

2018

Parental Control Solutions

HOW TO KEEP CONTROL OF THE WEB AND YOUR DEVICES




DIGITAL FUTURES INITIATIVE

The web can be a scary place and luckily, there are tools to help shield your children from the dark side of the web. Disclaimer: there is no “best” solution that fits everyone. Like any control system and every family situation, they are all different in their merits. For younger children, controls from inappropriate content and apps are a must. For older children and teens, they will need some access to sites and apps that we do not recommend for young children. Many of the platforms don’t just stop at parental controls, but look to invade and trace every message, conversation and login time on every device. We do not advocate spy apps or tracking your children, especially without their knowledge as it simply creates a void of trust that may just last longer than the need to track their device. Below is a list of many of the control and tracking systems out there. Some will be better suited for your individual family needs and that is why we list many of them. In addition to these systems, make sure you have a continuous conversation with your children about this topic and create an overall plan, not just a tool approach to keeping safe and responsible on your apps and the web.

Parental Control Software – not inclusive and not in any order. Below are some of the stronger solutions on the market

<p>Norton Family Premier</p>	<p>TeenSafe</p>	<p>PhoneSheriff</p>
<p>A top award winner, this full featured, user friendly package combines solid mix of web filtering, location tracking, profile and app management \$49.99 / Year https://family.norton.com</p>	<p>Popular phone tracking solution. Single focus of mobile device software (no computers). View Text messages, GPS, browser history, apps and more \$14.95/month www.teensafe.com</p>	<p>This system goes beyond allowing you to set limits on phone usage time. You can determine who they can or can't communicate with, block websites or apps and view activities performed. \$89 / Year www.phonesheriff.com</p>

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<p>ESET</p>	<p>Qustodio</p>	<p>Lock2Learn</p>
<p>ESET Parental Control lets you help them navigate online, manage what apps and websites they use, and decide – together – what’s good for them. It also lets you see where your children are, and send messages directly to their device screens. \$29.99 / Year – Android only 3 devices - \$80 / year https://www.eset.com/us/home</p>	<p>Well rated solution with all the features you would expect. This stands out for families with multiple device types (iOS, Android, Kindle, Nook, Microsoft) 1 Device/FREE, \$55 / Year for 5 devices www.qustodio.com</p>	<p>Focused on App restrictions instead of monitoring, the approach is novel (for certain families). To gain access you have to answer a couple of age appropriate questions every time. Free – Android only</p>

Additional solutions:

- **iKeyMonitor** – www.ikeymonitor.com – **\$29.99 / Month**
 full keystroke monitoring like a key logger. Complete, undetectable and works across devices. For extreme monitoring.
- **Mobicip** – www.mobicip.com - **\$39.99 / Year**
 a strong solution for the modern, multi-device family. Works on all tablets, computers and all phones. Does especially well with filtering Youtube.
- **Net Nanny** – www.netnanny.com - **\$59.99 / Year / up to 5 devices**
 covering PCs and devices, Net Nanny is a solid platform that blocks, filters, monitors and protects.
- **Onward** – www.onward.org - **Free Version / Paid range \$10-\$90 /month**
 Overuse behavior is real. Achieve tech-life balance by understanding your use of technology throughout the day and get a recommended plan to curb unwanted behaviors.

- **SecureTeen** – www.secureteen.com -
Apple devices are FREE; Android devices and Microsoft computers are \$39.99 / Year up to 3 devices
monitor across iOS, Android devices and Microsoft computers (no Apple computer support).
- **SUPOTCO** – www.supot.co - **\$45.60 / Year / Device**
for Android devices only. Strong application focused on child protection. Simple, effective -
- **Teenshield** – www.teenshield.com - **\$13.32 / Month / Device**
monitor your child’s texts, calls, photos, location and more on their devices.
- **Kidslox** – <https://Kidslox.com> - **FREE**
Parental controls and screentime management across all mobile devices (not computers). Not as full featured, but – it’s FREE
- **Kid Tracker** – kidtracker.eu – **~\$15 / Year**
based in Poland and built for iOS and Android devices, this app will track your child’s whereabouts very effectively and inexpensively.

Social / Tech Platforms

- **Facebook** - <https://www.facebook.com/safety/parents/gettoknow>
- **Apple Parental Locks**- <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT201304>
Apple devices only. Apple’s parental locks, allow the parent to control use of selected apps, downloads, and prevention of access to explicit content. free
- **Google Family Link**- <https://families.google.com/familylink/>
Android only. Manage apps, keep an eye on screen time, and set a bedtime for your child's device. free



Wireless Carriers

- **Verizon Family Base** - <https://www.verizonwireless.com/solutions-and-services/family-base/>
Verizon users only. Family Base helps you find the right balance between device time and family time. Establish time and data controls, and whether your kids are on Wi-Fi or using your data, you can block apps and set content filters. FREE
- **AT&T Smart Limits**- <https://www.att.com/shop/wireless/smartlimits.html> - \$10/month for up to ten lines. AT&T customers only. With Smart Limits Block cellular data usage, set text and purchase limits, block numbers, and limit phone time during certain times of the day.
- **Sprint Parental Controls**- https://shop2.sprint.com/en/services/safety_security/parental_control.shtml - FREE - Sprint customers only. With Sprint Parental Controls restrict numbers, digital media downloads, voice calls, and camera use.
- **T-Mobile Family Allowances**- <https://support.t-mobile.com/docs/DOC-1725#secondheading> - T-Mobile customers only. Family Allowances allows the parents to control time spent on phone, messages, downloads, and numbers to block.

Distracted Driving Software

Whether a seasoned driving veteran or new to the wheel, being distracted while driving puts you at a highly increased risk for an accident. It doesn't matter if you are going slow or fast, taking your eyes off the road, even for as little as 2 seconds, can be fatal. These apps are designed to tackle the safety around driving with your devices. They all take different approaches to keeping your eyes on the road, you need to pick the solution that best suits your needs. Here are some of the better or more popular ones available.

LifeSaver

FREE

The free app that auto detects driving and blocks phone use behind the wheel. Has a parent portal along with a driver app. Some of the strongest features available in any app – and this one is FREE.

Drivemode

Download is free, small fees for in-app purchases

No look interface and easy to use features are the pillars of this highly rated, next gen App. Currently developing gesture based interface. Available on Android phones only.

Drivesafe.ly

Free standard package; ProPackage is \$13.95 / Year / Single User; \$34.95 / Year / up to 4 devices

The strongest in text-to-speech development. Reads text aloud, Hands free mode, blue tooth/radio compatible, reads text short hand: LOL, BRB.

Cellcontrol DriveID

\$129 up front. No monthly or any additional costs

Apps are only as good as the phone and user. Cellcontrol is a complete solution - uses a small piece of hardware mounted just below the rearview mirror and not only block apps, calls and surfing – but also serves as a driver tracker monitoring acceleration, braking, turning, etc and presented in a post-drive map. Make your teen more responsible and a better driver.

Navdy

\$500 one-time or financing available at \$33 / month

it's the coolest of all the solutions and the most expensive. A new heads-up display hardware puts all of your content (maps, texts, calls, music, etc) in your line of site on the road. It has gestures built-in, toggles to customize the experience and a whole lot of combined technology to keep you focused on the road ahead.



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Drive Safe Mode

FREE

Small company with growing pains. App is free but comes with advertisements. They collect a lot of information and sell to 3rd parties. Of all the reviews - half say it works well, half are unhappy with it. Then again, it's "free"

Live2txt

\$1.99 in the app store

A self-enforced app. You get in your car and have to activate the service every time. The app blocks text and calls while driving, the app will notify sender you are unable to respond at the moment with customized message. \$1.99 in the app store

Drive Beehive

App is FREE

Takes a gaming approach to the App. Supported by Parents Against Distracted Driving, it senses when you are driving and lets you earn "miles" when you don't use your phone. Use it and it resets to 0, earn your reward and it could be anything that you pair your app to (local business rewards, parent rewards, etc.)

tXtBlocker

\$7 / Month, first 30 days free

Rated as the best anti-texting app on the market in 2011, it creates a solid cell-free zone when driving that teens can't hack. Also has online reports and a phone locator.

SafeDrive

FREE app

Makes staying off your phone fun. Activates over 6 MPH and puts your phone into safe mode. Kids can bypass but you lose your points and parents will know. Points get you discounts at local gas stations, etc.

AT&T DriveMode

FREE app

Activates when speed reaches 15 MPH and deactivates when you are below 15 MPH for more than 3 minutes.

Sprint Drive First

FREE app

Only for Sprint customers. Activates at 10 MPH, then pushes calls to voicemail and silences alerts for texts and emails. Allows you to override the app anytime by opting out.