Child Passenger Safety

**STAGE 1**

**REAR-FACING SEATS**
Children should ride rear-facing until at least 3 years of age or to the limits of their seat, whichever keeps them rear-facing longer.

**STAGE 2**

**FRONT-FACING SEATS**
Children may ride in forward-facing child safety seats, in the back seat, until they reach the upper weight or height limit of the seat.

**VT Seat Belt Laws:**
- 23 V.S.A. § 1258 Child restraint systems; persons under age 18
- 23 V.S.A. § 1259 Safety belts; persons age 18 and over
- 23 V.S.A. § 1134b Smoking in motor vehicle with child present

Sponsored by the Vermont State Highway Safety Office
STAGE 3
BOOSTER SEATS
Once children outgrow their forward-facing seat they should ride in booster seats, in the back seat, until vehicle seat belts fit properly.

STAGE 4
SEAT BELTS
When children outgrow their booster seats, they can use the adult seat belt in the back seat, if it fits properly. Children age 8 and over may fit well in a lap and shoulder belt. Kids under age 13 need to ride in the back seat.

For more information:
www.beseatsmart.org
1-888-VMT-SEAT
1-888-868-7328