

Drive
SAFE

HANDS-FREE MYTHS AND FACTS FOR DRIVERS UNDER 18

Can I use my phone?

- ▶ **No.**
- Not hands-free.
- Not hand-held.



Can I video chat, FaceTime, watch YouTube, or play a game?

- ▶ **No.** Your phone is a wireless communication device. It is illegal for all drivers to compose or read text messages and emails or access the internet using a wireless device while the vehicle is in motion or a part of traffic — this includes while at a stoplight or stop sign.

Can I text hands-free?

- ▶ **No.** It is illegal for drivers under age 18 to use a cell phone, whether hand-held or hands-free.

What if I'm at a stoplight?

- ▶ **No.** Stoplights and stop signs are part of traffic.

Can I use my phone as a GPS?

- ▶ **Yes, in a hands-free or voice-activated mode only.**
- You can't be typing an address while driving.
- Hands-free means you can't hold it.
- If you need to see your GPS map, mount it to your dashboard.

Can I listen to music or podcasts on my phone?

- ▶ **Yes, in a hands-free or voice-activated mode.** Absolutely no scrolling through playlists or channels.

How can I listen to music on my phone?

- Through your car's Bluetooth system.
- Via an aux cable through your speakers.
- One earbud (two is illegal).

Can I answer my phone or text if it is from my parents?

- ▶ **No.** It doesn't matter who is on the other line.

What if there is an emergency – can I use my phone?

- ▶ **Yes, ONLY to obtain emergency assistance, if there is an immediate threat to life and safety.** You can use the phone in either a hand held or hands free mode to get help.



MINNESOTA SAFETY COUNCIL

Chapter of the National Safety Council

minnesotasafetycouncil.org/traffic/handsfree