

What is

i-Size?

A new EU safety regulation for child car seats, which means easier fitting and better protection for your child.



- i-Size seats are based on the child's height rather than weight
- Babies in i-Size car seats stay rearward-facing until they are at least 15 months old
- i-Size seats are impact tested to ensure that the seats provide better protection from side impact collisions
- i-Size seats will fit any i-Size approved vehicle
- If your vehicle has ISOFIX, check that the i-Size seat is approved for your car, by visiting the seat manufacturer's website.



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Produced by
Road Safety Wales
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Do I need to buy a new child car seat now?

No. If you currently have a car seat approved to R44.04 regulations (check the label), you can continue to use the one you have.

It will still be legal to use R44.04 seats for some time, as the two regulations will run alongside each other.

How does i-Size make travelling with a child safer?

Child car seats will be easier to fit.

i-Size provides better protection from side impacts.

i-Size means that children will stay rearward facing until they are at least 15 months old.

How do I know when I should be changing to the next size child car seat?

i-Size seats are based on a child's height rather than weight. Parents often know their child's height better than their weight, so it should be easier to judge when your child is ready to move into a larger seat. Keep your child in the appropriate seat for their weight/height until they reach the maximum limit shown on the seat's label.

Why should a child remain rearward facing for longer?

The bones of babies and children need much more protection from the forces experienced in a crash. Children are more vulnerable to neck and spinal injuries in the event of a front impact car crash, so swapping your child to forward facing too early can expose them to greater risk. It's safest to keep them in their rearward-facing seat for as long as possible. Don't be tempted to swap your baby forward-facing until he or she has:

- Reached the weight or height limit for their current seat (check the seat label); or
- Reached at least 15 months of age.

How does i-Size make fitting car seats easier?

The idea behind i-Size is that in the future all child car seats will fit in all cars. All i-Size child car seats use ISOFIX, a fitting system that connects the seat to the frame of your car. ISOFIX makes it simpler to fit a child car seat, without the complication of using the vehicle's seatbelt. Your vehicle may already be an i-Size approved car, but if it is not, all you need to do before purchasing an i-Size seat is check with the seat manufacturer that it is suitable for your car. Whichever car seat you choose to purchase, we recommend that you have it fitted by an expert.

For further information or details of your local road safety officer please contact:

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