

## Second-Hand Car Seat Checklist



1. Has the seat passed its expiration date? Or, was it manufactured more than six years ago?  
 No. Continue  
 **Yes. Destroy the seat!** It is no longer safe to use.
2. Is the seat labeled as meeting current Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards?  
 Yes. Continue  
 **No. Destroy!** It is no longer safe; do not use.
3. Has the seat been involved in a vehicle crash?  
 No. Continue  
 **Yes. Destroy!** It is no longer safe to use.  
 **Unknown? Destroy!** The seat may have hidden damage.
4. Has the seat been recalled for safety defects?  
 No. Continue  
 **Yes. Have the defects been corrected?**  
 Yes. Continue  
 **No. Destroy!** It is no longer safe.  
 **Unknown? Call manufacturer for help on how to see if recall has been repaired.**
5. Are there any splits, cracks, bends or breaks in the plastic shell or metal frame?  
 No. Continue  
 **Yes. Destroy!** It is no longer safe to use.
6. Do you have the instruction book?  
 Yes. Continue  
 **No. Order a new set or print one from the manufacturer's Web site.**
7. Does the seat have all its parts: harness straps, pad/upholstery, harness retainer clip, shield (if applicable), tether strap, LATCH connectors, locking clip, etc.?  
 Yes. Continue. You **MUST** refer to the car seat instructions to see if all parts are present!  
 **No. Destroy**—or obtain replacement parts from the manufacturer.
8. Are the harness straps worn, damaged or frayed?  
 No. Continue  
 **Yes. Destroy**—or obtain replacement parts from the manufacturer.
9. Is there rust in the buckle area?  
 No. Continue  
 **Yes. Throw the seat away**—or obtain replacement parts from the manufacturer!
10. Does the buckle mechanism fasten securely, remain fastened, and unfasten smoothly?  
 Yes. You may consider using this seat.  
 **No. Destroy**—or, obtain replacement parts from the manufacturer.