



Shopping Carts and Car Seats – What’s Safe?

Using your car seat outside of the car may be convenient, but there are safety risks to address. A common misuse of car seats is placing them on the top of shopping carts. Here are some safer options for transporting your infant inside a store.



- » **Put the car seat in the basket of the cart**
Rather than setting the car seat on the top of the cart, put it in the large basket area. In that position, the seat can't fall off the cart and it will rock as you push the cart, keeping your child more content while you shop.
- » **Have baby sit in the child seat of the cart**
This option is good for babies that can sit up on their own (usually around 6 months of age). Be sure to buckle baby in place and never leave the cart unattended.
- » **Leave the car seat in the car and babywear**
This keeps your baby close while leaving your hands free for shopping and doesn't take up any cart space! Be sure to follow manufacturer's instructions for proper babywearing.
- » **Use a stroller**
If you have a travel system that goes with your car seat, bring the stroller to the store with you. Items you are purchasing can be stored in the bottom of your stroller until you get to the register.
- » **Shop where carts are designed to hold a car seat**
There is a newer product available to retailers called Safe-Dock. This is meant to hold your infant car seat and not take up space in your shopping cart.

