



BUCKLE UP

Kids in Cars



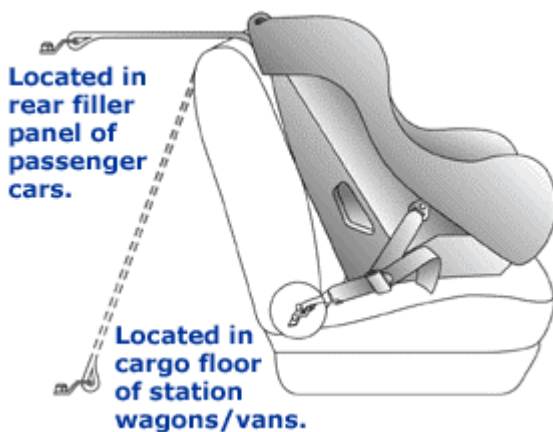
Division 4

Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children (LATCH)



The **L**ower **A**nchors and **T**ethers for **C**hildren (**LATCH**) System is designed to make installation of child safety seats easier by requiring child safety seats to be installed without using the vehicle's seat belt system. As of September 1999, all new forward facing child safety seats (not including booster seats) had to meet stricter head protection requirements, which calls for a top tether strap. This adjustable strap is attached to the back of a child safety

seat. It has a hook for securing the seat to a tether anchor found either on the rear shelf area of the vehicle or, in the case of mini-vans and station wagons, on the rear floor or the on the back of the rear seat of the vehicle. As of September 2000, all new cars, minivans, and light trucks have this tether anchor.



As of September 1, 2002, two rear seating positions of all cars, minivans and light trucks come equipped with lower child safety seat anchorage points located between a vehicle's seat cushion and seat back. All child safety seats have two attachments which will connect to the vehicle's lower anchorage attachment points.

Together, the lower anchors and upper tethers make up the **LATCH** system.