

Swedish Recommendations for Protecting Children in Cars

2017



The safety of children in cars is a shared responsibility between the driver and different stakeholders, including car and child restraint manufacturers and authorities. Child safety equipment should be adapted to the characteristics and conditions of the child at different stages of development. Parents have the right to access accurate and relevant information on how to best protect their children in cars.

Small children – new born to four-five years of age

- Young children are best protected in rearward facing child restraints. Our recommendation is that children should be seated rearward facing at least up to the age of four.
- Putting a rearward facing child restraint in the front or the rear passenger seats is equivalent from a safety perspective. However, the front seat may allow greater space for the legs, making it possible for children to sit rearward facing for longer as they advance in age. We shall as far as possible ensure both the front and the rear passenger seats are accessible for children.
- The undersigned of this Policy, has a responsibility to inform consumers about the hazard of placing children in infant or rearward facing child restraints on a front passenger seat with a passenger airbag that is not deactivated.
- The car manufacturers signing this Policy have a responsibility to ensure that the activation/ deactivation of the airbag is safe to minimize the risks of misuse.
- Side airbags and curtain airbags are not hazardous for children in rearward facing child restraints.

Older children – four-five to twelve years of age

- Older children are best protected in booster seats, booster cushions or integrated child seats positioned in the front or rear passenger seats.
- The child should be a minimum of 140 cm to sit in the front passenger seat where there is an active airbag, unless there are other recommendations from the car manufacturer.
- The car manufacturers signing this Policy have a responsibility to provide information to consumers for whom the front passenger airbag should be activated or deactivated for.
- Side airbags and curtain airbags are not hazardous for children in booster seats or booster cushions.

The Swedish regulation states in summary (TSFS 2014:52):

- Children with a stature less than 135 cm must use a special protective device (child restraint); infant seat, child seat or booster seat/cushion, approved according to UNECE Regulation 44 or Regulation 129.
- Children in rear-facing child restraints should not sit on a seat equipped with a passenger airbag unless the airbag has been deactivated.

Companies, organizations and authorities behind the recommendation:



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