

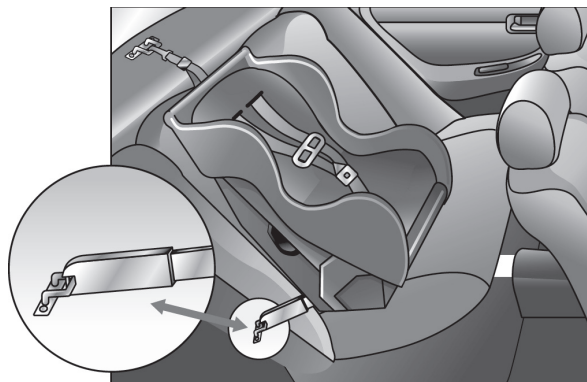
# Lower Universal Anchorage System (LUAS)

## What is LUAS?

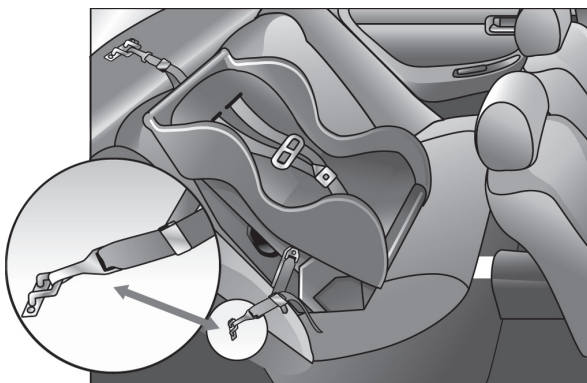
- The “lower universal anchorage system” for child restraints is a standardized method of installing a child seat without using a seat belt. This system is based on ISOFIX, an international standard developed by ISO (International Standards Organization). In the U.S., the method is referred to as LATCH (Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children).



Look for this symbol on child seats and vehicle seats.

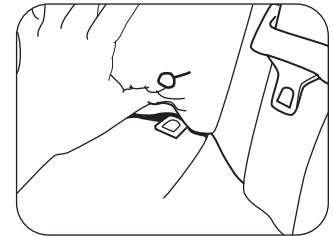


LUAS rigid mount system



LUAS flexible (belt) mount system

- The lower vehicle anchor system has small bars built into the crease of the vehicle seat back. (The upper anchor is the tether anchorage slot.) The lower anchors may be located one to three inches into the crease. Hidden anchors are marked with a small round symbol on the seatback. The corresponding child seat will have two attachments (either straps or solid connectors) that work with these bars, as well as the usual tether strap.



LUAS Anchor in seat crease

- The goal of the lower universal anchorage system is to make it easier to install, to improve compatibility of different seats to different cars, and to decrease the likelihood of errors.

## Where will LUAS be installed?

- New model vehicles are required to have complete universal anchorages in two seating positions. Most passenger vehicles are likely to have them located in the two outboard positions in the back seat.
- Vehicles with at least three rear seating positions must have an additional centre seating position equipped with a seat belt and tether anchor to allow installation in the position favoured by many parents.
- Vehicles must be equipped with LUAS in one front seating position when there is no rear seat or insufficient seat space to accommodate a rear facing child seat and the vehicle has an air bag on/off switch as original equipment.

### Can LUAS equipped child restraints still be used in older model vehicles without LUAS?

- Yes. New child seats are required to have both seat belt and LUAS options for installation in the vehicle.
- The reverse is also true. You can safely install child seats without LUAS into newer model vehicles that now have the universal anchorage bars by using the seat belt.

### LUAS installation vs. using a seat belt

- LUAS anchor points are located in the optimum place for holding child seats in place and are closer together than seat belt anchors. A LUAS seat with rigid attachments should have virtually no forward or sideways movement. A LUAS child seat tightly installed with two flexible lower attachments would be very secure.

### Is it ever appropriate to install a child seat using both the anchors and the seat belt?

- There is no need to use both systems, unless the manufacturer suggests it. Use only one system, LUAS or the seat belt. Both work equally well and must be used with the tether (where necessary).

### Is installation with the LUAS anchors better than with the seat belt?

- LUAS is intended to make installation easier and the best installation is the one that fits properly and tightly in the vehicle. If a secure fit can't be achieved using LUAS, then the center rear of the back seat using the vehicle seat belts might give a better fit.

Always follow manufacturer's instructions. For more information call the toll free Child Passenger Safety Information line **1-877-247-5551** or visit us at **www.icbc.com**.

*This publication reflects the laws in British Columbia as of March 2006. You should be aware that laws might change from time to time, so for a current statement of the law, you should refer to the applicable legislation. In the case of any conflict between this publication and the legislation, you should always follow the legislation.*

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### Can two child seats be installed on one LUAS?

- No, attaching two child seats to a single lower anchor point could cause the anchor to fail in a crash.

### Can I use LUAS to put a child seat in the centre of the vehicle's rear seat?

- If your vehicle does not have a pair of LUAS anchors in the centre rear, use the seat belt in that position. If you cannot get a tight installation with the belt, use the side seating position with LUAS. Do NOT use the inner bars of the side LUAS anchors unless both the vehicle owner's manual and car seat instructions state this is acceptable.

### Retrofitting with flexible LUAS attachments

- Some child seat manufacturers do provide flexible lower attachment kits that can be used in the belt path of certain older model child seats. Check with your child seat's manufacturer.

### Boosters and car beds with LUAS

- Booster seats and car beds are not required to use LUAS. Belt positioning boosters are restrained with a lap/shoulder belt. Therefore, the anchorage system is not needed.

### When available?

- All child seats and vehicles manufactured for the Canadian market from September 2002 must be equipped with LUAS. Some vehicles sold in Canada were already fitted with this system prior to this date.