

# Trio

## USER GUIDE

A highly versatile two-part car seat  
Suitable for use from 9kg to 36kg (approx 9 months to 11 years)




UNIVERSAL  
9 - 36kg Y



03.44.158



Can be fitted in front\* and back seats of most cars using the adult lap and diagonal seat-belt.

 \*WARNING: DO NOT use on passenger seats fitted with a front airbag unless your vehicle manufacturer confirms it is safe.

**Britax**

THE MOST TESTED CAR SEAT ON THE ROAD

## Thank you for choosing Britax

It is important that you read this User Guide **BEFORE** trying to install your child car seat (surveys have revealed that 7 out of 10 car seats are not installed correctly or being used properly – Source: RAC). The Trio is designed so that it can be adapted to suit the weight of your child as they grow. There are 3 stages to follow and this User Guide will take you through each of them, to make installing and using your child car seat easier.

- Stage 1:** Using the Trio with the integral harness - from 9kg to 18kg
- Stage 2:** Using the Trio with the adult seat-belt and shoulder clip - from 15kg to 25kg
- Stage 3:** Using the Trio as a booster seat - from 15kg to 36kg

There is also a section explaining how to care for your child car seat.

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## Vital Information - READ NOW

**WARNING - DO NOT** use the Trio on a passenger seat fitted with a front airbag, unless your vehicle manufacturer confirms it is safe.



**DO NOT** use the Trio on side facing vehicle seats.

**DO NOT** use the Trio in the home. It has not been designed for home use and should only be used in your car.

**DO NOT** use anything, such as a cushion or coat, to raise the Trio off the passenger seat. In an accident the Trio and your car seat-belts would not be able to protect your child as well as they should.

**DO NOT** attempt to dismantle, modify or add to any part of the Trio or change the way your car seat-belts are made or used.

**DO** cover the Trio if your car is left in direct sunlight. Metal and plastic fittings can become hot to touch in sunny weather and the cover may become faded.

**DO** keep this User Guide in the pocket on the back of the cover or under the booster cover.

## Frequently asked questions

Does the Trio fit all cars?

*All makes, models and years of car differ from one another and it is not guaranteed that this restraint will fit your car. For advice as to the suitability of this restraint for your car please call our Customer Service Helpline on 01264 386034.*

Can I put my child in the Trio before they reach 9kg in weight?

*No, the weight range corresponds with the European Standard applying to child car seats and the Trio has been tested and approved from 9kg. In addition to weighing 9kg your child should also be able to sit unaided with confidence.*

Can I install the Trio using a lap-belt?

*No, the Trio MUST only be used with a lap and diagonal seat-belt.*

When do I adjust the headrest and harness to the correct height for my child?

*When you first purchase the Trio, then periodically as your child grows (see "Harness adjustment" on page 4).*

Can I buy a spare cover in the same fabric I currently have?

*Spare covers are available in SELECTED fabrics only. To find out which fabrics you can choose from please contact our Customer Service Helpline on 01264 386034.*

What do I do if the harness buckle does not click when I fasten it?

*Follow the instructions "Removing and cleaning the harness buckle" on page 18.*

## No child seat is escape proof

Harness systems cannot be designed to be completely "child proof" and yet comply with the legal requirements of European Standard ECE R44. The harness must be fastened and adjusted correctly at all times and children encouraged to remain within the harness system.

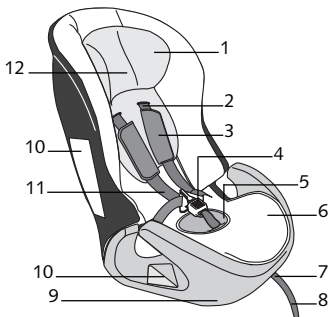
## Second-hand car seats



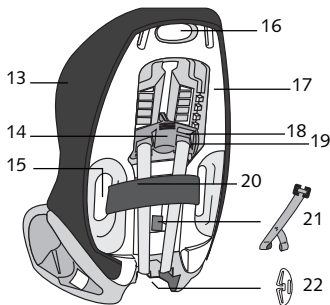
The British Standards Institution and Britax advise that child car seats should not be bought or sold second-hand. Many seats sold through local advertising and car-boot sales have been found to be dangerous. Please dispose of your child car seat safely.

## Crucial parts of your child car seat

You need to know these before installing the Trio in your car.

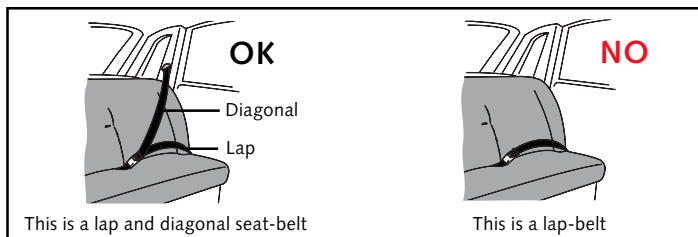


1. Sliding headrest
2. Shoulder strap of harness
3. Chest pad
4. Harness buckle
5. Comfort pad
6. Booster cover
7. Adjuster button (underneath front of seat)
8. Adjuster strap
9. Booster
10. Routing label
11. Harness



12. Headrest cover
13. Backrest cover
14. Headrest adjuster
15. Seat-belt routing slot
16. Carrying handle
17. Backrest
18. Shoulder strap slot
19. Chest pad attachment arm
20. User guide pocket (in cover)
21. Red locking clip (stored in backrest)
22. Yoke (under seat)

## Types of seat-belt



**IMPORTANT** - The Trio **MUST** only be used with a lap and diagonal seat-belt (approved to UN/ECE regulation no. 16 or equivalent standards).



**IMPORTANT** – Use the Trio with the integral harness for a child weighing from 9kg to 18kg.

**IMPORTANT** – The Trio **MUST** only be installed using a lap and diagonal seat-belt.

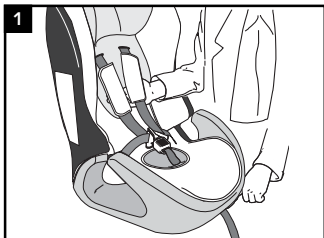
### Preparing to install the Trio in the car



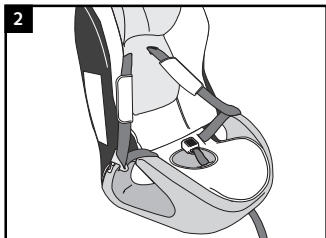
**IMPORTANT** - You must adjust the headrest and shoulder straps of the harness to the correct position for your child **BEFORE** installing the Trio as they cannot be adjusted once installed in the car.

#### Adjusta-Fit System – Headrest and harness adjustment

The Trio has a sliding headrest. The shoulder straps of the harness feed through the headrest, enabling you to adjust both together quickly and easily to the correct position for your child.



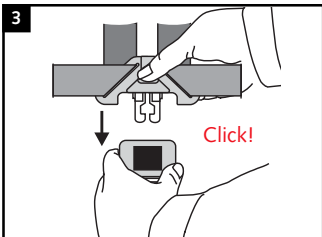
Place the Trio on the floor. With one hand under the front of the seat push the adjuster button in, and with your other hand below the chest pads, pull both shoulder straps forward together as far as possible to loosen the harness.



Unfasten the harness by pressing the red harness buckle button. Lay the shoulder straps over the sides of the seat as shown to avoid the harness twisting.

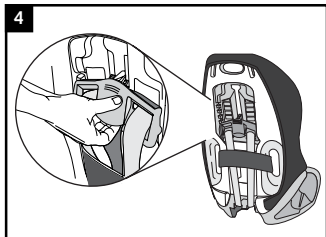


**Handy Tip** - Loosening the harness and laying the shoulder straps over the side of the seat when removing your child helps prevent harness twisting.



Place your child in the Trio, supporting the seat against a wall to ensure it does not topple over, and fit the harness loosely around them.

Re-fasten the harness buckle by fitting the two tongues together and pushing them firmly into the buckle until you hear a click.



Lift the headrest adjuster at the back of the seat shell and move it up or down so that the shoulder strap slots in the headrest are level with or just above your child's shoulders (see below).



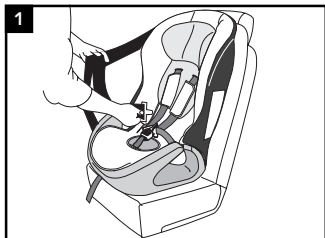
When the headrest is in the correct position let go of the headrest adjuster and ensure it has locked into place.

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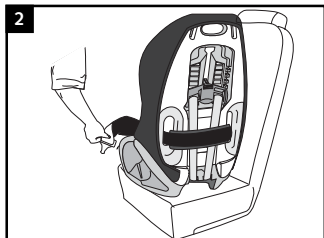
## Installing the Trio in the car

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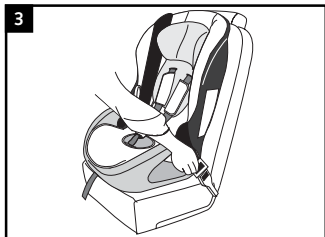
**⚠ IMPORTANT** - The Trio **MUST** only be installed using a lap and diagonal seat-belt routed as shown in the following instructions.



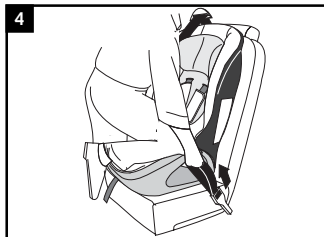
Place the Trio forward facing in your car. Pull the seat-belt fully out and hold the lap and the diagonal sections together. Keep them together as you pass the seat-belt from the front of the seat through the first seat-belt routing slot on the Trio ...



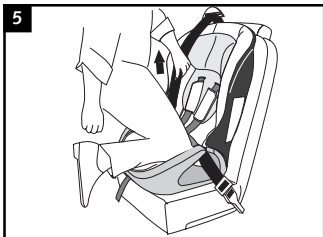
... and then pass the seat-belt back through the second seat-belt routing slot to the front of your seat.



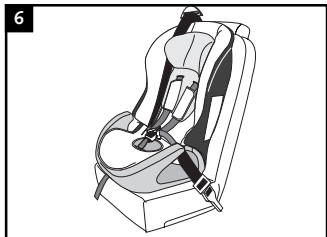
Pull all the slack from the seat-belt to the front of the Trio and fasten the seat-belt. Make sure the seat-belt is not twisted and the lap section passes under the arms of the booster seat on both sides.



Firmly, push the Trio into the vehicle seat using your body weight. Pull the seat-belt here to tighten the lap section ...



... and then pull the diagonal section of the seat-belt tight here.



The Trio should now be secure. To check pull forward firmly on the harness. There should be little or no movement.



**IMPORTANT** - After installing the Trio you need to check the position of the seat-belt buckle (see "Correct buckle position" on page 8)

If in any doubt contact our Customer Service Helpline on 01264 386034.

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### Removing the Trio from the car

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Unfasten the seat-belt and unthread it from the Trio.

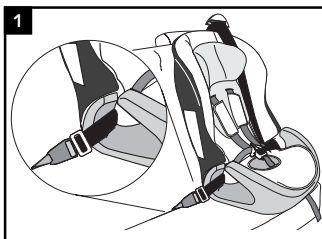


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## Correct Buckle Position

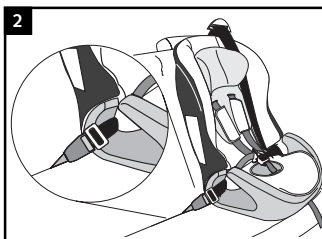
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 Once you have installed the Trio it is important that you check the position of the seat-belt buckle, as this can prevent the achievement of a secure installation.



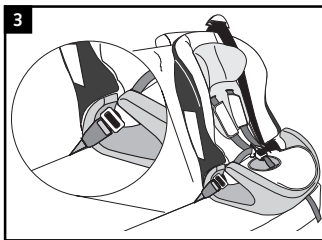
If the seat-belt buckle looks like this and the Trio is firmly installed\* then the seat-belt buckle position is O.K.

*\* Pull forward firmly on the harness. There should be little or no movement.*




If the seat-belt buckle looks like this and the Trio is firmly installed\* then the seat-belt buckle position is O.K. However, if the Trio is loose when you pull forward on the harness try another seating position in the car.

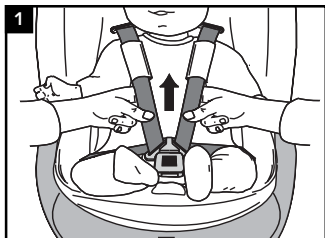
*\* Pull forward firmly on the harness. There should be little or no movement.*



If the seat-belt buckle looks like this try another seating position in the car.


 **IMPORTANT** - If you are in any doubt please contact our Customer Service Helpline on 01264 386034.

## Fitting your child in the Trio




Adjust the harness as detailed on page 4, "Using the Trio with the integral harness".

Check that the harness is not twisted and pull the shoulder straps up to tighten the lap section of the harness. Then tighten the harness by pulling the adjuster strap forward making sure the harness is snug. Finally ensure the chest pads are pulled down onto your child's chest.

 **IMPORTANT** - Ensure that the lap section of the harness is low down on your child's body and in contact with the pelvis.

## Using the Trio with an adult seat-belt and the shoulder clip

### Stage 2

 **IMPORTANT** - Use the Trio with an adult seat-belt and the shoulder clip for a child weighing from 15kg to 25kg.

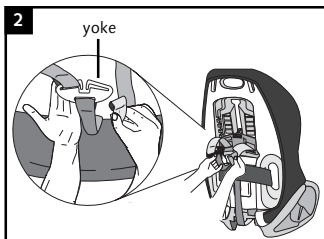
**IMPORTANT** - The Trio **MUST** only be installed using a lap and diagonal seat-belt routed as shown in the following instructions.

## Stowing the harness away



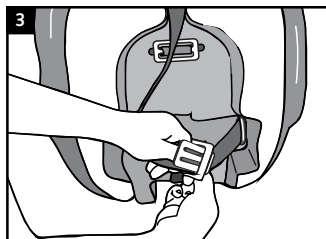
Place the Trio on the floor.

With one hand under the front of the seat push the adjuster button in, and with your other hand below the chest pads, pull the shoulder straps forward as far as possible to loosen the harness.

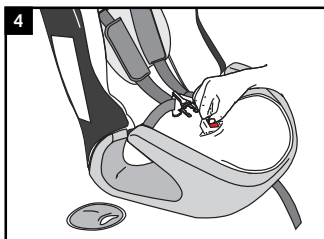


Turn the Trio round, unhook both shoulder straps from the yoke and pull them through to the front of the seat.

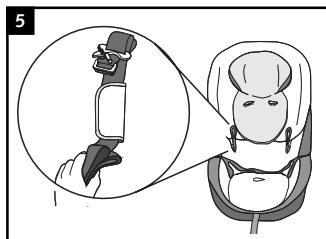
Remove the chest pads from the headrest attachment arms and pull them through to the front of the seat.



Place the Trio on its back. Unhook the larger harness tab from the smaller tab underneath the booster seat. Take hold of one harness tab and turn it so that the short side will go through the slot. Push the tab through to the front of the Trio and then through the booster cover. Repeat with the other tab.



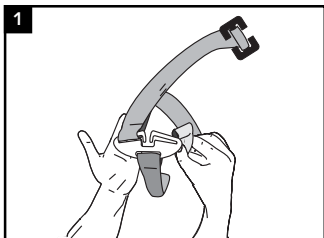
Unfasten the harness by pressing the red harness buckle button and remove the comfort pad. Lift the cover and ease the harness buckle through the slot in the cover and stow it away in the recess in the booster shell.



The shoulder straps and chest pads are now detached from the harness.

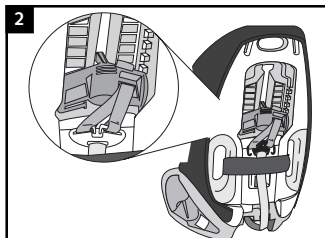
To store the harness, it is possible to fold the webbing inside the chest pads and stow them away in the elastic hoops that are attached to the cover in the area of the seat-belt routing slot as shown.

## Attaching the red locking clip

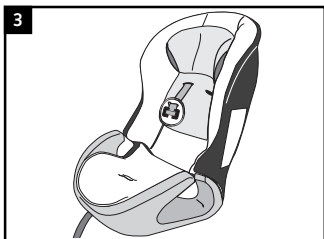


Remove the red locking clip from the recess in the back of the backrest.

Attach the webbing straps to the yoke, making sure they are not twisted ...



... and then thread it through the shoulder strap slot to the side nearest your seat-belt. Undo the user guide pocket, place the webbing straps behind the pocket and then refasten it. Take the comfort pad and ease it over the locking clip to provide extra comfort for your child's shoulder.



Your Trio is now ready to be used.

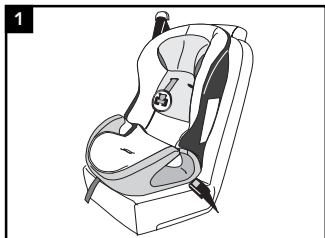
Refit the harness by reversing the above instructions.



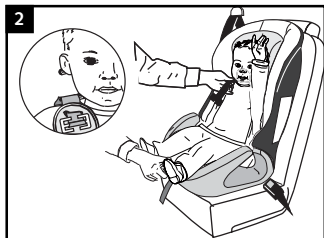
**IMPORTANT** - When refitting the harness it is essential that the two ends of the harness are linked together with the harness tabs underneath the booster seat, and that the adjuster strap passes between the user guide pocket and the back of the seat.

## Installing the Trio in the car

**⚠ IMPORTANT** - Have you adjusted the headrest to the correct position for your child. If not, see page 4, "Adjusta-Fit System"



Place the Trio forward facing in your car, ensuring it is pushed firmly into the car seat and sit your child on the seat.



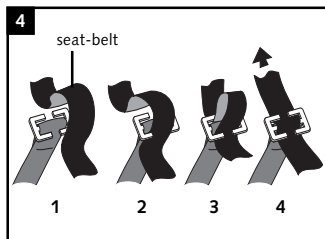
Press the adjuster button and pull the locking clip forward to adjust the length of the strap.

Fasten the seat-belt across your child and the seat. Make sure the seat-belt is not twisted and the lap section passes under the arms of the booster seat on both sides.

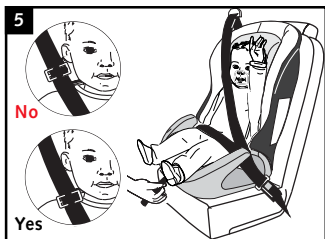


Keep the seat-belt tight across your child, holding on to the seat-belt at the position where it crosses your child's shoulder.

Now, pull the seat-belt forward away from your child, keeping hold of the seat-belt at the position where it crossed your child's shoulder as this is where the locking clip must be attached to the seat-belt.



Fasten the locking clip to the diagonal section of the seat-belt.



Pull the adjuster strap to remove any slack from the locking clip. Your child should now be secure.

## Releasing your child from the Trio

To release your child simply undo the seat-belt.



**IMPORTANT** - Do not leave your child seat loose. Always fasten the seat-belt across the Trio when it is not being used by your child to prevent the seat being hurled forward in the event of an accident.

## Using the Trio as a booster seat

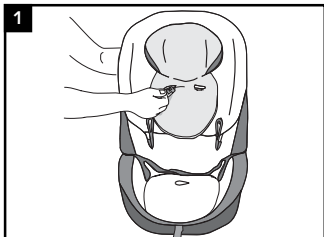
### Stage 3



**IMPORTANT** - You **MUST ONLY** use the Trio as a booster seat for a child weighing from 15kg to 36kg.

The Trio **MUST** only be installed using a lap and diagonal seat-belt routed as shown in the following instructions.

## Removing the Backrest



Place the Trio on the floor.

Remove the comfort pad from the red locking clip. Pass the red locking clip through the shoulder slots in the cover and headrest.



Gently unfasten the booster cover from the backrest.

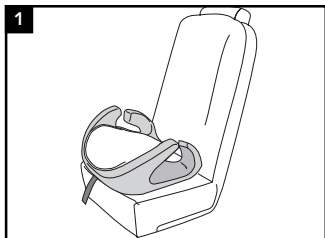
Pull the backrest firmly up and off the booster. Refit the cover studs into the holes in the top of the booster arms.

Store the backrest in a safe place.

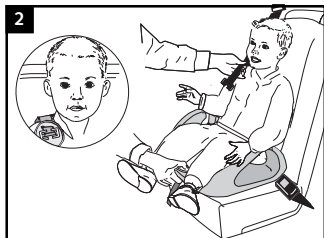
## Refitting the backrest

To refit the backrest simply reverse the above process.

## Fitting your child on the booster seat



Place the Trio forward facing in your car, ensuring it is pushed firmly into the car seat and sit your child on the seat.



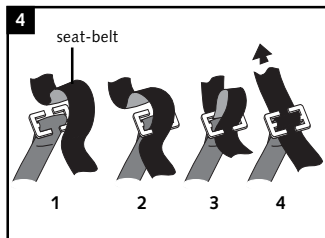
Press the adjuster button in and pull the locking clip forward to adjust the length of the strap.

Fasten the seat-belt across your child and the seat. Make sure the seat-belt is not twisted and the lap section passes under the arms of the booster seat on both sides.

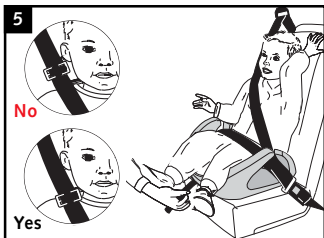


Keep the seat-belt tight across your child, holding on to the seat-belt at the position where it crosses your child's shoulder.

Now, pull the seat-belt forward away from your child, keeping hold of the seat-belt at the position where it crossed your child's shoulder as this is where the locking clip must be attached to the seat-belt.



Fasten the locking clip to the diagonal section of the seat-belt.



Pull the adjuster strap to remove any slack from the locking clip. Your child should now be secure.

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## Releasing your child from the Trio

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To release your child simply undo the seat-belt.

The red clip can be left attached to the diagonal section of the seat-belt, but always make sure that the height of the clip is correctly adjusted to the height of your child's shoulder.

**IMPORTANT - DO NOT** leave your child seat loose. Always fasten the seat-belt across the Trio when it is not being used by your child to prevent the seat being hurled forward in the event of an accident.

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## Returning your Trio to Stage 1

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- Undo the cover studs in the arms of the booster seat
- Refit the backrest by pushing firmly down and reattaching the cover studs to the holes in the backrest (see page 13)
- Remove the strap with the red locking clip from the yoke and clip it into the storage space moulded into the back of the seat (see page 11)
- Ease the harness buckle up through the booster seat cushion and reattach the comfort pad (see page 10)
- Lay the harness onto the seat with the metal harness tabs by the holes in the booster seat and the harness loops towards the headrest, fasten the harness tongues into the buckle
- Push the metal tabs through the booster cover and then through the slots in the booster seat. Link the right hand and left hand harness tabs together under the seat by sliding the small tab through the large tab and locking the connected tabs into the space provided under the booster seat (see page 10)

- Push the webbing attached to each chest pad through the corresponding headrest slot and attach it to the headrest attachment arms (see page 10)
- Push the webbing from the shoulder strap through the chest pad then the headrest slot and attach the end loop to the yoke (see page 10)

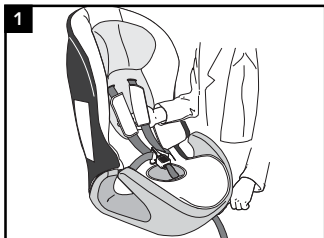


**IMPORTANT** - Make sure that,

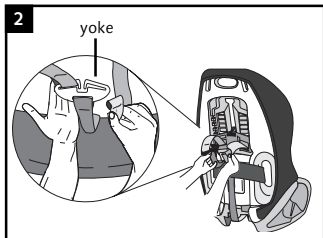
- No webbing straps are twisted
- The lap straps are properly linked together underneath the seat
- The shoulder straps are attached to the metal yoke
- The chest pad straps are attached to the headrest attachment arms
- Check the harness looks like the diagram on page 3
- To start using your Trio again follow the instructions from page 1.



Removing the Cover

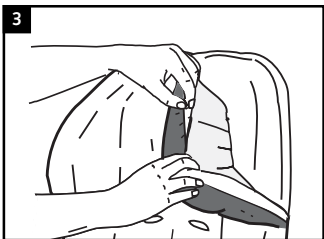


Place the Trio on the floor. With one hand under the front of the seat push the adjuster button in, and with your other hand below the chest pads, pull the shoulder straps forward as far as possible to loosen the harness.

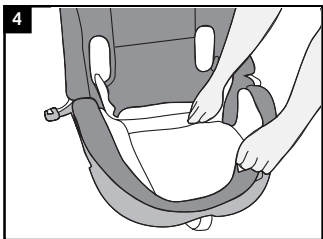


Turn the Trio round, unhook both shoulder straps from the yoke and pull them through to the front of the seat. Remove the chest pads from the headrest attachment arms pull them through to the front of the seat.

Unfasten the harness and remove the comfort pad.



Adjust the headrest to the lowest position and take the headrest cover off. Gently pull the backrest cover off from the top of the seat.



Remove the booster seat cover by gently unfastening the studs at the front and rear of the cover, easing the harness buckle through the slot in the cover.

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### Cleaning the Cover

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Please read the labels on the cover for washing instructions. The cover is machine washable.

**DO NOT** tumble dry the cover – drip dry only.

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### Cleaning the harness, chest pads and seat

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Sponge clean **ONLY** use hand soap and warm water.

**DO NOT** take apart, or attempt to take apart, any part of the harness or seat when cleaning. It is unnecessary and dangerous to do so.

**DO NOT** use solvents, detergents or washing-up liquid as these may weaken the harness and the seat.

**DO NOT** lubricate or oil any part of the seat.

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### Refitting the Cover

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Refit the cover by reversing the above instructions.

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### Replacement Cover

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The Trio, its cover, comfort pad and chest pads have been carefully designed, manufactured and tested to high safety standards.

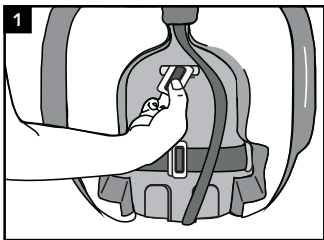


**IMPORTANT** – The cover is a safety feature. **NEVER** use the Trio without it. Don't put your child's safety at risk by using other makes of replacement cover, they could stop the Trio from protecting your child as well as it should.

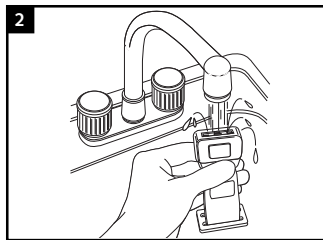
A replacement cover is available from your Britax stockist.

## Removing and cleaning the harness buckle

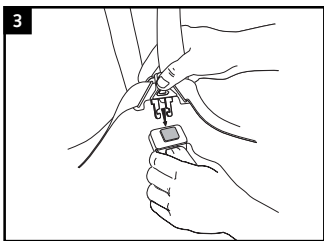
**!** **IMPORTANT** – Food and drink may find their way inside the buckle of the Trio harness. This can stop it from working properly. Follow the instructions below if you **DO NOT** hear a click when fastening the buckle.



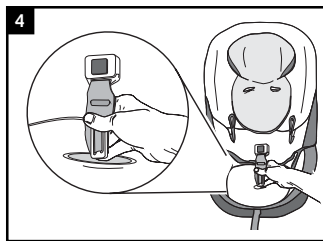
Lay the Trio on its back. With both hands under the seat shell use your fingertips to rotate the tab and push it up through the slot in the seat shell and cover.



Clean the harness buckle with mild hand soap and water. Rinse thoroughly with warm water.



Latch and unlatch the tongues into the harness buckle several times until a strong click is heard. If you still cannot hear a strong click run it under warm water to rinse it again.



To refit the harness buckle to your Trio hold the tab sideways and insert it into the slot in the seat shell. Make sure the red harness buckle button faces away from the seat.

**!** **IMPORTANT** – **NEVER** lubricate or oil any part of the harness buckle.

If the harness buckle still does not return to its original working order, contact the Britax Customer Service Helpline on 01264 386034.

## Important Information - Read before your first journey

**DO** make sure that the Trio does not become trapped by a folding passenger seat or in the door of your car.

**DO** make sure that you adjust the harness to fit the clothes your child is wearing before each journey – a fitting for winter clothes will be too slack for a child wearing summer clothes.

**DO** put the lightest passenger behind the Trio if you do not have rear seat-belts in the car. In the event of an accident they will cause less damage than a heavier person.

**DO** store the Trio in a safe place when it is not being used. Avoid placing heavy objects on top of it and do not store near direct heat sources, e.g. radiators.

**DO** always keep the Trio secure, even if it is not being used by your child.

**DO NOT** leave loose objects, such as luggage or books, in the back of your car. They must be secured, because if you have to stop your car suddenly loose objects will keep moving and can then cause serious injuries. Large and heavy loose objects are a particular risk.

**DO NOT** leave folding passenger seats unlatched. If you have to stop your car suddenly a loose seat back could injure your child.

**DO NOT** leave children alone in your car, even for a short time.

**DO NOT** allow children to play with or adjust the Trio.



Britax, whilst taking into account child car seat contact with vehicle seats throughout the development of new products, cannot accept responsibility for damage occurring to vehicle seats or seat-belts.

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## After an accident

After an accident, the Trio and your car seat-belts should be replaced. Although they may look undamaged, if you were to have another accident the Trio and your car seat-belts may not be able to protect your child as well as they should.

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## Guarantee

All Britax products are carefully designed, manufactured and tested. However, should this product prove faulty within 12 months of purchase due to a materials or manufacturing fault please return it to the original place of purchase. We will then, at our discretion, either repair it free of charge or replace it with the same or a similar product.

For guarantee purposes proof of purchase will be required. We recommend that you retain your receipt and attach it to the User Guide. They should be kept in a safe place.

Britax does not accept liability for damage arising from abuse, misuse or negligence. This guarantee is not transferable and therefore does not apply to second-hand products.

Your statutory rights are not affected by this guarantee.

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## Final Checklist

However safe a child seat is, however well built it is, your child's safety depends on you. Read through this final checklist every time you use the Trio in your vehicle.

1. Have you adjusted the height of the shoulder straps to the correct position for your child?  
*See page 4, Preparing to install the Trio in the car.*
2. Have you installed the Trio properly?  
*See page 6*  
*See page 12*  
*See page 14*
3. Have you checked the seat-belt buckle position?  
*See page 8, Correct buckle position.*
4. Have you correctly adjusted the harness to suit your child and the clothes he or she is wearing?  
*See pages 4, 5 and 9*

## If in doubt

If in doubt contact our Customer Service Helpline. It would help if you have the following information to hand before making any enquiry:

Make and model of vehicle \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Year of vehicle \_\_\_\_\_

The position of the child seat in your vehicle \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Age and weight of your child \_\_\_\_\_

**Customer Service Department**  
Britax Excelsior Limited  
1 Churchill Way West  
Andover, Hampshire SP10 3UW  
United Kingdom

**Customer Service Helpline**  
Telephone: 01264 386034  
email: [helpline@britax.co.uk](mailto:helpline@britax.co.uk)  
Internet: <http://www.britax.co.uk/>

## Point of Sale Information

### NOTICE

1. This is a "Universal" child restraint. It is approved to Regulation No. 44.03 series of amendments, for general use in vehicles and it will fit most, but not all, car seats.
2. A correct fit is likely if the vehicle manufacturer has declared in the vehicle handbook that the vehicle is capable of accepting a "Universal" child restraint for this age group.
3. This child restraint has been classified as "Universal" under more stringent conditions than those which applied to earlier designs which do not carry this notice.
4. If in doubt, consult either the child restraint manufacturer or the retailer.
5. Only suitable if the approved vehicles are fitted with 3 point/static/with retractor safety-belts, approved to UN/ECE Regulation No. 16 or other equivalent standards.

**UNIVERSAL**  
9 - 36kg Y



03.44.158



FM 22321  
ISO 9001

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