



Car Seat Safety with winter coats:

Step 1: Dress the child in thin, tight layers under their winter coat – dress them as if it was 50-60 degree weather. For example, under their winter coat they should wear an undershirt, long-sleeve shirt and sweater.

Step 2: Take the child to the car with their coat unzipped – have them take off their coat when they get to the car. Quickly buckle the child and get the straps snug without the coat on (remember to pull firmly up on the shoulder straps to get all the slack out of the legs/stomach area, then pull firmly on the tail to tighten the straps.)

Step 3: Have them stick out their arms and put the coat on backwards. The best part about this is not only are they safer, but they also won't overheat as the car gets warmer as they can pull their coat off when they get hot.

Some coats are safe for the car seat

Some coats are thin enough that they don't interfere with the snugness of the straps – and are therefore safe for the car seat. Want to know if your child's coat is safe for the car? Buckle your child into their car seat with their coat on & get the straps snug. Take the child out of the car seat, remove their coat, and re-buckle the child into the straps. Firmly pull upwards on the shoulder straps – you should notice no slack coming up, and only enough room for one finger to fit between the child's collar bone and the strap – if the straps are looser than this, then the coat is not safe for the car.