User Guide: Ruff — Campus Safety App (Android)

This guide walks you through installing Ruff from a GitHub APK and using its key safety features: journeys, companions (friends/AI), auto SOS and reporting.

Ruff App Setup

1. Download & Install from GitHub (APK)

i. Open your browser and go to the project's GitHub page ® **Releases**.

ii. Download the latest file ending with **.apk** (e.g., *ruff-v1.0.0.apk*).

iii. When prompted, allow the browser (e.g., Chrome) to download this file.

iv. Open the downloaded APK from the notification or your *Downloads* app.

> ***First time APK install (allow unknown apps):***
>
> • When Android blocks the install, tap **Settings -> Allow from this source** for your browser (e.g., Chrome).
>
> • Return to the installer and tap **Install**.
>
> • If you see *App not installed*, remove any old Ruff builds first, then retry.

2. First Launch & Onboarding

i. Sign in (campus email)

ii. Grant requested permissions when prompted (Location, Camera, Microphone, Notifications).

iii. Set up **Trusted Circles** (Family, Flatmates, Coursemates) to see status.

Homepage Overview

• **Start Now Button**: Primary action to begin a journey — sets location/destination and opens the live safety call room

• **Quick Access Menu (Icons Row):** direct to other pages

• **Journey Cards**: Shows ongoing journeys of friends. A "Join" button to enter their live call room and accompany them virtually.

• **Tabs**:

    i.   *Chat* for messages

    ii.   *History* for past journeys

          (🟡 **Two faces** = with friends; 🔵 **Single face** = solo or AI Buddy)

Page Overview: Status, AI Buddy, Report

• **Status**: Share or view ongoing journeys of friends. Allows posting of updates (photo, location, visibility) when on a journey.

• **AI Buddy:** Choose between Silent, Chatty, or Caring mode to have the AI join your journey call for company

• **Report**: File structured incident reports (with photos, video, anonymity)

Video Call Room & Safety Controls

• **Map & ETA**: real time route sharing (with friends/security if SOS is active).
  Show **guard ETA** on map confirm on arrival with a popup.

• **SOS Button**: press any time to trigger emergency response.

• **Auto SOS Triggers & Countdown:**

    i.   No tap countdown: periodic check; if you don't tap within 60 s, Ruff prepares SOS (cancel any time).

    ii.   Connection loss: if data drops 30 s, Ruff asks if you're safe; No response will trigger SOS.

• **SOS Response (Dual Action)**

    i.   **Notify guardians & campus security**: sends live location, journey details, and device status.

    ii.   **Guide to nearest safe place**: calculates a safe, well-lit route (shop/guard post) while help is enroute.

• If mobile data is unavailable, send an **SMS fallback beacon** with GPS link to security and trusted contacts.

App Flow

1. **Start a Journey**
   - Tap **Start Now**, choose your **destination** and **confirm**.

2. **Enter the Live Safety Room**
   - You're taken to the **Video Call Room**:
     - **Map (top):** live route + ETA
     - **Video (centre):** you (+ friends/AI when joined)
     - **SOS (bottom):** always available

3. **Choose Your Companion**
   - **Invite Friends:** friends can tap **Join** from your **Journey card** or your **Status post**.
   - **Add AI Buddy:** pick **Silent / Chatty / Caring**; an **AI tile** joins to keep you company.

4. **If Something Feels Wrong → SOS**
   - Press **SOS** any time. Ruff then does **two things in parallel**:
     - **Notifies guardians & campus security** with your live location.
     - **Guides you to the nearest safe place** (e.g., shop/guard post) while help is en route.
   - (Optional safety automations: **no-tap countdown**, **connection-loss check**, **voice stress/safe-word** can pre-trigger SOS.)

5. **After Resolution**
   - You'll see **"You are safe now."**
   - Choose **Post Safe-Now Status** (let friends know) or **Continue Journey**.
   - The trip is saved in **History** with the correct icon:
     - 🟡 **Two faces** = with friends
     - 🔵 **Single face** = solo or AI Buddy

FAQ

1. **Do I need internet for SOS?**

Internet is preferred for live tracking. If data drops, Ruff sends an SMS beacon with your GPS.

2. **Can I use Ruff without friends?**

Yes. You can walk solo or with the AI Buddy. Security dispatch works regardless.

3. **Who sees my Status posts?**

Only the audience you choose: Public or Trusted circle.