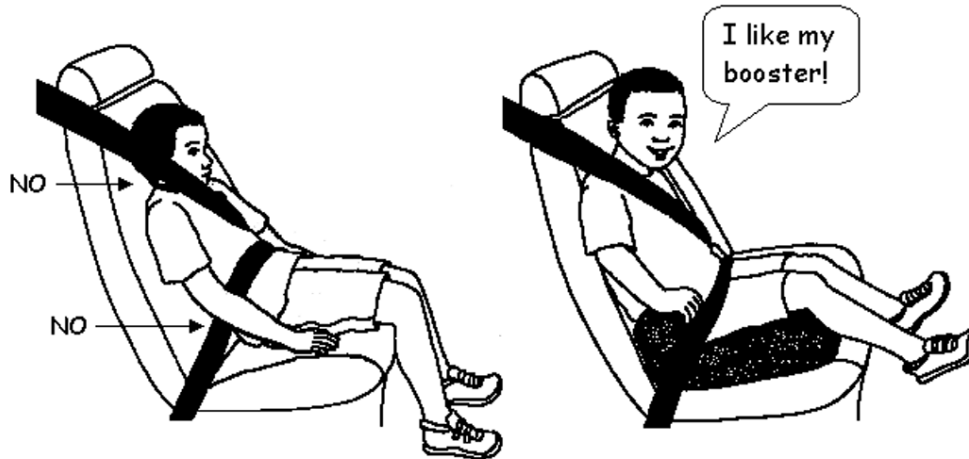


# Boosters Are For Big Kids

Starting November 24, 2009, children up to age 8 will be required to ride in a federally approved child restraint device such as a booster seat. Children over 57 " (4'9") tall and/or 100 lbs are exempt. Some children may need to be in a booster even longer. AAA Hudson Valley recommends following the 5 Step Test (see below).

If your child isn't using a booster, try the simple test below the next time you ride together in the car. You'll probably find that your child is not yet ready to use a safety belt without a booster.



## The 5-Step Test.

1. Does the child sit all the way back against the auto seat?
2. Do the child's knees bend comfortably at the edge of the auto seat?
3. Does the belt cross the shoulder between the neck and arm?
4. Is the lap belt as low as possible, touching the thighs?
5. Can the child stay seated like this for the whole trip?

If you answered "no" to any of these questions, your child needs a booster seat to make both the shoulder belt and the lap belt fit right for the best crash protection. Your child will be more comfortable, too!

Special thanks go to *SafetyBeltSafe* U.S.A. • P.O. Box 553, Altadena, CA 91003  
for use of their 5-Step Test

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