

Two principal approaches are used for enforcement of speed limits. The traditional approach involves police officers observing traffic speeds and then chasing, stopping, and citing drivers observed speeding. A second approach involves the use of speed cameras (also known as photo radar) to record images of speeding vehicles. Information in the images is used to determine whether to send violations in the mail to vehicle owners. This Q&A describes various techniques and technology for enforcing speed limits.

- 1 [What devices and methods are used to enforce speed limits?](#)
- 2 [Are there limits to traditional enforcement?](#)
- 3 [Does radar measure speed reliably?](#)
- 4 [What are radar detectors?](#)
- 5 [Some drivers claim they use radar detectors to monitor their speeds, so why outlaw them?](#)
- 6 [Who uses radar detectors?](#)
- 7 [Are there laws banning radar detectors?](#)
- 8 [Why are radar detectors banned in large trucks?](#)
- 9 [Is banning radar detectors constitutional?](#)
- 10 [Do other countries permit the use of radar detectors?](#)
- 11 [What are radar detector-detectors?](#)
- 12 [What can lasers do that radar cannot?](#)
- 13 [How does VASCAR differ from just following a speeder or using radar?](#)
- 14 [How does aerial surveillance work? Is it effective?](#)
- 15 [What are speed cameras?](#)
- 16 [Are speed cameras widely used in the United States?](#)
- 17 [Do speed cameras reduce travel speeds?](#)
- 18 [Are speed cameras used to ticket motorists going 1 or 2 mph faster than the speed limit?](#)
- 19 [Does the public support the use of speed cameras?](#)
- 20 [How effective are speed cameras at reducing crashes?](#)
- 21 [Are there other technologies that could aid in enforcing speed limits in both urban and suburban areas?](#)

[References](#)