

## App Spotlight

### Amazon

As online shopping becomes more and more popular, one of the most commonly-used sites is Amazon. Many people have access to Amazon, either in their home – on a computer or smartphone – at work, or at an Internet kiosk. In this article, we will discuss the Amazon app and website, and the issues that users should be aware of when they use Amazon or allow their children to access it.

**Content.** There are millions and millions of products that are sold on Amazon and other shopping sites, and many of them can be very inappropriate. Even if the user doesn't purchase these items, the very ability to browse through them and see the product details can be very damaging. Unfortunately, we deal with many teenagers (and adults) who didn't have much Internet access, but were exposed to terrible things on Amazon and on similar innocent-looking apps and sites, because their parents weren't aware of these apps' capabilities.

In order to safely shop on Amazon, a proper filter is needed to block inappropriate products and key word searches, as well as inappropriate images that are prevalent on the site. Generally, websites are better filtered than apps, and with some filters, apps are not filtered at all, so the Amazon website with a proper filter is definitely the better way to go.

If one uses an Apple product and just has Apple Screen Time (a.k.a. Restrictions) without an

additional filter, Amazon will not be properly filtered at all, neither the app nor the website.

**Prime Video.** Any Amazon account with Prime Membership, comes along with Amazon Prime Video, a video-streaming service with tens of thousands of movies. This is an obvious concern for parents who have a Prime account, as the Prime Video feature is right there on the Amazon Website, enabling anyone with access to the website to watch the movies that are on Prime. This is mostly a problem for the website, as, although you can search for movies and see the results on the Amazon app, the movies and trailers can't be played on the regular Amazon shopping app, only on a separate Amazon Prime Video app.

Although this might seem to be a reason to prefer the app to the website, it is not necessary to opt for the app, as all the *frum* filters can easily block the Prime Video feature, and many of them block it by default.

Before using an Internet kiosk or your friend's computer to go shopping, make sure to inquire what sort of filter they have for shopping sites.

Please note: Although there are parental controls on Prime Video to somewhat filter the content, it is not that difficult for children to change the password.

In the coming articles, we will discuss other issues that come along with online shopping *be'H*.

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shop on Amazon, a  
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## FILTERING COMPANIES INFORMATION

### **Gentech**

718-GENTECH

gentechsolution.com

[sales@gentechsolution.com](mailto:sales@gentechsolution.com)

### **Meshimer**

718-840-3400

meshimer.com

sales@meshimer.com

### **Nativ USA**

732-719-3040

usanativ.com

[info@usanativ.com](mailto:info@usanativ.com)

### **Netfree**

718-400-8838

netfree.link

[info@netfree.link](mailto:info@netfree.link)

### **Netspark**

855-SPARK-30

netsparkmobile.com

### **Techloq**

845-237-5501

techloq.com

### **YeshivaNet**

718-YESHIVA

yeshivanet.com

info6@yeshivanet.com

# Technology Resources

**Know before you buy!** Reach out to your local TAG Center *before* purchasing devices. Not all devices can be protected.

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## **TAG LA Walk-in and Kiosk Center:**

332 N. La Brea Ave.  
Sun-Thurs evenings 8-9.30  
323-238-3601 [laoffice@tag.org](mailto:laoffice@tag.org)  
No appointment needed

## **Drop boxes for flip phone filtering:**

101 N. Poinsettia Pl. 90036  
1609 Wooster St. 90035  
Place your phone in an envelope with  
\$35 and filter specifications.  
(Not all flip phones can be TAG-ed.  
Email [laoffice@tag.org](mailto:laoffice@tag.org) for complete list)

## **Pre-TAG-ed Phones:**

**TAG LA Walk-in and Kiosk Center**  
(Basic phone)

**Kosher Cell**  
848.299.4081 | [www.Koshercell.com](http://www.Koshercell.com)  
(Basic and browser-free smart phones)

**Sunbeam Wireless** 660.474.0070  
[www.Sunbeamwireless.com](http://www.Sunbeamwireless.com)  
(Basic phone)

**Safe Telecom**  
[www.Thekosheros.net](http://www.Thekosheros.net)  
(Browser-free smart phone)