



auto|correct

**Correct the behavior. Don't text and drive.**

More than 3,000 teens die each year from texting while they are driving. Visit [www.ny1aap.org](http://www.ny1aap.org) to join the pledge and correct the statistic.

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## Car crashes account for nearly half of teenage death in America

There are multiple factors that contribute to car crashes involving teenage drivers: inexperience, driving too fast and distracted driving. Distracted driving is any activity that takes a person's attention from driving—this puts the driver, passengers and by-standers at risk. There are many causes of distracted driving, like eating and drinking, talking, adjusting the radio and texting while you drive.

## For your own good

Sending or receiving a text takes the drivers eyes off the road for 4.6 seconds. That is the equivalent of driving the length of a football field at 55 mph, **blind**. Texting requires you to look away from the road, it requires you to use your hands which takes one off the wheel and takes concentration to think about what was sent and what you will respond. All this while you are driving a car.

## What can you do to be a safe driver?

- Wear your seatbelt
- Take the pledge—Read and discuss it with your parents
- Stay off the phone—turn it to silent or off while you drive
- Obey the speed limits

## Know the law

In NYS you can not use a hand held mobile phone or send a text while you drive. Conviction of cell phone use or texting violation results in points added to your DMV record and are subject to a fine up to \$150. Texting violations carry up to 5 points to your license (11 points may result in a suspended license). For probationary and junior drivers or a learner permit the first conviction of cell phone use or texting results in suspension of the license or permit for 60 days. These laws still apply to making a phone call or text while the car is stopped due to traffic or a red light.

## If you use your cellphone while driving



**50%** of teens admit to texting while they drive.

**25%** of those teens don't think it makes a difference.

**100%** are at risk of a texting-related car accident.

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