What’s THAT?!
How to Know if a Car Seat is Legit—or Not!

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Knock-off Car Seats...

- Theft of intellectual property, patent fraud
- Noncompliant: inferior materials, missing labels, etc.
- Often, hard to distinguish from the real thing
...And Other Counterfeits

- Noncompliant: shoddy materials, missing labels
- Often sold as part of a travel system
- Must be distinguished from similar-looking models

Looks like a Graco, but no labels. Image KTVB.

A problem for school bus, too!
Imposters

- Noncompliant: These don’t meet FMVSS 213 definition of a car seat; clearly inferior materials, features
- Wide array of types
- Clearly odd, but must be distinguished from legitimate new innovations

This “portable child seat” is now widely available online for around $25.
Decoys

- Do not claim to be compliant
- However, imply use is appropriate for small children
- Must be distinguished from a true CR that would be properly protective and meet state law.

Just two of many available online in U.S. for < $15.
Foreign Car Seats

- Noncompliant in U.S., but compliant to a different standard.

- Must distinguish from a CR that meets FMVSS 213; note labels and other hallmarks of CRs from other countries.

- Caregiver may wrongly believe a foreign CR is safer.

Available on Amazon through third-party seller.
Car-Seat Related Fakes

- Also watch out for things like:
  - LATCH part retrofits: CR and vehicle
  - Seat belt accessories
  - After-market vehicle seating

Multiple versions of this LATCH vehicle retrofit kit are being sold online!
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