



Rear Facing Quotables

CPSTs (Child Passenger Safety Technicians) are often asked why children should ride rear-facing as long as possible. The following “sound bites” from experts in the field will help you explain the science behind this recommendation.

“All infants and toddlers should ride in a Rear-Facing Car Seat until they are 2 years of age or until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by their car seat's manufacturer.”

- **AAP: American Academy of Pediatrics, COMMITTEE ON INJURY, VIOLENCE, AND POISON PREVENTION**
Policy Statement--Child Passenger Safety
(<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2011/03/21/peds.2011-0213>)

“Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It’s the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat’s manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness.”

- **NHTSA: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Car Seats & Booster Basics**
(<http://www.safercar.gov/parents/RightSeat.htm>)

“For the best protection, keep your child in a rear-facing car seat for as long as possible – usually until about 2 years old. You can find the exact height and weight limit on the side or back of your car seat. Kids who ride in rear-facing seats have the maximum protection for the head, neck and spine.”

- **Safe Kids Worldwide** (<http://www.safekids.org>)

“Rear-facing seats in the back seat from birth to at least age 1 and minimum of 20 pounds. It's safest to keep the baby in the rear-facing position as long as possible up to the upper size (height and weight) limits of the seat, which is usually around 30-35 pounds.”

- **AAA: American Automobile Association:** (www.AAA.com/carseat)