

NHTSA Ease of Use Rating Form – 2002

Complete if Convertible FF Mode , Forward Facing Only or Transitional with Harness

Date _____ Evaluated by _____ Seat # (on tag) _____

Manufacturer _____ DOM _____

Make & Model _____ Model # (on CRS) _____

Style: Convertible (RF/FF) FF only Combination (FF harness/booster)

Harness: 5-point "V" or 3-point T-shield OH shield Shield booster

Measurements

Total number of crotch strap positions 1 2

Distance crotch strap opening on base to seat bight Position 1 _____ Position 2 _____ n/a

Lower harness slot height (bottom center slot to seat bight) _____ Upper harness slot height _____ n/a

Seat height (from seat bight) _____

Size range given in owner's manual:

Date on manual: _____

	WEIGHT (kg and lb)		HEIGHT (cm and inches)	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
FF				

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Make & Model _____ Seat # (on tag) _____

Assembly (When first out of box)

	A	B	C	Notes
All functional parts including seat pad or cover attached and ready to use; harness in lowest usable slots; includes tether attached (FF only)	Yes*	No, tools not required	No, tools required	*parent may still need to adjust system to fit child n/a if convertible
Tether attached to restraint	Yes		No	n/a if single mode
Owner's manual easy to find when taken out of box	Attached to child restraint in a clearly visible location	Attached to child restraint but not clearly visible	In box, but not attached	
Storage system for manual	Manual removed and replaced easily		Manual cannot be removed and replaced easily	

Evaluation of Labels

	A	B	C	Notes
Clear indication of child's size range e.g., picture of child in seat use of harness clip weight range	Separate clear text with illustrations of child in upper range		Separate clear text Independent of illustration or no illustration	
All mode/s of use clearly indicated e.g., FF + tether (v. RF) FF + tether (v. booster) LATCH	CRS illustration in vehicle seat (not FSP) Mode/s clear, no need to read text	CRS illustration in outline vehicle seat (could be front seat) Need to read text	No illustration, text only May be illustrated, but not all modes shown (e.g. tether not shown)	
Shows which harness slots OK to use	Clear illustrations or markings No need to read text	Markings of top slot Need to read text	Text only or missing	n/a, all can be used
Instructions for routing both lap belt and lap/shoulder belt	Illustrated clearly with CR in vehicle seat and tether in illustration No need to read text	Illustrated, outlined or no vehicle seat Tether may have own illustration Need to read text	Not all modes illustrated (e.g. tether not shown) or unclear instructions	
Shows how to prepare lower attachments for use	Visually obvious and able to use with illustration only, no need to read text OR No illustration required	Illustrations plus written instructions provided, need to read text	Written instructions only provided or nothing	In "A" category one or two words OK for extra clarification

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Evaluation of Labels *(Continued)*

	A	B	C	Notes
Shows how to use lower attachments	Visually obvious and able to use with illustration only, no need to read text	Illustrations plus written instructions provided, need to read text	Written instructions only provided or nothing	In "A" category one or two words OK for extra clarification
Visibility of seat belt routing (for lap and lap/shoulder belts), and LATCH attachments, when CRS in vehicle position i.e. Is seat belt routing, LATCH attachments obvious?	Clear routing illustration or clear contrast belt path, LATCH marking No need to read text	Markings or some form of routing illustration Need to read text	Illustrations do not match CRS or belt direction or are hidden by seat cover	
Durability of labels	Sticky label not peeling or other method of technology label not peeling		Sticky label if one or more are already peeling when restraint removed from box	

Evaluation of Instructions

	A	B	C	Notes
Clear indication of child's size range e.g., picture of child in seat use of harness clip weight range	Separate clear text with illustrations of child in upper range		Separate clear text Independent paragraph	Must have illustration with at least weight
All mode/s of use clearly indicated e.g., FF + tether (v. RF) FF + tether (v. booster) lower LATCH	CRS illustration in vehicle seat (not FSP) Mode/s clear, no need to read text	CRS illustration in outline vehicle seat (could be front seat) Need to read text	No illustration, text only May be illustrated, but not all modes shown (e.g. tether not shown)	
Shows which harness slots OK to use	Clear illustrations or markings No need to read text	Markings of top slot Need to read text	Text only or missing	n/a, all can be used
Air bag warning in written instructions	Separate, highlighted & illustrated	Separate & highlighted	Buried in other text or no warning	
Instructions for routing both lap belt and lap/shoulder belt	Illustrated clearly with CR in vehicle seat and tether in illustration No need to read text	Illustrated, outlined or no vehicle seat Tether may have own illustration Need to read text	Not all modes illustrated (e.g. tether not shown) or unclear instructions	
Instructions describe how to prepare lower attachments for use	Visually obvious, able to use with illustrations only	Illustrations plus written instructions provided	Written instructions only provided or nothing	In "A" category one or two words OK for extra clarification

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Evaluation of Instructions *(Continued)*

	A	B	C	Notes
Instructions show how to use lower attachments	Visually obvious, able to use with illustrations only	Illustrations plus written instructions provided	Written instructions only provided or nothing	In "A" category one or two words OK for extra clarification
Orientation for LATCH tether and lower attachments	Correct orientation of LATCH tether and lower attachments clearly illustrated or text clearly states that it can be used in any orientation	Correct orientation of LATCH tether and lower attachments explained only in text	No information regarding orientation of LATCH tether and lower attachments	n/a if orientation cannot be changed
Information in written instructions and on labels match (size measurements)	Yes		No	

Securing the Child

	A	B	C	Notes
Buckle can be secured in reverse	No, or yes but usual release works with same degree of effort	Yes, but usual release requires more effort	Yes, but can't use release mechanism	
When installed, easy access to harness adjustment for tightening and loosening	Yes		No	
Harness adjustment easy to tighten or loosen when child restraint is installed	One hand to tighten/loosen, or automatically adjusts Max 2 to loosen	Two hands to tighten/loosen, but easy No re-threading	Other	<i>Do not count one hand to support CRS</i>
Number of harness slots match (plastic and pad)	Yes		No	
Number of harness slots in shell	At least 3 or 1 adjustable	2	1	
Visibility of harness slots	Clear view of all slots (slots aligned)	Clear view of cloth slots, not aligned with plastic slots	Something in way when sold, e.g. pad, head hugger	
Ease of conversion from rear-facing to forward-facing	One hand to change Easy to access	1-2 hands to change – not easily accessible or binds	Other	n/a, single mode
Ease of conversion from booster to forward-facing	Easy to access Illustrations provided on seat showing change made	Easy to access No illustration provided on seat	Access difficult or need instructions	n/a

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Securing the Child *(Continued)*

	A	B	C	Notes
Ease of changing harness slot position	No need to re-thread Possible for one person to do	Possible for one person to do, easy to attach/remove Large slots easy to thread	Other, slot size too small for easy threading Loose mandatory pieces Could misroute, requires multiple threading of harness or could incorrectly resecure	
Ease of re-assembly if pad/cover removed for cleaning or rethreading of harness	No loose parts Easy to attach/remove – clear slots No realignment necessary	No loose parts Slots may be misaligned	Loose parts, need hand tool Slot size too small for easy threading Could misroute through buckle	
Ease of adjusting/removing shield	Clear illustration, simple action, shield marked	Need to read text, simple action, shield not marked	Other tool/s required	n/a, no shield n/a, shield not adjustable

Installing in Vehicle

	A	B	C	Notes
Separation of vehicle belt path from harness	No contact possible		Possible contact including crotch strap	
Can lower LATCH attachments interfere with harness	No		Yes	
Ease of vehicle belt routing (hand clearance)	Male hand can route s/b through including flap in seat, nothing in way	Male hand fit but need to move CRS (no x-tilt), or move padding	Hand does not fit	
Ease of use of any belt positioning feature on CRS including lock-off	One hand to use	Two hands to use	Detachable or multiple steps	n/a, no belt lock feature
Tether easy to tighten (& release)	One hand to tighten/loosen	Two hands but easy	Other	
LATCH tether and lower attachments can be installed in reverse	No, or yes but works in usual way	Yes, but usual release requires more effort	Yes, and can't release	