

## Strolling Along Safely

The stroller you choose will be carrying your little bundle of joy!

A good stroller can be your best friend for wheeling baby around town; choosing the right one will avoid trouble and inconvenience. Before buying, check the safety features, harness and brakes.

### Harness

- Look for a five point harness. This goes around the child's waist, between the legs, and over both shoulders. It ensures that the child stays secure and that they can't wiggle out.
- Remember to use the harness at all times!

### Brakes

- Test the foot brakes to make sure they are stable. If your model has a hand brake, be sure to test that as well.
- When stopping on a hill, always remember to set the brakes on your stroller, even if you are just stopping for a moment. Front wheels lock to keep stroller from turning downhill while parked sideways.



## Don't Forget



Don't forget these important tips:

- When you are in a parking lot make sure that the stroller is always next to you while unlocking the car.
- Put the child in their car seat before storing the stroller.
- Before crossing a street position the stroller completely out of the street and make sure you are safely on the curb.
- Check your stroller and make sure it is completely opened and in the locked position before putting your child in it. Make it a habit to push down on the seat of the stroller with your hand to be sure it is safe for your child.

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## Welcome to The Safety Place at Mia Moda

There is nothing more important than safeguarding children to keep them free from harm.

That's why we've created our own "safety place" right - so moms-to-be, new moms and dads, can find valuable safety tips and critical information about protecting your most precious possessions.

## It's Smart to be Safety Savvy

### Baby's First Ride

It's that magical day. You're taking your baby home from the hospital and you want to be sure you've selected the right car seat for maximum safety protection.

#### Newborns & Infants

- Be sure to use rear facing car seat in the back seat until baby is at least one year old AND 20 lbs.
- Never place baby in the front seat of a car with a passenger side airbag.
- Shoulder harness heights should be at or below the child's shoulder in this rear facing position.
- Read the instructions for your car seat and be sure to keep them with the car seat at all times. Most seats have a place designated for storing these instructions.

Also, be sure to read your vehicle owners manual to learn about any individual conditions or cautions the manufacturer wants to point out. Each vehicle owner's manual has a section related to using car seats in that vehicle.



## Sit Smart in the Seat, Sleep Safely in the Crib or Carriage

While babies and children may fall asleep riding in a car seat, it's best not to allow them to sleep in one when not traveling in the vehicle.

- Car seats are engineered for crash safety and should be used for their intended purpose.
- When you arrive at your destination, remove your child from the seat and use a crib or bassinet for sleeping.
- When you are out and about, remember the importance of having a stroller with the ability to recline into a flat position and rated for use from birth for maximum safety.
- Never tend to a baby's need while driving. Pull over safely, park the vehicle and for baby's first few rides, have someone else ride or drive.



## Inheriting Second Hand Equipment



While it is nice to take advantage of gracious hand-me-downs, especially car seats, strollers, toys and cribs, it's vital to be sure previously used items have the latest safety features, have not been recalled and are in useable condition. For car seats it is very important to know the history to be sure it was never involved in a crash.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (1-888-327-4236 or [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov)) will provide a list of all recalled car seats.

For strollers and other children's products check with The Consumer Product Safety Commission (800-638-2772 or [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov))