



CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY



We're all in it together.

## About

"Go Safely, California," is a resource for Californians that helps them safely get where they need to go. It also reminds us that whether you are a driver, passenger, bicyclist or pedestrian, we all have places to go, and making sure we all arrive there safely should be our top priority.

Visit Us

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Get Social

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Go Safely, California is a public awareness and education program through the California Office of Traffic Safety.

## How Can I Help?

The traffic safety information included in this brochure is meant to make you more mindful when you go, no matter how you get there. We hope you will find this information useful, share it with your friends and family and keep it handy the next time you are traveling to and from your destination. The more we know, the safer we are. **Go Safely, California!**



## Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety



Walking and biking are healthy and enjoyable activities. However, these activities are also becoming increasingly dangerous. We believe life gets better and safer when we are all connected to the world around us. So, the next time you make the choice to go out on foot or on your bike, look up. Enjoy the view and make a little eye contact with the world around you. Here's what else you can do to stay safe out there:

### > Pedestrians

- Wear brightly colored clothes and carry a flashlight at night.
- Stay off your phone and look left-right-left before crossing a street.
- Cross streets at marked crosswalks/intersections, preferably with a stop sign or signal.

### > Bicyclists

- Go with the flow of traffic.
- Always wear a helmet.
- Use hand signals when turning or stopping.

### > Drivers

- Don't speed and never use your phone while driving.
- Look out for and yield to pedestrians. They have the right of way at any crosswalk or intersection.
- Be cautious when backing up.



## Impaired Driving



These days it can be easy to lose focus while driving. A drink with friends can turn into two and a prescription can be stronger than you think. With the recent marijuana laws in California, it's difficult to know what to do. Just remember, even the slightest impairment can hinder your ability to drive safely. It doesn't matter if your impairment is due to prescribed medications, illicit drugs, over-the-counter medications or marijuana – medical or recreational. They can all get you a DUI. The good news is that you have a lot of options these days:

- > Before drinking, choose a non-drinking friend as a designated driver.
- > Don't let your friends drive impaired.
- > If you have been drinking, call a taxi or ride service.
- > If you're hosting a party where alcohol will be served, make sure all guests leave with a sober driver.
- > Always wear your seat belt—it's your best defense against impaired drivers.



## Distracted Driving



It's easy to feel like driving isn't enough when there's so much more to do. It's normal to feel the urge to grab the phone. But we must stay focused on the road. Not only is holding your phone while driving illegal in the State of California, distracted driving is now the number one cause of roadway crashes. Join us in being part of the solution. Grab the wheel with both hands, enjoy the drive and focus on each other. Here are some ways you can prevent driving distracted:

- > Silence your phone before you get behind the wheel and keep it mounted in a legally approved location.
- > Never text and drive or use apps or social media while driving.
- > Do not eat, drink or program your GPS/MP3 player or other devices while driving.
- > If a phone call is necessary or you need to reroute your map, pull over to use those devices.
- > If something falls to the floor, pull over to a safe parking spot before trying to reach it.

