

## CHILD RESTRAINT DEVICES THE FACTS

THE LAW says that children under 12 years old and smaller than 150 cm (59 inches) may only be carried in vehicles on seats with certified safety belts and in certified restraint systems designed for the size of the child. Until 31 December 1997, this law does not apply to children carried in the seats of taxis unless the child is a regular passenger. Exceptions to this law are only allowed when, because of transporting other passengers, the possibility of properly securing the restraint device no longer exists.

Child restraint systems must meet the requirements for age, size, and weight of the child and must be suitable for the vehicle.

Certified restraint systems display an ECE sign which means tested and approved by the latest Europe-Norm R44. ECE is the abbreviation for "Economic Commission of Europe." R44 contains standardized regulations for the approval of child-restraint systems in vehicles within Europe.

The label is orange and provides the following information:

- The international approval sign "E" with the number of the manufacturing country, 1-21, within a circle (e.g. E1-Germany, E4-Netherlands, E5-Sweden, etc.)
- Approval number
- Weight restrictions (e.g. Group 1)
- Interpretation
- "Universal" – designed for all vehicles
- "Semi-universal" – not designed for all vehicles
- "Special" – custom built model (e.g. Jeep, Truck)

Child restraint devices displaying the UL (Underwriters Laboratories) and the DOT (Department of Transportation) signs are also acceptable for USAREUR registered vehicles.

Groups and Possibilities:

AGE	WEIGHT	GROUP	RESTRAINT SYSTEM
Up to 9 months	Up to 10 kg.	0	Laying in a baby seat placed in a semi-sitting position in the "Reboard System" in the passenger seat facing the rear window.
Approximately 9 month to 3 years	9-18 kg.	I	Place in the "Reboard System" in the passenger seat with a suspender belt or a shoulder/lap belt with or without protective bar.
3 to 6 years	15-25 kg.	II	Booster seat, with protective bar used with vehicle installed shoulder/lap belt.
6-12 years	23-36 kg.	III	Booster seat with protective bar used with vehicle installed shoulder/lap belt.

What to look for when purchasing child restraint devices:

- The ECE, UL, or DOT for USAREUR registered vehicles; sign must be indicated on the seat.
- The seat must fit your car. Test the installation according to the instructions.
- Handling should be easy.
- The child should like the seat, take children along for the purchase.
- The cover should be made removable, washable, light in color, and have pockets for toys.
- Avoid metal or dark plastic parts, these will get hot when exposed to the sun and possibly burn your child.

**RELEASE FORM FOR DRIVERS**

**(For Use of Army Community Service Lending Closet Child Car Seats)**

**DATA REQUIRED BY THE PRIVACY ACT OF 1974**

*Authority: 10 U.S.C. 3012*

*Principal Purpose: To execute hold harmless and release statement by authorized driver's use of ACS Lending Closet Child Car Seats.*

*Routine Uses: Information is needed to identify each driver and to ensure that each driver executes the hold harmless and release. Any home address information given will not be released to third parties.*

*Disclosure: Disclosure is voluntary. Those who fail to provide requested information will not be allowed to borrow a child car seat.*

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Name (Last, Unit, MI)

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Unit/Organization

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Street Address

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City

State

Telephone Number

**HOLD HARMLESS AND RELEASE**

In consideration for receiving permission from the Hohenfels Army Community Service Center for the use of the Child Safety Seat on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_. I agree for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, and personal representatives that the use of the Child Safety Seat shall be undertaken at my own risk, and that the Government of the United States of America, the Department of the Army and its officers, agents, and employees, whether acting officially or otherwise, shall not be liable for any claims, demands, injuries, damages, actions or causes of action which arise wholly or partially due to the negligence of the Government of the United States of America, the Department of the Army, its officers, agents, and employees arising out of or connected with my use of the Child Safety Seat and I hereby expressly forever release and discharge the Government of the United States of America, the Department of the Army, its officers, agents, and employees from al such claims, demands, injuries, damages, actions or causes of action, including those for negligence, arising out of or related to any loss, property damage, illness, or injury, including death, that may be sustained by me, my family or passengers by reason of use of the Child Safety Seat and any other incidents relating thereto. I further agree that I will exercise reasonable care in the use of the child car seat and that I will return the car seat to the Army Community Service Center in the same condition in which it was received. I understand that it is my responsibility to obtain information from the National Highway Traffic Safety Association or other organization for guidance regarding proper installation of car seats. I also understand that it is my responsibility to contact the Consumer Product Safety Commission and/or the manufacturer of the Child Safety Seat to ensure that the child safety seat has no known defects.

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DATE

SIGNATURE

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DATE

WITNESS