

# Self-driving cars

The Advantages and the Disadvantages  
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# What are self driving cars?

Self driving cars can drive on their own and abide by the laws that are required in that area. It doesn't need help from humans. It is completely independent and uses artificial intelligence.



# How does artificial intelligence work in self-driving cars?

The artificial intelligence in self-driving cars uses any cameras that are in the area e.g. Google Street View. This information helps the car to drive smoothly without complications. It then completes the actions that humans do whilst driving. They are still using the same equipment that humans do e.g. steering wheel but there is complex coding and programming behind it.

# Advantage: Prevention of car crashes

Self-driving cars prevent car crashes because of their carefully programmed software. It will immediately rule out any types of mistakes caused by humans. In 2017, 37,133 accidents were because of mistakes made by humans. Most car accidents are caused because of drivers becoming distracted or drunk. Computers cannot become drunk or distracted so it will reduce the likelihood of car crashes.



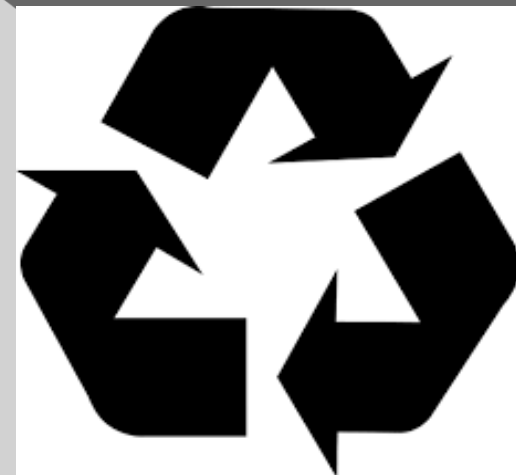
# Advantage: Traffic efficiency

Self-driving cars can communicate with each other easily. Due to this, they can choose the best route for you to reach your destination the quickest and with minimal traffic. If all cars were self-driving then traffic jams would be reduced.



# Advantage: Environmentally friendly

Self-driving cars are likely to be electric instead of manual or automatic in most cases. Therefore, it is better for the environment if the cars were travelling at a constant speed, rather than regularly accelerating and braking. This is because it lets out harmful chemicals and substances into the air.



# Disadvantage: Job losses

Many people could lose their jobs e.g. taxi drivers or bus drivers could easily be replaced. Even Uber drivers could be replaced with a self-driving car.

# Disadvantage: Excessive Cost



Although Self-Driving Cars can prove cost efficient in the long term, it is quite expensive when it come to purchasing a car itself. The average cost of a Self-Driving Car is around \$250,000 (£200,000). If technology advances it will become more and more expensive and many people cannot afford this price, let alone an even higher one.

# Disadvantage: Machine Error



Even though one of the advantages of Self-Driving Cars is fewer car crashes due to human errors, but machines can still make mistakes. Automated cars do not completely rule out the chance of car accidents; they simply help it be less likely. If the car's software malfunctions then the passenger would have no control whatsoever, putting the passenger in even more danger than if it was being driven by them.