- \*Vehicle belt routed incorrectly.
- \*Using seat child has outgrown.
- \*Using vehicle seat belts on small children who need to be in a belt positioning booster seat

(NOTE: For specific details on other types of restraint devices or the installation of safety seats, consult manufacturers' instructions.)