GENERAL

britax advocate 70 cs user guide

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Britax Advocate 70 CS User Guide: A Complete Overview

Choosing the right car seat for your child is one of the most important decisions a parent can make. The Britax Advocate 70 CS is a popular choice among families worldwide, praised for its safety features, ease of installation, and versatility. This comprehensive guide will walk you through every aspect of the Britax Advocate 70 CS, from the basics of its design to detailed installation instructions, maintenance tips, and troubleshooting advice. By the end, you'll have a solid understanding of how to get the most out of this car seat and keep your little one safe on the road.

What Makes the Britax Advocate 70 CS Stand Out?

The Britax Advocate 70 CS is a rear-facing car seat that accommodates infants and toddlers up to 70 kg (approximately 154 lb). It is designed to provide maximum protection in the event of a collision while remaining user-friendly for everyday use. Below are some of the standout features that set it apart from other rear-facing seats:

- Advanced Safety System: The seat incorporates Britax's SafeCell technology, offering a reinforced steel frame that absorbs impact forces.
- Adjustable Harness: The 5-point harness can be easily adjusted to fit children of different sizes, ensuring a snug and secure fit.
- Easy Installation: Equipped with the Britax 4 point LATCH system, installation is quick and secure, reducing the risk of improper setup.
- Comfort Features: The seat includes a removable, machine-washable headrest and a padded seat base for added comfort.
- Versatility: The Advocate 70 CS can be used in multiple modes—rear-facing, forward-facing (when the child reaches the height limit), and as a booster seat in certain configurations.

Getting Started: What You Need Before Installation

Before you begin installing the Britax Advocate 70 CS, gather the following items to ensure a smooth process:

1. Britax Advocate 70 CS car seat
2. Vehicle's owner manual (for seat belt or LATCH system information)
3. Britax Advocate 70 CS installation guide (usually included in the box)
4. Vehicle seat belt or LATCH anchors
5. Flat, clean surface for seat placement
6. Optional: Seat belt tensioner or LATCH tensioner (if required for your vehicle)

Having all these items on hand will help you avoid unnecessary delays and ensure that you follow each step correctly.

Step-by-Step Installation Guide

Installing the Britax Advocate 70 CS is a straightforward process, but attention to detail is crucial for safety. Follow these steps carefully:

1. Choose the Right Seat Position

Most parents opt for the rear-facing position for infants and toddlers, as it offers better protection for the head, neck, and spine. If you plan to use the seat in a forward-facing mode later, make sure you understand the transition guidelines in your vehicle.

2. Select the Installation Method: Belt or LATCH

Britax offers two primary installation methods:

- Seat Belt: Ideal for vehicles without LATCH anchors or for extra security in certain situations.
- LATCH (Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children): Typically the fastest method, using the vehicle's built-in anchors.

Check your vehicle's manual to determine the best method. If your car has LATCH anchors, we recommend using the LATCH system for the most secure fit.

3. Attach the Seat to the Vehicle

Follow these substeps for each method:

- LATCH Installation:

  Locate the LATCH anchors in the rear seat area.
- Insert the LATCH straps into the corresponding anchors.
- Secure the straps by tightening them until the seat does not move more than an inch.

1. Thread the seat belt through the designated belt path on the seat.
2. Fasten the belt and adjust it to the tighten position.
3. Use a seat belt tensioner if your vehicle's belt is not tight enough.

4. Verify Seat Stability

After securing the seat, give it a gentle shake. It should not move more than one inch in any direction. If it does, readjust the straps or belt until the seat is firmly in place.

5. Attach the Seat Belt Tether

Britax seats include a tether strap to secure the top of the seat. Attach this strap to the tether anchor in the vehicle to prevent the seat from tipping forward.

Adjusting the Harness System

The Britax Advocate 70 CS harness is designed to accommodate children from birth up to 70 kg. Proper harness adjustment is essential for both safety and comfort.

1. Position the Harness

Place the harness straps over your child's shoulders, ensuring that the buckles sit at the base of the neck for rear-facing mode.

2. Tighten the Harness

Use the *tighten*button on the harness to secure the straps. The harness should be snug enough that you cannot easily slide a finger between the strap and the child's chest.

3. Adjust the Height

The Britax Advocate 70 CS features a height adjustment lever that allows you to raise or lower the seat base to match your child's height. This is particularly useful as your child grows.

Weight and Height Limits: When to Transition

Understanding the weight and height limits for the Britax Advocate 70 CS is key to maintaining safety. The seat is rated for:

- Weight: 0 /kg (newborn) to 70 /kg (maximum)
- Height: 50 /cm to 140 /cm (approximately 19.7 /in to 55.1 /in)

When your child reaches the upper height limit for rear-facing mode (typically around 120 cm), it's time to transition to a forward-facing seat. Britax offers a dedicated forward-facing seat that can be used with the Advocate 70 CS base if your vehicle supports it.

Using the Seat in Different Modes

The Britax Advocate 70 CS is primarily designed for rear-facing use, but it can also be used in forward-facing mode with an appropriate harness system. Below are the key differences:

Rear-Facing Mode

- Provides the best protection for the head, neck, and spine.
- Recommended for infants and toddlers up to 70 /kg.
- Harness buckles are positioned at the child's base of the neck.

Forward-Facing Mode

- Requires a separate forward-facing harness or a Britax forward-facing seat base.
- Harness buckles should be positioned at the child's chest.
- Transition at the appropriate height and weight limits.

Booster Mode

While the Advocate 70 CS is not a booster seat, it can be used with a booster seat accessory in certain vehicles. Always consult the vehicle's manual and Britax's compatibility guide before attempting this setup.

Maintenance and Cleaning

Keeping the Britax Advocate 70 CS clean and well-maintained extends its lifespan and ensures your child's safety. Follow these guidelines:

1. Spot Cleaning

Use a damp cloth and mild soap to clean any spills or stains on the seat's upholstery. Avoid harsh chemicals that can degrade the material.

2. Machine Washable Headrest

Remove the headrest and machine wash it on a gentle cycle. Use a mild detergent and air dry to prevent shrinkage.

3. Inspect for Wear

Regularly inspect the harness straps, buckles, and seat frame for signs of wear or damage. Replace any component that shows cracks, fraying, or other defects.

4. Store Properly

If you need to store the seat for an extended period, keep it in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight. Avoid folding or compressing the seat, as this can damage the internal structure.

Safety Tips for Parents and Caregivers

Beyond proper installation and maintenance, there are several safety practices to keep in mind:

- Read the Manual: Thoroughly review the Britax Advocate 70 CS user guide before use.
- Check for Recalls: Stay updated on any recalls or safety notices from Britax.
- Never Use a Damaged Seat: If the seat shows any signs of damage, discontinue use immediately.
- Follow Vehicle Guidelines: Ensure the seat's installation is compatible with your vehicle's seat belt or LATCH system.
- Use the Tether: Always attach the seat belt tether to prevent tipping.

Troubleshooting Common Issues

Below are some common problems parents may encounter with the Britax Advocate 70 CS, along with suggested solutions:

1. Seat Moves More Than One Inch

Re-check the LATCH straps or seat belt tension. Tighten them until the seat is stable.

2. Harness Buckles Are Too Loose

Adjust the harness height and tighten the straps. Use the *tighten* button to ensure a snug fit.

3. Headrest Is Not Secure

Make sure the headrest is properly locked into place. If it feels loose, consult the manual for the locking mechanism.

4. Seat Is Too Hot or Cold

Use a seat cover or a blanket to regulate temperature. Avoid placing the seat directly in sunlight for extended periods.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: How do I know when to transition my child from rear-facing to forward-facing?

A: Transition when your child reaches the upper height limit for rear-facing mode (typically around 120 cm). Always follow the guidelines in the user manual and your vehicle's seat belt specifications.

Q: Can I use the Britax Advocate 70 CS in a car with a third-row seat?

A: Yes, but ensure the seat is installed in a seat that is properly supported by the vehicle's LATCH anchors or seat belts. Avoid placing the seat in a location where it can swing or be unstable.

Q: Is the Britax Advocate 70 CS compatible with all car brands?

A: The seat is compatible with most vehicles that have standard LATCH anchors

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