

Blame the cell phone again. Statistics prove talking or texting on the cell phone while driving increases your risk of accident.

The American Automobile Association is pushing for legislators to ban texting while driving nationwide in the next three years; twenty states have already banned texting while driving.

➤ Statistics

- Talking on the cell phone increases your **chance of crashing by 4 times.**
- Texting increases the **chance of crashing by 23 times.**
- 4 out of every 5 accidents are attributed to distracted drivers.
- Of all cell phone related tasks – including talking, dialing, or reaching for the phone – **texting while driving is the most dangerous.**
- **Teen drivers are four times more likely than adults to be involved in collisions** that are directly related to talking on a cell phone or texting.

➤ Applications are now available to block calls and texting while driving.

- All applications allow you to dial 911, and let you set up certain phone numbers in advance that work even when everything else is blocked.
  1. **TXTBLOCKER** – This application prevents texting, calling, e-mailing or Web surfing when the phone is in motion. It also lets you pinpoint the phone's location on a map online, so you are able to track your child's comings and goings along with speed monitoring.
  2. **CELLSAFETY** - This application blocks everything bad – text, e-mail, Web, chat, Facebook – except actual phone calls when the phone is in motion. It also offers location tracking and speed monitoring.
  3. **IZUP** – This application turns your phone into a brick once you are in motion. You do not have access to a single feature (except a single designated app, intended to be your GPS navigation program)
  4. **ZOOMSAFER** – When this application kicks in, the phone will make a little sound. This option allows you to specify all kinds of options. You can permit or block incoming calls, permit or block numbers that you dial by voice, permit a passenger to open a timed interval of phone freedom or set up an automatic reply to unanswered texts and e-mail messages.

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