Safety with Uber

Uber is a smartphone app that gets people from A to B at the push of a button. New technology has enabled Uber to build safety into our service from beginning to end: before a passenger even gets into the car, throughout the journey and after they have reached their destination.

24/7 door-to-door service, available 365-days a year
- With Uber, there’s no need for people to walk around late at night to find a parked car, search for a taxi or the nearest bus stop. The car comes directly to passengers within minutes, wherever they are in the city.
- Uber helps to reduce drunk driving by providing a reliable, affordable way to get home at night when public transport may be limited. In California, drunk driving related deaths have fallen by 5% since Uber started.

Know your driver and their car
- When passengers request a ride with Uber, they see their driver’s name, photo and average rating, as well as the licence plate number and make of the vehicle.
- As a result passengers are able to clearly identify the right car before getting in.
- Drivers who use the Uber app undergo a thorough screening process to ensure they are fit to drive passengers around the city.

You’re on the map the entire journey
- All Uber rides are GPS-tracked from start to finish. Drivers and passengers know that there is a record of the journey should something happen. This creates accountability, which is lacking in many other forms of transportation, such as the bus, metro or a traditional taxi.
- Passengers can see their route, and the location of their car, in the app throughout the journey. This means they can see that their driver is headed the right way.
- Passengers can share the details of each individual trip in real time, including their route and estimated arrival time, with family or friends.

Two-way accountability
- Passengers and drivers rate each other after every ride. They can also easily provide feedback via our app. Our safety team reviews this information and suspends rider/driver accounts when anything dangerous or inappropriate is reported. Unsafe drivers or riders are removed permanently from the platform.
- If something happens during a ride, whether it’s a traffic accident or a lost purse in a car, our customer support team is ready to help 24/7.
- Uber has the records—route taken, length of journey, driver and rider information—which it can share with law enforcement if necessary. A law enforcement response team is also on call to work with police 24/7.
- We believe that technology can help ensure safety in new ways, including on the road. While a driver is online, we use GPS, accelerometer and gyroscope information from the smartphone to help improve driving behavior. For example, we can inform drivers about indicators of harsh braking, hard acceleration, and speeding as well as send them reminders about the importance of mounting their phone to the dashboard.
**Driver screenings**  
Before a person is allowed to drive with Uber in the United States, we complete a screening process that requires an applicant’s full name, date of birth, social security number, driver’s license number, a copy of his or her driver’s license, vehicle registration, vehicle insurance, and a valid bank account.

To run the screenings, we work with Checkr, a third party background check provider accredited by the National Association of Professional Background Screeners. Checkr runs a social security trace to identify addresses associated with the potential driver, and then checks the potential driver’s driving and criminal history in a series of national, state and local databases. These include the US Department of Justice National Sex Offender Public Website, the PACER database, and several databases used to flag suspected terrorists.

Upon identifying a potential criminal record, Checkr sends an individual to review the record in-person at the relevant courthouse or, if possible, pulls the record electronically. These screenings use information that is maintained by national, state and county level authorities, whose processes may vary by jurisdiction. By verifying potential criminal records at the source—the courthouse records—we can help ensure that we are checking the most up-to-date records available.

The purpose of these screenings is to identify offenses and other information that may disqualify potential drivers from using Uber. Our disqualification criteria may vary by jurisdiction according to local laws, and includes major and minor driving violations such as DUI and speeding, as well as convictions for violent, sexual, and driving-related crimes.