



## Counterfeit car seats

Counterfeit or “copycat” car seats have been showing up for sale on the internet as more people are shopping online.

**Be aware of the following hints that the seat could be counterfeit:**

- The price seems too good to be true.
- Stickers on the car seat are in a foreign language or have spelling or grammar errors.
- There are no labels with U.S. height and weight requirements for the seat (i.e. pounds and inches)
- The car seat doesn’t include a statement about compliance with federal motor vehicle safety standards.
- The car seat does not come with a registration/recall card to be completed and mailed in with postage paid by the manufacturer.

**Here’s what to look for to make sure your child’s car seat is not a counterfeit:**

- A visible car seat model number and manufacture date.
- The manufacturer’s contact information is listed and in the United States.
- The seat is high quality and there are no flimsy parts or materials.

**Here’s what to do if you have a counterfeit car seat:**

1. File an unsafe product complaint report with the National Highway Traffic Safety Commission at [nhtsa.gov/report-a-safety-problem](http://nhtsa.gov/report-a-safety-problem)
2. Alert the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) at [saferproducts.gov](http://saferproducts.gov)
3. Complete the form with the U.S. Department of Commerce at [stopfakes.gov](http://stopfakes.gov).

Avoid purchasing a car seat online. Stick to buying one in a retail store. Although child car seats sold on shopping sites can seem like a good deal, these fake seats do not meet federal standards that are set to protect children in a crash.

[childrenswi.org/safetycenter](http://childrenswi.org/safetycenter)  
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