

# FOCUSED DRIVING IS SAFE DRIVING



Here is how you can help: Put away your phone if you are going to drive, and help others do the same.

## AS A PASSENGER:

### Speak up

If you're driving with someone who is distracted, ask them (politely) to put away their phone. It might feel a little uncomfortable at first, but it's important. Here's how to do it:

- 1. Show them you care:** be clear that your driver's safety is important to you.
- 2. Stay calm:** be clear and direct, without getting angry or agitated.
- 3. Be confident:** acknowledge the dangers of distracted driving directly.

### Example:

“

Can I send that text for you or help find a spot to pull over? Distracted driving is really dangerous and I want to make sure we stay safe.

”

# WASHINGTON'S DISTRACTED DRIVING LAW



## NO hand-held cell phone use while driving

- Even when stopped in traffic or at a traffic light
- No typing messages or accessing information
- No watching videos or using cameras



## You CAN use your device if you are:

- Hands free (such as using Bluetooth) and can start use by a single touch or swipe without holding the phone
- Parked or out-of-the-flow of traffic
- Starting your GPS or music before you drive
- Contacting emergency services

**IT IS AGAINST THE LAW** for Washington drivers to use hand-held cell phones while they are driving. This includes all electronic devices, including phones, tablets, laptops and video games.



## Penalties for distracted driving

- A first ticket for driving distracted (E-DUI) costs **\$136**
- Fines for repeat offenses are **\$234**
- These citations will be reported to your insurance company
- There is also a Dangerously Distracted secondary law that allows law enforcement to give an additional **\$99** citation if you are pulled over for another traffic violation caused by distraction



## Related laws

- RCW 46.61.672 - Using a personal electronic device while driving
- RCW 46.61.673 - Dangerously distracted driving
- RCW 46.20.055(3)b - Instruction permit
- RCW 46.20.075(4) - Intermediate driver license holders