

Personal safety wearables: A helping hand in risky situations

Wearables aren't just for step counting – some could save your life

Ripple



Ripple proves to be different than most wearables because it has a team of responders across the country. This wearable is a square with a handle and looks like a miniature lock, and was first inspired by the co-founder's mother, a real estate agent who shows homes to strangers, who would ask her son to call her and check up on her (if she didn't pick up the phone, it meant she was in trouble).

From \$19.99 (not including subscription of \$10.00/month)
ripplesafety.com

Nimb



The Nimb wearable is a smart ring that tracks your location and can send an alert to friends, families and emergency services if the user feels threatened. Once activated, the ring uses your smartphone to send a distress signal to preset contacts. It can even alert Nimb community users if they are within 300 yards and have the companion app. Typically the ring is FREE with a subscription that range from \$23.95 to \$29.95 per month.

From \$249, nimb.com

InvisaWear



Boston-based company InvisaWear creates smart jewelry that can be worn around the neck and is embedded with a double-click function that sends an SOS message to loved ones and police while sharing your GPS location. The gold or silver-plated charms have a cell battery (good for a year) and circuit board that is activated with pressure detection. It saves five emergency contacts and connects with your smartphone via Bluetooth. They were created because the founder felt that carrying pepper spray around on campus wasn't enough.

\$129, invisawear.com

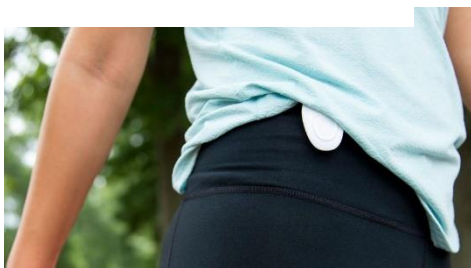
Gecko Whistle



The Geko whistle sends out an emergency sound when you're in danger. Self-described as "the world's first smart whistle," it is powered by GPS tracking and Bluetooth technology on your cell phone to alert loved ones instantly in times of need. While it isn't as discreet as some of the other wearables, you blow the mouthpiece (or alternatively, press the button for two seconds). It texts, emails and calls (for Android users) with a map of your location, which follows you minute-by-minute until the alert is deactivated by the wearer. NO Monthly Subscription.

From \$45, mygekogear.com, amazon.com

Wearsafe Tag



If caught in a tough situation where you cannot use your phone, the Wearsafe Tag is a Bluetooth device on a keychain that alerts trusted ones with your location via text message or WhatsApp. All you have to do is tap the discreet device (which looks like a garage door remote), which vibrates to notify you that an alert has been sent. It also sends a vibration every time someone in your network views your alert, to let you know help is on the way. Another thing that sets this one apart is that it's waterproof.

From \$5 a month with free tag, wearsafe.com

Options below are shown on **NAR.REALTOR** under **REALTOR® Safety** at <https://www.nar.realtor/safety/safety-resources-for-nar-members>

KATANA Safety



The KATANA Safety Arc attaches to the back of your Smart Phone and provides you with three ways to trigger an alert, regardless of the situation.

Silent Alert Button – press 3 times or hold down to send an alert.

Quick Trigger Tab – pull down tab to trigger and audible alert at 125 dbs.

Hidden Wrist Band – can be worn at any time and an audible alert is triggered if wristband detaches from ARC.

You can add up to 7 people to your Safety Circle to be contacted if you need help.

The device costs \$149.00 and the fee for the App is \$9.99/month

<https://www.katanasafety.com/real-estate-agent/>

Mace Alert 911



The Mace Brand Realtor Safety Kit consists our Triple Action Pocket Model Pepper Spray, Flash Stun Gun, and Personal Alarm Wristlet. This collection of three unique safety products provide a diverse defense against an assailant.

This company offers several different options for personal safety. You can view these at <https://www.mace.com/mace911alert>.

The REALTOR® Safety Kit is sold for \$39.99

V.ALRT



Get the freedom you want, knowing you're connected to help whenever you need it. The V.ALRT is a wearable help button that can be carried discreetly in a pocket or a bag, worn on the wrist, or around the neck as a pendant. At the press of a button you can trigger your cell phone to call help and send your GPS location. Since the V.ALRT operates through your smartphone, all of the features are available without any monthly service fees.

INCLUDES:

- V.ALRT Personal Alert Button
- Wristband and pendant/keychain
- Smartphone not included.

V.ALRT is sold for \$39.99 at <https://vsnmobil.com/products/v-alert/>

SAFETY APPS for your phone

NOONLIGHT – Safety Button for personal security

Have you ever been in a situation where a question whether it's dangerous enough to call 911? Instead of worrying yourself with indecision, use Noonlight. This App uses advanced technology to get emergency help to your exact location with just the release of a button. It can be used in moments where you simply feel unsafe, as well as moments when you need immediate emergency help.

Here's how simple it is:

1. Press and hold the button whenever you feel uneasy.
2. Release the button when you have reached your home, car or a safe destination and enter your 4 digit pin.
3. In danger? Simply release the button and do not enter your pin. Your local police will be notified of your location and emergency.

COST: Basic version is free on Apple and Android smart phones. Instant Access available on Apple phones and watches is \$5.00/month. Total Protection is \$10.00/month

SAFE SHOWINGS – An App to protect you, the homeowner and the client.

Securely Capture a Driver's License: SafeShowings requires the Real Estate Professional to capture an image of the client's Drivers License. If the Real Estate Professional does not press the end showing button all emergency contacts will be notified with the exact location, time, and authorities will have an image of the perpetrator's Drivers License.

Create an Emergency Contact List: Create your personalized list of contacts. You will be able to mark yourself safe or send your contacts an alert if you are not heard from within an allotted amount of time.

Give Your Seller Security: A client could have a criminal background and intend to return to the home at a future date and rob, kidnap or harm the family. SafeShowings deters criminal behavior by capturing an image of the client's Driver's License.

Cost: \$9.00/month or \$99/Annually. (Available on iPhone or Android)

GUARD LLAMA: Easy to use, even when your mind is racing

1. In an emergency, press the button on the device twice. The device sends a Bluetooth signal to the Guard Llama app on your phone, alerting our Emergency Dispatch Center.

2. Guard Llama sends your GPS location, photo, and medical information to the Emergency Dispatch Center. It also alerts anyone you have on your Friends & Family Contact List.

3. Police are dispatched. They have your exact location within 9 feet and know what you look like. This helps them find you quicker.

Cost: Plans vary. Currently shown as \$14.99/month.

LIFELINE RESPONSE: Proactive Safety Awareness

SMARTER THAN YOUR ATTACKER

- Need hands free protection (on a date, jogging, hands-full)? Set the app to Timer Mode and check in when you're safely home.
- Attacker notices the app and forces you to disarm? Secret Alarm Code gets you help covertly.
- Phone broken during an attack? The LifeLine System will send out the alert the moment your connection is dropped.
- Immediate Help – When triggered, your phone can also become a personal alarm system emitting an ear-piercing sound while flashing, while authorities are en route.

COST: \$4.99/month

PROTECT: Power up your safety. Alert your circle. Do your thing.

1. Power up your safety. PROtect enables you to set a timer for as long as you need safeguarding, simply set it in the app, or pre-schedule PROtection to events in your calendar. PROtect takes care of your safety while you do your thing.
2. Alert your circle. Choose which contacts PROtect will alert. You might want a colleague looking out for you when you're working solo, or your BFF alerted during your blind date. PROtect contacts your top circle to start then your second and third circle if you do not log out. Those who enter the PROtector portal become your PROtectors.
3. Do your thing — worry-free. If all is well when the timer goes off, simply cancel the alert within a 15-second window. If not, emergency mode kicks in and your PROtector(s) will automatically be alerted by text or email, with a link to your location and other info in your PROtector Portal.
4. Get help instantly. If you need aid immediately, bypass the timer by pressing the HELP button. Your Go-To circle of PROtectors are notified right away by text or email, followed by your other circles in 10-minute intervals.
5. Safety by intuition. For moments that just doesn't feel right. Feeling Edgy is a unique feature that supports your natural ability to sense danger.
6. Heads Up. It's easy to stay in touch with your PROtectors with a Heads Up. Send a message to one or more circles along with a snapshot of your current location.
7. Even more backup. Your PIN or thumbprint ensures that only YOU can end an emergency. If someone else tries to cancel your SOS, PROtect automatically takes and sends pictures of that person to a shared PROtector Portal. Your PROtectors can also see your location, battery phone life, notes and communicate with each other as your support net.

COST: Personal Plan is \$3.99/month or \$39.99/year. (1st month free). Family plans are also available.

❖ This is just a small sample of the many options available. Some were pulled from the App Store and others were shown on: <https://www.nar.realtor/safety/safety-resources-for-nar-members>. I would encourage every member to look at reviews and find an option that best suits your personal needs.

Use Emergency SOS on your iPhone

With Emergency SOS in iOS 11 or later, you can quickly and easily call for help and alert your emergency contacts.



Here's how it works

When you make a call with SOS, your iPhone automatically calls the local emergency number. In some countries and regions, you might need to choose the service that you need. For example, in China mainland you can choose police, fire, or ambulance.

You can also [add emergency contacts](#). After an emergency call ends, your iPhone alerts your emergency contacts with a text message, unless you choose to cancel. Your iPhone sends them your current location, and, for a period of time after you enter SOS mode, it sends updates to your emergency contacts when your location changes.

Call emergency services :Here's how to make the call on iPhone 8 or later:



1. Press and hold the side button and one of the Volume buttons until the Emergency SOS slider appears.
2. Drag the Emergency SOS slider to call emergency services. If you continue to hold down the side button and Volume button, instead of dragging the slider, a countdown begins and an alert sounds. If you hold down the buttons until the countdown ends, your iPhone automatically calls emergency services.

Here's how to make the call on iPhone 7 or earlier:

1. Rapidly press the side (or top) button five times. The Emergency SOS slider will appear. (In India, you only need to press the button three times, then [your iPhone automatically calls emergency services](#).)
2. Drag the Emergency SOS slider to call emergency services.

After the call ends, your iPhone sends your Emergency contacts a text message with your current location, unless you choose to cancel. If Location Services is off, it will temporarily turn on. If your location changes, your contacts will get an update, and you'll get a notification about 10 minutes later.


If you use the Emergency SOS shortcut, you need to enter your passcode to re-enable Touch ID, even if you don't complete a call to emergency services.

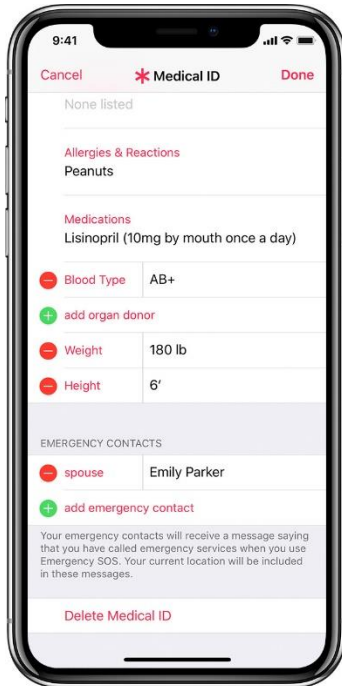
Stop sharing your location

When your location is being shared, you'll get a reminder to stop every 4 hours for 24 hours. To stop the updates, tap the status bar and select "Stop Sharing Emergency Location."

End a call


If you start the countdown by accident, you can cancel. On iPhone 8 or later, release the side button and Volume button. On iPhone 7 or earlier, press the Stop button, then tap Stop Calling.

If you accidentally call emergency services, you can end the call. Tap , then confirm that you want to stop calling.




Add or remove contacts

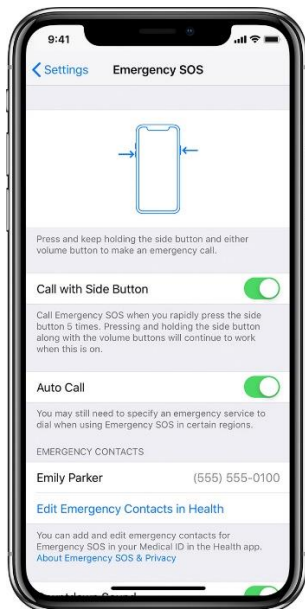
You can add emergency contacts from the Health app on your iPhone:

1. Open the Health app and tap the Medical ID tab.
2. Tap Edit, then scroll to Emergency Contacts.
3. Tap  to add an emergency contact.
4. Tap a contact, then add their relationship.
5. Tap Done to save your changes.

Here's how to remove emergency contacts:

1. Open the Health app and tap the Medical ID tab.
2. Tap Edit, then scroll to Emergency Contacts.
3. Tap  next to a contact, then tap Delete.
4. Tap Done to save your changes.

You can't set emergency services as an SOS contact



Turn off Auto Call

When Auto Call is on and you try to make an emergency call, your iPhone begins a countdown and sounds an alert. After the countdown ends, your iPhone automatically calls emergency services.

Here's how to change the setting:

1. Open the Settings app on your iPhone.
2. Tap Emergency SOS.
3. Turn Auto Call on or off.

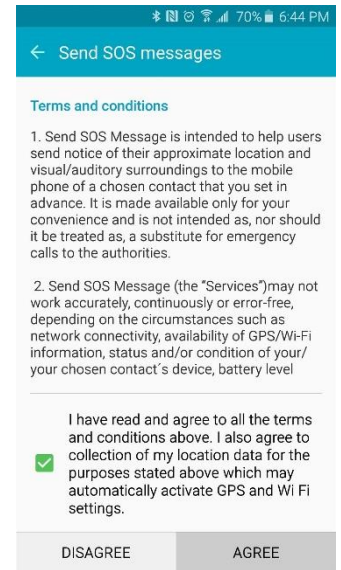
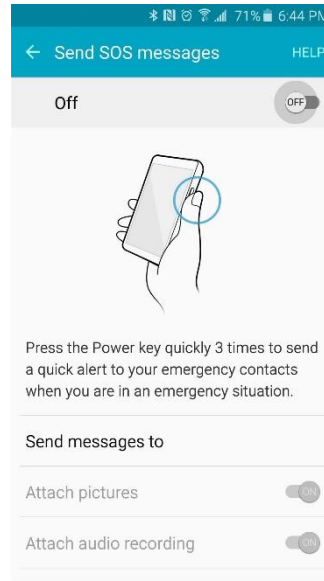
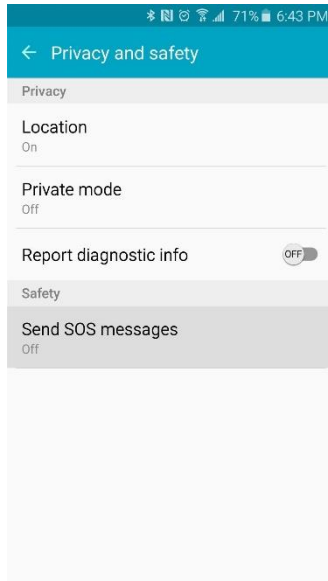
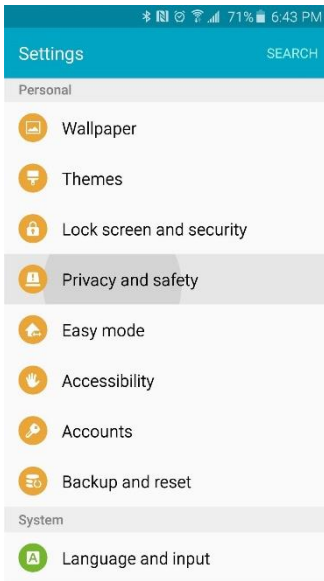
If you turn off this setting, you can still use the Emergency SOS slider to make a call.

Change how you call. On iPhone 8 or later, you can choose to call by pressing the side button five times. Here's how to change the setting:

1. Open the Settings app on your iPhone.
2. Tap Emergency SOS.
3. Turn Call with Side Button on or off. Pressing and holding the side button along with the Volume button will continue to work when this is on.

STEP 1: Enable the SOS Feature on your Android Phone

From your Galaxy's settings menu, head to the "Privacy and Safety" submenu to begin. From here, select the "Send SOS messages" entry. One newer Galaxy models, you'll find it in Settings → Advanced features → Send SOS messages.

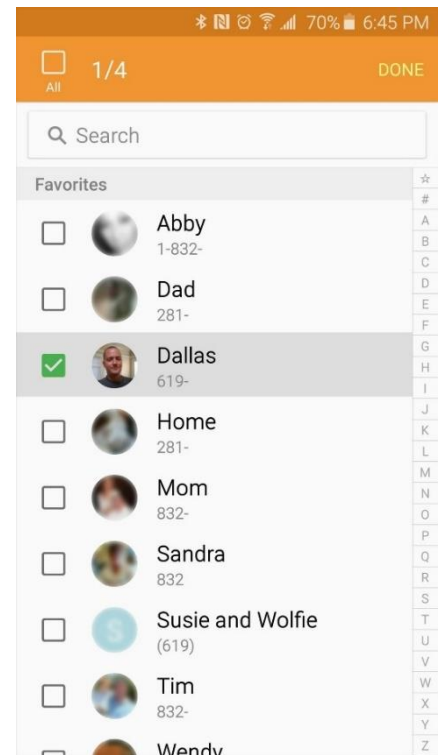
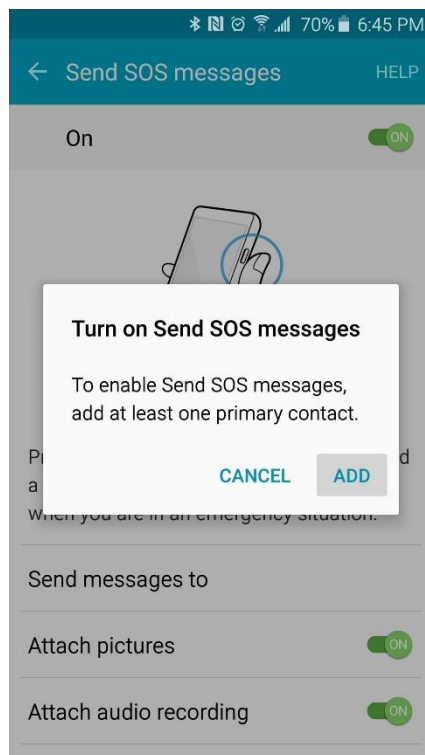


Next, toggle the switch at the top of the screen to "On," then tick the box near the bottom of the following screen and press "Agree."

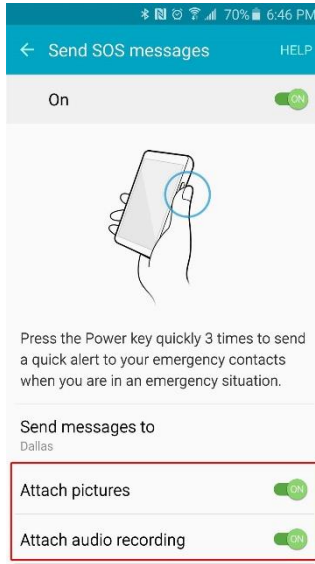
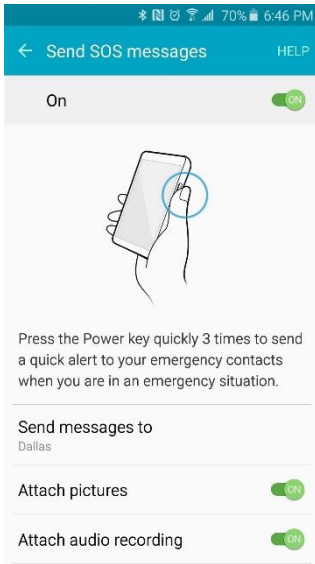
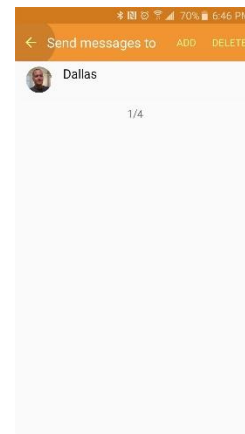
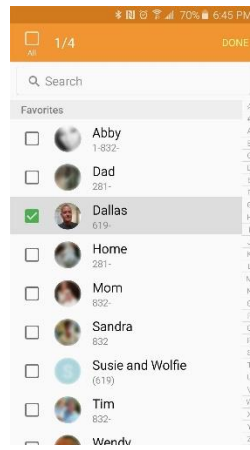
When you're finished here, tap "Done," then press the back button at the top of the screen.

STEP 2: ADD EMERGENCY CONTACTS

At this point, you'll be prompted to add at least one emergency contact who will receive your SOS messages. Tap "Add" on this popup, then select up to 4 contacts to add to your emergency list.



You will then get a chance to review the information that will be sent if you ever trigger the SOS feature. You can opt to include photos from your front and rear camera, and you can also have an audio recording sent to your emergency contacts.

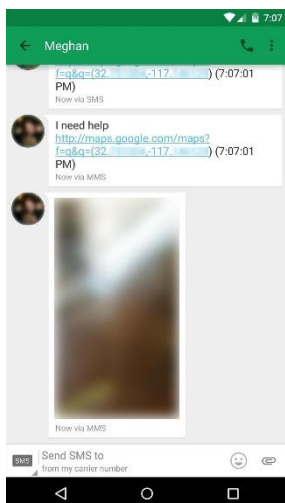
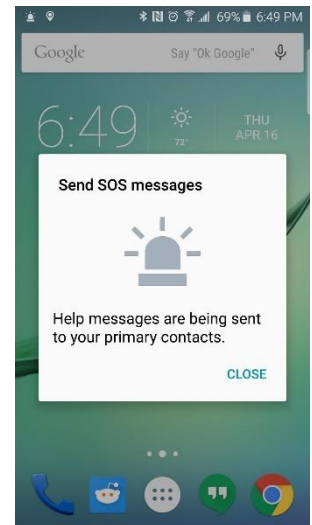
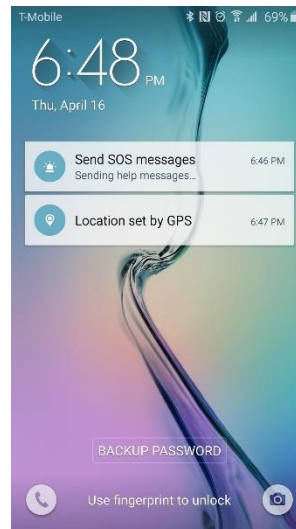


STEP 3: Using the SOS Feature

For this feature to work properly, you'll need to be using the stock Messaging app that came pre-installed on your Galaxy S6. In other words, if you've set a third-party messaging app as your default SMS client, the SOS feature will not work.

In the event of an emergency, simply tap your Galaxy's power button three times in rapid succession—it does not matter if your screen is on or off for this to work. At this point, you'll see an ongoing notification informing you that SOS mode was activated.

The SOS feature will then take pictures with your front and rear camera, and record a clip of the ambient audio. It will then attach these files to a message containing your exact location with the words "I need help," and this will be sent to all of your emergency contacts.



- (1) SOS message received by emergency contact,
- (2) Location links open in any maps app