# Winter Car Seat Safety

## TIPS TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE THIS WINTER:

Bring your child to Little Spurs Pediatric Urgent Care for all of their minor illnesses and injuries! Open seven days a week, Little Spurs treats children 0-21 years old.

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**Why Does Car Seat Safety Matter in the Winter?**

The added bulk of winter clothing can prevent the car seat from fitting properly. Here are our top tips for bundling up safely this winter:

- **Clothing and Car Seat Fit**: Avoid bulky coats and snowsuits under the car seat harness. This type of clothing can flatten upon impact during an accident, causing the child to slip out of the seat due to increased looseness.
- **Layering for Safety**: Instead of bulky coats, opt for layered clothing that can be adjusted according to the temperature. Layering allows flexibility in dressing your child for their car ride.
- **Harness Check**: Regularly check and adjust the harness straps to ensure a snug and secure fit. Straps should be comfortably tight without being too loose to maintain safety.
- **Blankets Over Straps**: Keep a blanket in the car to add warmth without compromising safety. Remember, blankets should always be placed over the harness, not underneath.

**Managing Car Seat Fit**

Ensure the car seat harness fits your child correctly based on their size and weight. Test clothing safety by:

- Checking if the straps require significant loosening for your child to fit. If so, the clothing might not be safe for car seat use.
- Testing the clothing by having your child wear it in the car seat, buckling them up, and performing a "pinch test" on the harness straps. If excess slack is present, tighten the straps accordingly.

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