



FIG 11-10 **A**, Locking clip used with free-sliding lap or shoulder belt to keep the belt in a tight-holding position. **B**, Automobile booster seat. Note placement of the shoulder strap (away from the neck and face).

Booster seats are not restraint systems like the convertible devices, because they depend on the vehicle belts to hold the child and booster seat in place. Three booster models have been approved by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: the high-back belt-positioning seat (see [Fig. 11-10, B](#)), which provides head and neck support for the child riding in a vehicle seat without a head rest; the no-back belt-positioning seat, which should be used only if the vehicle seat has a head rest; and a combination seat, which converts from a forward-facing toddler seat to a booster seat. This last model is equipped with a harness for use by toddlers; the harness may be removed and a shoulder-lap belt used when the child outgrows the harness. The belt-positioning booster seats are used for children who are less than 145 cm (4 feet, 9 inches) tall and who weigh 15.9 kg to 36.3 kg (35 to 80 pounds, depending on the type of booster seat). In general, school-aged children should ride in a belt-positioning booster seat until approximately 7 to 8 years old. Note, however, that because children's sizes vary considerably, manufacturer's recommendations should be followed regarding height and weight limitations. A booster seat should be used until the child is able to sit against the back of the seat with feet hanging down and legs bent at the knees. The belt-positioning booster model raises a child higher in the seat, moving the shoulder part of the belt off the neck and the lap portion of the belt off the abdomen onto the pelvis.