

A rear facing, Group 1-2 car seat, for a Mazda Bongo



We had been searching for a Group 1-2 rear facing car seat (that could be used up to the age of 4). There are plenty of rear-facing seats available that fit most vehicles, but few that fit the Mazda Bongo.

We went to the experts from Mothercare in Plymouth, who did their best to find one to fit. But all the seats they stocked had 'buckle crunch' and they advised against them, saying they weren't safe. We considered the Kiddy Guardian Pro, but this is front facing. *The latest guidelines recommend that rear facing seats are safest.*

After months of trying numerous seats in the Bongo, we finally found the Axkid Minikid car seat. It remains rear facing until the child is around 4 (9 – 25 kg).

I checked the installation procedure, which was straightforward. It was held to the Bongo's front facing middle seat, using the 3-point seatbelt and the seats own auxiliary belts. These belts anchor to the front seat base, and a neat support bar in the footwell. I'm not aware of any model Bongo that doesn't have these fixing points as standard. (If your Bongo seat has been turned to rear facing, the Axkid seat would not attach in the same way.)

The company who supplied the child's seat were 'Mama Chic' and were right on our doorstep in Plymouth, Devon! We hadn't heard of this small family business before. They said they'll supply and fit the seat locally, by appointment. You can also order from their website and they'll post to you. They told me that if you tell them the order is for a Bongo, they'll supply additional instructions, on how to fit it in a Bongo. It's available from other companies, but we were happy to support this small family business.