

Satellite navigation: a guide to a safer journey

Navigate your way through sat nav safety

Long gone are the days we used printed maps to help us reach our destination. Satellite navigation is now a feature used by most of us daily; so much, that it's even part of the UK driving test.

That's why we've put together these top tips to help you stay safe on the road while using a sat nav.

Find the perfect spot for your sat nav

Place your sat nav where you can easily look at it, without obstructing your view. If possible, avoid having it on your windscreen to comply with the Highway Code

Don't use the equipment while driving

Set up your route and destination before starting your journey and, if needed, stop somewhere safe to re-programme it or simply change direction and let it recalculate your route

Sat nav's aren't always right

Stay alert to what's happening on the road and around you while you're driving. Use a printed map for additional guidance if necessary.

Consider your choices

Taking the 'fastest route' is usually better as the 'shortest route' can take you off the main roads

Keep the sound on

Voice instructions are less distracting than having to constantly look at the screen

Update your maps

By doing this, you'll increase the chances of reaching your destination without getting lost

Safely store your equipment

Don't leave your sat nav in the car if it's not fitted to the vehicle as it can be tempting for thieves



If you're using your phone as a sat nav:



- Turn off your notifications while driving so you won't get distracted and tempted to look at them
- Make sure you have hands-free access to your phone and don't need to hold it
- Set your destination and pick your route before getting on the road
- Place your phone in a dashboard holder and don't touch it – use voice commands for any route changes; if you can't do that, make a quick stop somewhere safe to use your phone
- Remember – you can get six penalty points and a fine of £200 if you use a hand-held phone while driving, even if it's for navigation

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