

## 1. mSpy

mSpy is the top used cell phone tracking app worldwide, according to TopTrackingApps. Its main selling point is that you can monitor multiple things with it — who they call, what they text, which apps they use, the number of contacts, GPS location, etc. And according to SpyParent's founder Sedgrid Lewis, "it works." While the field of spying apps isn't limited, simplicity of use and reliability are factors to be considered. The average American teen spends up to seven hours a day in contact with others on electronic devices, and a recent survey by online security firm AVG found that by the time they are 16, one in three has regretted something they did online.

## 2. The Spy Bubble

The Spy Bubble is another jack-of-all-spying-trades, also suitable for monitoring the phone of your suspected cheating spouse. Its site does offer some cautionary, if frightening, state-of-the-world information you might find useful. We are still reeling from this one about online photos and Photoshop: "Never let your kids share their photos online on an open forum. Why? They will ask. Everyone does that. Yes, everyone does that and about *eight percent* of those experience harassment due to photoshop effects on their photos. The worst bullying of this sort is seen by the girls, especially because female reputation is one of the most fragile things in the world."

## 3. The Phone Sheriff

One nice feature of the Phone Sheriff is that it allows you to set time limits on your teen's device. Want "OK, you can play with your phone for an hour" to really mean just 60 minutes? This app will shut down and lock the phone when you tell it to.

## 4. Mobicip

Mobicip isn't so much a tracker app as one that restores a bit of control over your teen's online life. The middle school level blocks online shopping, gambling, dating, liquor, and chat sites. The high school level blocks content that is adult, sexual, or involves weapons and violence. Good luck with your kid not using a friend's phone.

## 5. MamaBear

For parents of new drivers and parents of teens with friends who have had their licenses for 20 minutes, MamaBear will let you know the speed of the vehicle your teen is traveling in. Just don't text them to slow down, OK?

6. • **Bsecure™ Family Protection** is an award-winning filtering and online security solution endorsed by more Christian organizations than any other. Choose flexible options on reporting, when the Internet can be accessed, what websites are visited,

which social networking sites are allowed, filter and monitor IM conversations, and more. [www.bsecure.com](http://www.bsecure.com)

### **7. Covenant Eyes® Accountability and Filtering**

Provides internet accountability services with easy-to-read reports and filtering that allows you to block offensive websites and control how and when the Internet is used. This service will also monitor the websites visited and email reports to accountability partners you choose. [www.covenanteyes.com](http://www.covenanteyes.com)

### **8. Safe Eyes® Internet Parental Control**

This software filters objectionable material including social networking, IM, email, and websites, while allowing you to receive immediate alerts if questionable activity occurs. [www.internetsafety.com](http://www.internetsafety.com)

### **9. Net Nanny**

Allows you to control your kids' internet activity remotely. Not only can you choose specific websites that you want blocked on your kids' phones; you can also block types of websites, such as ones involving dating, nudity, pornography or tobacco. You can also set it so that you will get a warning if your child types in a certain keyword, such as "suicide.

### **10. SecureTeen**

It gives your kids call logs, which means you know who your kids are calling, and who's calling them. It even enables you to read your kids' text messages.

### **11. TeenSafe**

May be the most advanced of all. Not only does it track text messages and calls; it also pinpoints your child's exact GPS location instantly.