

# CHAPTER 2

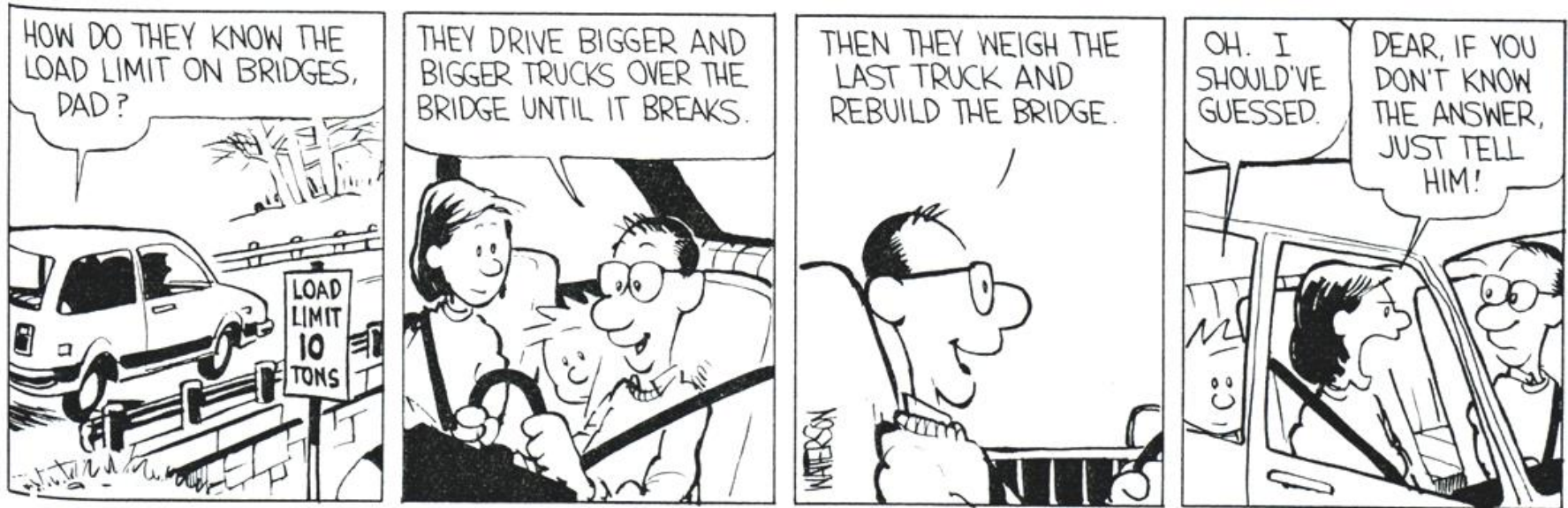
## SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND ROADWAY MARKINGS

### 2.1 TRAFFIC SIGNS



### 2.2 TRAFFIC SIGNALS

### 2.3 ROADWAY MARKINGS



We're taking the driver education class to get the answers

## 2.1

# Traffic Signs

**Y**ou will see hundreds of different traffic signs as you drive. While traffic signs serve many purposes, each traffic sign has a specific shape and color.

### Shapes and Colors

Note the eight sign shapes and eight sign colors shown on the opposite page. Each sign shape and color has a special meaning. By knowing the meanings of these shapes and colors, you can get valuable information from a sign—even at a distance.

Each traffic sign has a specific purpose. A **regulatory sign**, such as a STOP sign, controls traffic. A **warning sign**, including a signal ahead sign, alerts you to possible hazards and road conditions. A

**guide sign**, such as an interstate sign, gives directions.

### Regulatory Signs

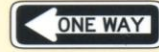
Regulatory signs tell you about laws that you must obey. The most important signs, STOP and YIELD, have unique shapes. All other regulatory signs are either white squares or rectangles with red or black lettering.



Regulatory



Turns and Lanes



One Way



Parking and Passing

Warning Signs



Road Narrows (from right)



Signal Ahead



Divided Highway Ends



Sharp Right Curve



Side Road (Left)



Left Curve



Two-Way Traffic



Merging Traffic (from right)



Cross Ahead



Divided Highway Begins



Pedestrian Crossing



Hill



Deer Crossing



Low Clearance

Warning



### **stop sign**

A STOP sign is used on a road that crosses a main highway or a through street. The STOP sign is a red octagon with white letters and border.

Always come to a **full stop** at a STOP sign. Once stopped, you must yield the right of way to pedestrians or other vehicles in or approaching the intersection. To **yield** means to allow others to use the intersection before you do. Using the **right of way** means you accept the privilege of immediate use of the roadway. If another driver on a through street must slow or stop after you leave a STOP sign, then you have not yielded the right of way.

The location of a STOP sign or stop line helps you decide where to stop. If there is only a STOP sign, stop before entering the intersection. Stop where you can see approaching traffic, but stop before you reach any crosswalk. The yellow car in the picture on the left shows where to stop when a stop line is present.

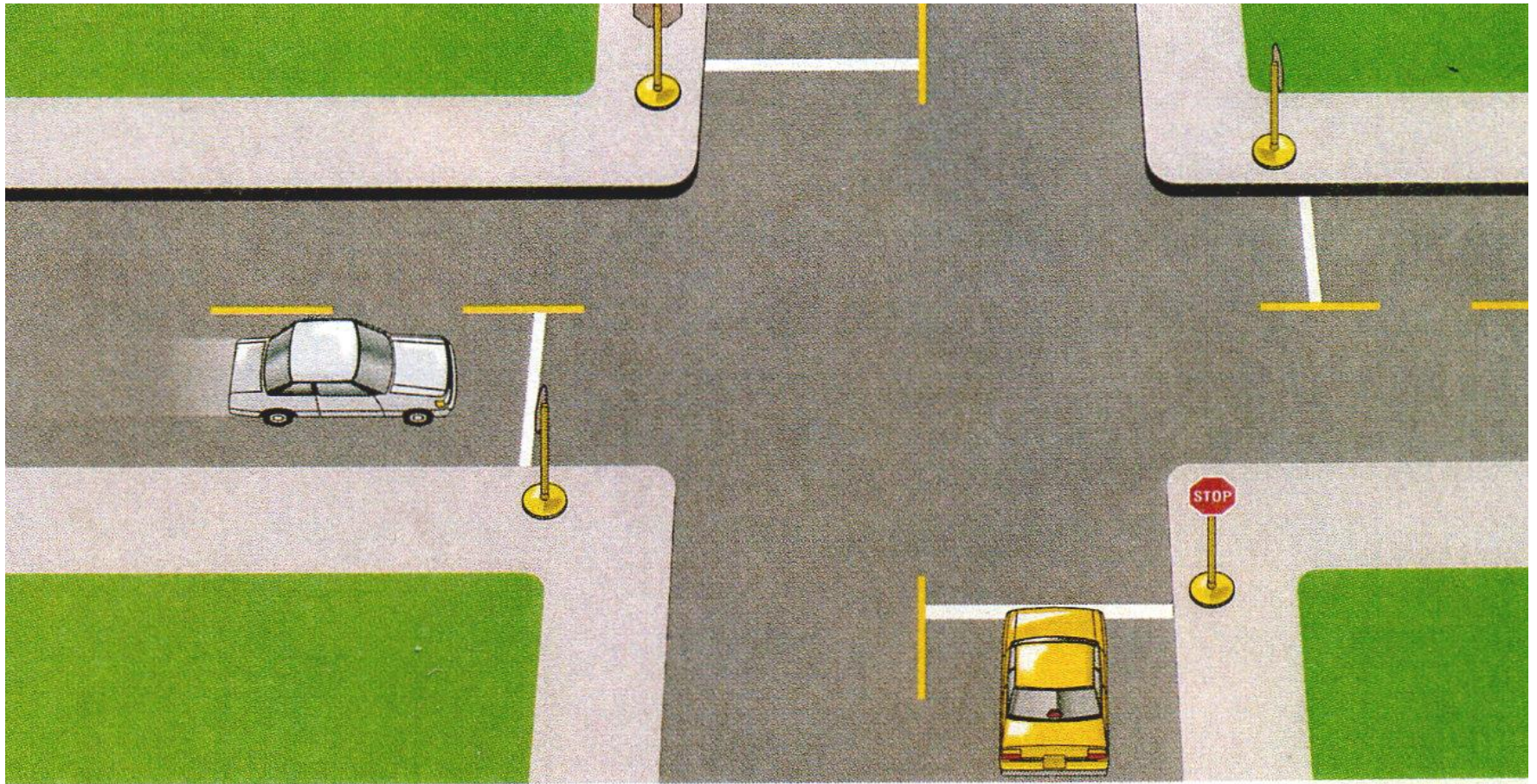
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Stop even with the stop sign if there is no line

If your view is blocked as you approach an intersection and you cannot see cross traffic clearly after stopping, move ahead slowly and prepare to stop again. Make sure the way is clear before driving into the intersection.

At some intersections, STOP signs are posted at all four corners. Each STOP sign might include a small sign that says "4-WAY" or "ALL WAYS." Follow these steps at a 4-way stop:

1. The driver who stopped first should be allowed to go first, as the picture shows.
  2. When vehicles stop to the right or left of each other at the same time, the driver on the left should yield to the driver on the right.
  3. When stopped across the intersection facing oncoming traffic, the driver going straight should be allowed to proceed. A driver turning left should wait.
  4. Show your intention to proceed by moving forward slowly before entering the intersection.
    5. Check for traffic ahead and to the sides before entering the intersection.
-



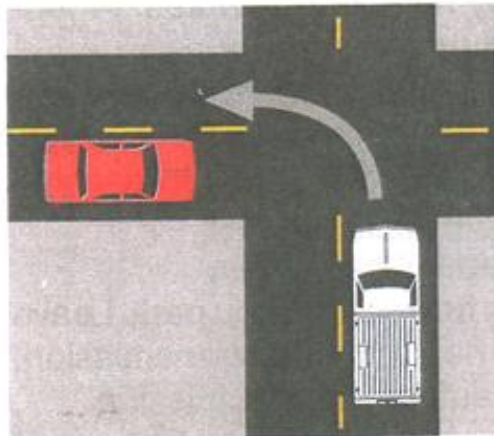
If you were driving the yellow car, the other car should yield the right of way at this 4-way stop

Car colors in all traffic model pictures are as follows:

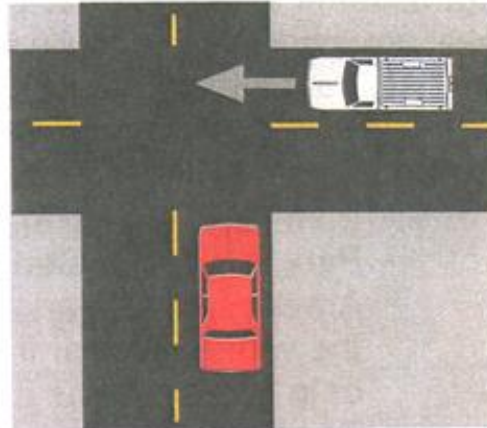
- Yellow—action car
- White—other cars in motion
- Blue--parked cars

## Yielding Situations

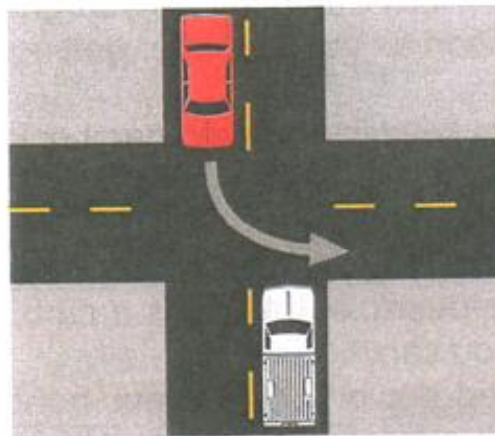
(red car shown here must yield to approaching vehicle)



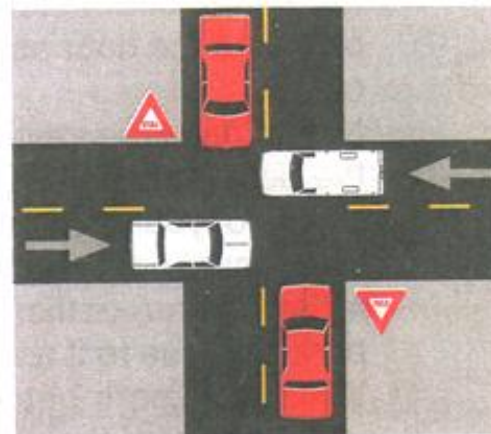
*Car in intersection*



*Car on right*



*Oncoming traffic*



*At yield sign*



## **Yield Sign**








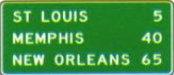
Always slow or stop, and give the right of way to traffic when approaching a red and white triangular YIELD sign. It is found where roadways cross or merge.

Slowing enough ahead of time can often permit you to proceed without completely stopping. However, always be prepared to stop. Proceed only when it is safe to do so, without affecting the flow of traffic in the lane you are entering.



There are 8 sign shapes

6 shapes are unique. Why?

Shape		Purpose
OCTAGON		Stop
TRIANGLE		Yield
VERTICAL RECTANGLE		Regulatory
PENTAGON		School
ROUND		Railroad Crossing
PENNANT		No Passing
DIAMOND		Warning
HORIZONTAL RECTANGLE		Guide

# Traffic Sign Shapes



Octagon: Stop



Triangle: Yield



Vertical Rectangle:  
Regulatory



Pentagon: School



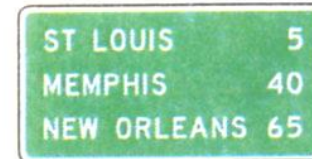
Round: Railroad  
Crossing



Pennant:  
No Passing



Diamond: Warning



Horizontal  
Rectangle: Guide

## Traffic Sign Colors



Red: Stop, yield,  
or prohibited



Yellow: Warning



White: Regulatory



Orange:  
Construction  
or detour

There are  
8 sign colors



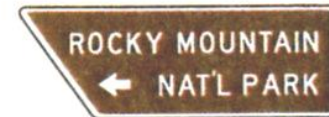
Black: Regulatory



Green: Guide











Blue: Motorist  
service



Brown: Public  
recreation and  
cultural interest

Red and white means don't

White with black letters means do

Colors	Purpose	Example
RED	Stop, yield, or prohibited	
YELLOW	Warning	
WHITE	Regulatory	
ORANGE	Construction or detour	
BLACK	Regulatory	
GREEN	Guide	
BLUE	Motorist services	
BROWN	Public recreation and cultural interest	

Is this true?

## Speed Limit Signs

Speed limit signs are used to manage traffic flow at safe speeds. States are permitted to establish their own speed limits. What speed limits exist in your state? Check the speed limits of other states before traveling there.

Speed limits are set for ideal driving conditions. When traffic, roadway, or weather conditions are not ideal, you must obey the **basic speed law**. This law states that you may not drive faster than is safe and prudent for existing conditions, regardless of posted speed limits.

A **minimum speed limit** is set on some roadways to keep traffic moving safely, such as primary highways and expressways. This speed limit tells you not to drive slower than the posted minimum speed unless conditions are less than ideal. If conditions are bad, follow the basic speed law and drive slower than the minimum speed limit.

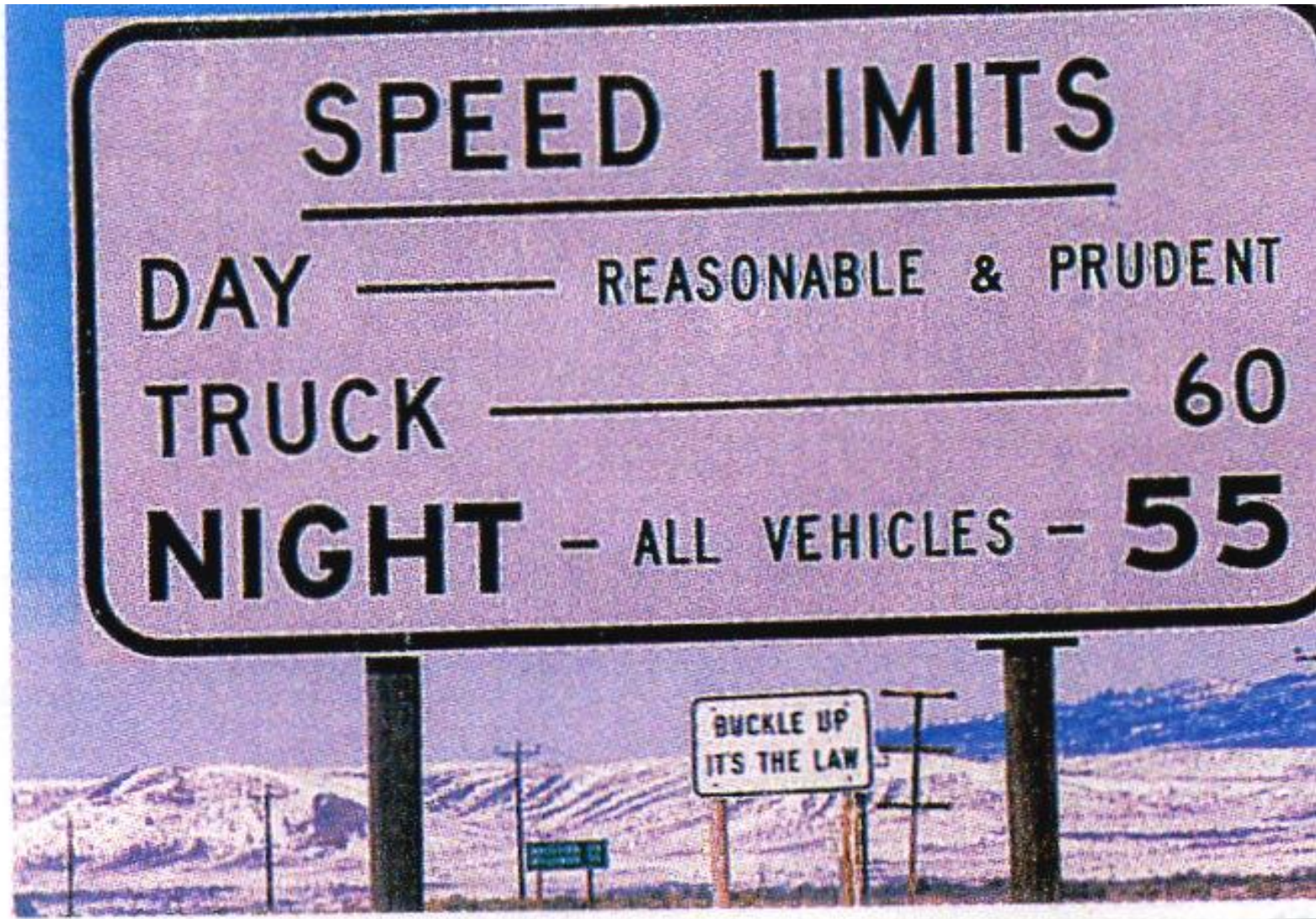
**Advisory speed limits** are set for special conditions such as sharp curves. The signs are often posted below a warning sign. They indicate the maximum suggested speed under

ideal conditions. Speed should be slower when conditions are less than ideal.

In some areas, special speed limits are set for different times of the day. For example, school zones have special speed limits when children are present or during school hours. Night driving speed limits may be lower than daylight limits.



The speed limits posted on these roads tell a safe speed for ideal conditions. When conditions are bad, you must drive slower than posted speeds.



HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A SIGN LIKE THIS?

THAT SIGN IS NOW URBAN LEGEND

ALL STATES HAVE SPEED LIMITS

# Speed Limits by State

Rural interstates			Urban interstates			Rural interstates			Urban interstates		
State	Cars (mph)	Cars (mph)	State	Cars (mph)	Cars (mph)	State	Cars (mph)	Cars (mph)	State	Cars (mph)	Cars (mph)
Alabama	70	65	Iowa	70	55	New York	65	65			
Alaska	65	55	Kansas	70	70	North Carolina	70	70			
Arizona	75	55	Kentucky	65	65	North Dakota	75	75			
Arkansas	70 trucks: 65	55	Louisiana	70	70	Ohio	65 trucks: 55; 65 on Ohio Turnpike	65			
California	70 trucks: 55	65 trucks: 55	Maine	65	65	Oklahoma	75	70			
Colorado	75	65	Maryland	65	65	Oregon	65 trucks: 55	55			
Connecticut	65	55	Massachusetts	65	65	Pennsylvania	65	55			
Delaware	65	55	Michigan	until 11/9/06: 70 (55 trucks) after 11/9/06: 70 (60 trucks) < 70 (55 trucks)	65	Rhode Island	65	55			
District of Columbia	N/A	55	Minnesota	70	65	South Carolina	70	70			
Florida	70	65	Mississippi	70	70	South Dakota	75	75			
			Missouri	70	60	Tennessee	70	70			
			Montana	75 trucks: 65	65	Texas	day: 75 night: 65 trucks: 65	day: 70 night: 65			
			Nebraska	75	65	Utah	75	65			
			Nevada	75	65	Vermont	65	55			
			New Hampshire	65	65	Virginia	65 <sup>1</sup>	65 <sup>1</sup>			
			New Jersey	65	55	Washington	70 trucks: 60	60			
			New Mexico	75	75	West Virginia	70	55			
						Wisconsin	65	65			
						Wyoming	75	60			



## Other Regulatory Signs

Regulatory signs such as those shown above right are used to

- direct traffic to turn or go straight
- direct one-way traffic
- control parking and passing

Signs with red words on white or white words on red usually tell what *not* to do. Black-lettered words usually tell what you can do. Some signs have a black symbol in a red circle and crossed by a red, diagonal slash. The red circle and slash indicate that a certain action is prohibited.



## Reserved Lanes Also known a Diamond Lane

On various roadways one or more lanes may be reserved for special vehicles. Reserved lanes are marked by signs stating that the lane is reserved for special use, and often have a white diamond posted at the side of the road and/or painted on the road surface. Do not travel in one of these lanes unless operating that type of vehicle.



*(Left) This sign means the lane is for bus and car pool use only.*

*(Right) This sign means the lane is reserved for bicyclists.*



*High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV) lanes are reserved for car pools and vehicles with more than one person in them. Signs say how many people must be in the vehicle as well as the days and hours to which it applies. For example, "HOV 4" means there must be at least four people in the vehicle.*



## Warning Signs

A warning sign can help you avoid surprise situations. Most warning signs are diamond-shaped. Warning signs have black symbols or lettering on a yellow background.

### Diamond-Shaped Warning Signs

Yellow, diamond-shaped signs such as these warn of a danger ahead. Be prepared to slow or stop when you see a warning sign.

## Warning Signs



Road Narrows (from right)



Signal Ahead



Divided Highway Ends



Sharp Right Curve



Side Road (Left)



Left Curve



Two-Way Traffic



Merging Traffic (from right)



Cross Ahead



Divided Highway Begins



Pedestrian Crossing



Hill



Deer Crossing



Low Clearance

SOMETIMES A WARNING SIGN MIGHT  
NOT BE THE YELLOW DIAMOND  
SHAPE YOU WOULD EXPECT

**SLOW DOWN  
THE COP HIDES  
BEHIND THIS SIGN**



SOMETIMES THERE IS NO DOUBT  
ABOUT WHAT THE SIGN MEANS



**RX CAUTION RX**  
**Do Not Drive Into Train**

BURLINGTON  
NORTHERN

**BN**

BURLINGTON  
NORTHERN  
BN  
458715

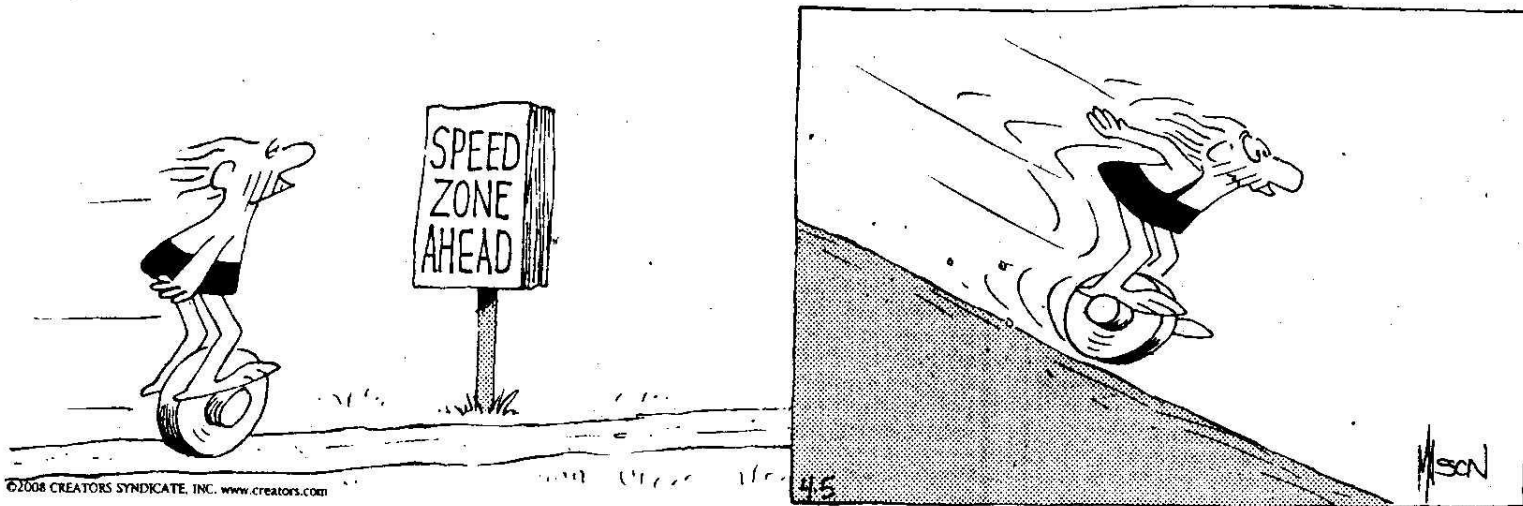
AND SOMETIMES SIGNS CAN BE  
CONFUSING



ENTRANCE  
ONLY  
DO NOT  
ENTER



**BC** by Hart



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AND HERE ARE 2 UNUSUAL SIGNS



Road sign in Sweden. Yellow diamond shaped signs warning of moose can be found in Minnesota, Michigan, Maine, etc.



This photo taken on Interstate 5 just north of the U.S. – Mexican border, San Ysidro, California near San Diego.



School Zone



School Crossing

## School Signs

Two signs are used in school zones. A school zone is a portion of a street or highway near a school that is subject to special speed limits. A school zone sign, only showing two children, is posted within a block of a school. A school crossing sign shows children in a crosswalk area. This sign is posted near intersections or crossings used by children. Notice the difference between these two signs.

## No-Passing Sign

A yellow, pennant-shaped sign with black letters, as shown below left, may be posted on the left side of the roadway. The sign appears at the start of a no-passing zone and provides advance warning of where a no-passing zone starts. A no-passing sign is used together with a solid yellow line on the roadway. If you intend to pass, you must safely complete your pass before reaching this sign.





## Railroad Signs

A round, yellow sign with a black “X” and two “Rs” warns of a railroad crossing ahead. This sign is posted about 250 feet before a railroad crossing in an urban area. A railroad crossing sign is posted about 750 feet before a railroad crossing in a rural area. A large “X” might be painted on the roadway as an additional warning. The crossing itself is marked with a white crossbuck sign. It may have the number of tracks posted below the sign. Flashing red lights and/or crossing gates might be added to alert you when a train is coming.



About 750 feet away

Railroad Crossing



At the crossing

Crossbuck

The round, yellow sign warns you that a railroad crossing is near. The white crossbuck is at the crossing.

These signs are unique to railroad crossings



*Railroad/highway/sideroad intersection*

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**Crossbuck signs** have been put at many public railroad crossings. This sign means look both ways, listen for and yield to trains. A number sign under the crossbuck indicates there is more than one set of tracks following the sign.

**Flashing light signals** may be used with crossbucks. Stop when the lights are flashing. Do not cross until you can do it safely. If there is more than one track, be careful to watch for trains from either the same or opposite direction.

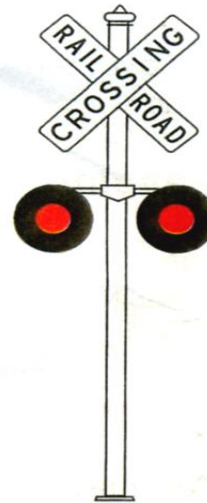
**Gates** are used with flashing lights at some crossings. Stop when the lights start to flash before the gate goes down. Remain stopped until the gates go up and the lights stop flashing. NEVER DRIVE AROUND THE GATES. It is dangerous and against the law.

**Railroad gates and warning lights are to alert you that a train is in the area. You may collide with a train if you go onto the tracks.**

It is against the law to pass any vehicle within 100 feet of a railroad crossing. \*

## Required Stops

All school buses and vehicles carrying passengers for hire, and all vehicles required to be placarded for hazardous materials, must stop within 15 to 50 feet of railroad tracks before crossing. If a police officer or highway traffic signal directs highway traffic to proceed, you do not have to stop. You also do not have to stop if the crossing is marked with an "EXEMPT" sign.



*Flashing lights*



*Gate with flashing lights*

## Slow Moving Vehicle Sign

A reflective orange triangle on the rear of a vehicle means it is traveling less than 30 mph. You may see this sign on road work equipment, on farm vehicles, or horse-drawn wagons or carriages. It shows up as a solid orange triangle by day and a hollow red triangle at night.





You might see signs that say:

Fines double in work zones  
or  
Workers – Give 'em a brake

## Construction Signs

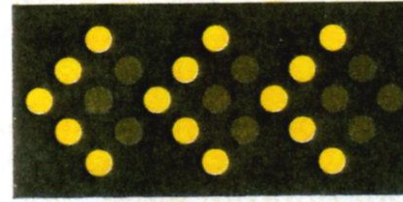
An orange sign, in a diamond or rectangular shape, alerts you to construction zones. Orange, triangular warning signs might be used on a construction vehicle to warn that the vehicle is slow-moving. Be alert in a construction zone, as shown in the picture below. Be ready to slow, stop, or drive around workers and equipment. Follow directions from signs and any worker directing traffic. Many states now increase the fines in construction zones.



Be alert in a construction zone. What does the orange sign tell you to do?

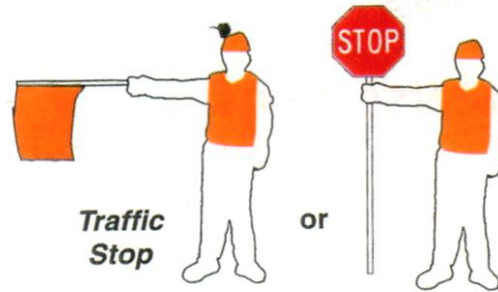
## Flashing Arrow Panels

Large flashing arrow panels may be used in work areas to direct drivers into certain traffic lanes. These panels also alert you that part of the roadway is closed to traffic.



## Flaggers

People with stop/slow paddles help control traffic in work zones. Follow their instructions. They should be wearing lime green or orange vests, shirts or jackets. They will normally use stop/slow signs. Red flags may be used occasionally.



## Channelizing Devices

Barricades, vertical panels, drums, cones and tubular markers are the most commonly used devices to alert drivers of unusual or potentially dangerous conditions in highway and street work areas, and to guide drivers safely through the work zone. Flashing lights are used to alert motorists of a hazard.



Be a smart driver. When you see a flagger, orange barrels, barricades etc., slow down and expect a change of some sort up ahead.

## Guide Signs

A guide sign provides a variety of information. Guide signs mark routes, intersections, service areas, and other points of interest or information.

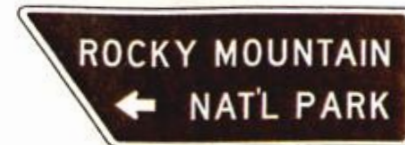
### Guide Signs



Green signs provide information on mileage to other destinations



Blue signs guide you to services near the highway.



Brown signs indicate points of interest.

## Route Signs

Local, state, U.S., and interstate routes are posted with route signs. Notice below that route signs vary according to the type of roadway. State and county route markers will vary from state to state. All the signs below display route numbers. Notice in the pictures that route signs can be combined with information about a city's streets. Use this information to plan ahead and adjust your route as needed.

Interstate route signs are red, white, and blue shields. Notice below that a special numbering system is used for interstate routes.

Interstate mile markers start at the south and west from low to high

## Route Signs



U.S. Route Marker



State Route Marker



Country Route Marker



Interstate Route Marker



An east route is even-numbered. A north-south route is odd-numbered.

I 80 is east west. I 35 is north south



A three-figured route that starts with an odd number leads into a city.



A three-figured route that starts with an even number goes around a city.





This sign is posted along the interstate system to honor President Eisenhower for initiating the Interstate Highway System in 1955. The system is now 160,000 miles in length. The 5 stars signify Eisenhower's military rank during World War II as General of the Army. Only five generals in modern U.S. history have held the rank of General of the Army: Eisenhower, MacArthur, Marshall, Arnold and Bradley.

# OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

## International Signs



Stop



Yield



Road Narrows



No Left Turn

Be a smart driver. Look both ways even if you have the right of way.

### Traffic Lights

Various combinations of traffic lights can be placed at intersections to control traffic. Remember the following types of lights so you will be familiar with them while driving.

**Green Light** The first picture shows a green light. You can proceed only if the intersection is clear. When approaching a green light, check traffic to the left, front, and right before entering the intersection. When approaching a light that has been green for some time, be prepared for the light to turn yellow. The green light will be mounted at the bottom or to the right on the traffic signal.

**Yellow Light** The second picture shows a yellow light. Make every effort to stop safely for a yellow light. Sometimes you might be too close to stop safely when a yellow light appears. You then will have to proceed with caution. The yellow light will appear in the center on the traffic signal.

**Red Light** The third picture shows a red light. You must come to a full stop at a red light. Stop behind the stop line, crosswalk, or before entering the intersection if no stop lines are used. The red light will be mounted on the top or to the left side on the traffic signal.

Watch what happened to a motorcyclist who had the right of way



Proceed at a green light only if the intersection is clear.



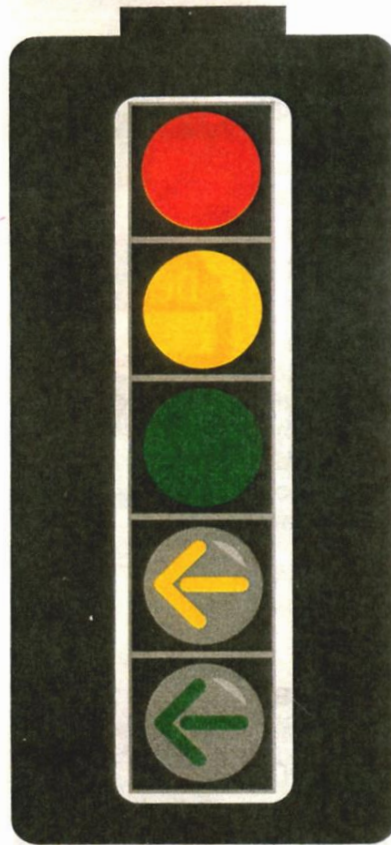
A yellow light means caution and prepare to stop.



At a red light, come to a complete stop before the entrance to the intersection.



# Traffic Signals



## Red

Come to a complete stop at the stop line or before entering the intersection.

## Yellow

Do not enter the intersection if you can stop safely. **If you cannot stop safely, proceed through the intersection with caution.**

A yellow light warns pedestrians there is not enough time to cross the street. Anyone crossing the street on a yellow light shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles.

## Green

**Go, but only when the intersection is clear.** You must yield to vehicles and pedestrians in the intersection. When

the light changes, traffic may be caught in the intersection. You must give them the right-of-way while they clear the intersection.

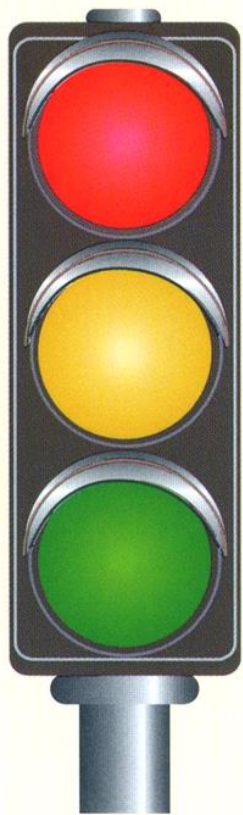
## Yellow Arrow

Do not enter the intersection if you can stop safely. **If you cannot stop safely, proceed only in the direction of the arrow.**

## Green Arrow

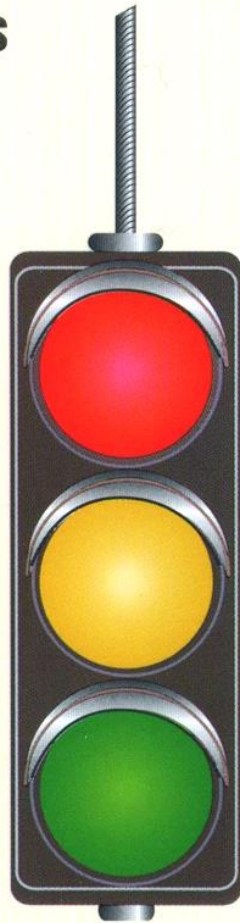
Drive only in the direction of the arrow. Yield the right-of-way to other vehicles and pedestrians already in the intersection.

## Vertical Signals



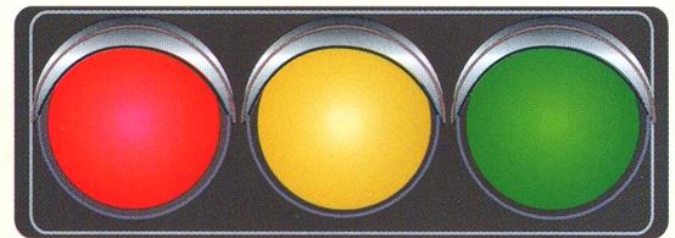
On a pole at  
the corner

Red  
Yellow  
Green



Hanging from  
above usually  
at the center  
of the intersection

## Horizontal Signal



Red Yellow Green

Extends above the  
Intersection on an arm

## **Right-Turn-on-Red**

All states now allow drivers to make a **right-turn-on-red**. This means turning right when the signal is red. However, some cities restrict such turns. Procedures for turning right on red are discussed in Chapter 7.

## **Left-Turn-on-Red**

Some states permit drivers to make a left turn on a red light when turning from a one-way street into a one-way street. This turn must be made cautiously and only after stopping. A few states permit left-turns on a red light from a left turn lane into a one-way street. Be sure state laws and local ordinances permit such turns. The intersection and crosswalk must be clear of traffic and pedestrians before you turn either left or right on a red light.



Before you make a right-turn-on-red, make sure no pedestrians are in any crosswalks.

Iowa does not

## **Turns on Red**

You may make a right turn at a red light unless there is a “NO TURN ON RED” sign. Before you turn, you must come to a complete stop and yield to all other vehicle and pedestrian traffic.

You may also make a left turn at a red light if you are turning from the left lane of a one-way street onto another one-way street.

At some stop lights, turns are allowed only on green arrows.





### **Flashing Red**

Treat it the same as a stop sign.



### **Flashing Yellow**

Proceed with caution. Yield to vehicles and pedestrians, and proceed when it is safe.

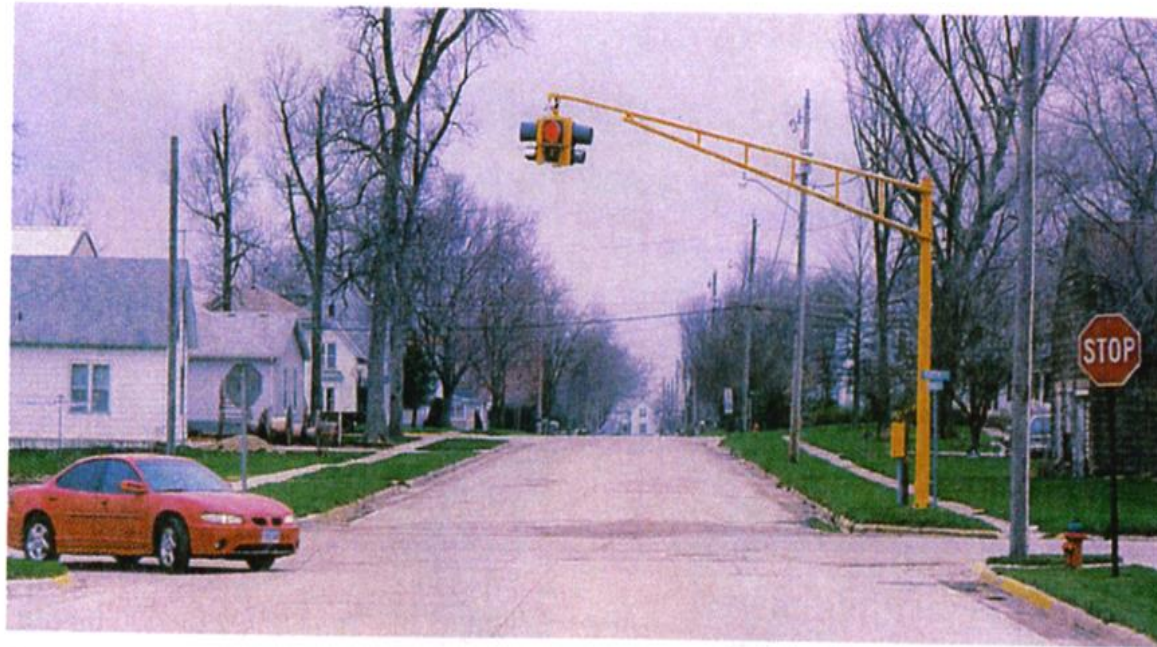
If a traffic light is not working you may encounter flashing red or yellow lights. Stop for a red flashing light then proceed with caution. If the light is flashing yellow, slow down check traffic from both directions then proceed with caution.

## Flashing Signals

A **flashing signal** alerts drivers to dangerous conditions or tells them to stop. These signals are used at intersections and other dangerous locations.

Note the flashing red signal in the bottom picture on the opposite page. Make a full stop when you come to a flashing red signal. A STOP sign and stop line may be used with this signal. After you stop, yield to traffic, and proceed only when the intersection is clear.

When you see a warning sign and a flashing yellow signal, slow down. Be prepared to stop at the traffic light.



The flashing red light lets drivers at a distance know that they are approaching a stop

## Arrows

Traffic must flow in the direction that a green arrow is pointing. Look at the arrows shown here. These arrows are used together with traffic lights. If you are driving in a lane with a green arrow pointing to the left or right, you must turn in that direction. Remember first to yield to other traffic and pedestrians.

Some cities use left-turn arrows to permit drivers to turn left before oncoming traffic proceeds. Other cities use green left-turn arrows only after oncoming traffic has cleared or has been stopped by a red light. You should be cautious if you are unfamiliar with the left-turn signals you encounter. Always be prepared to yield.

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**GO** left only. Be sure that oncoming traffic does not run the red light.



**WARNING.** The red arrow is about to appear.



**GO** right only. Yield to pedestrians and vehicles already in the intersection.



**STOP.** You may not go in this direction.

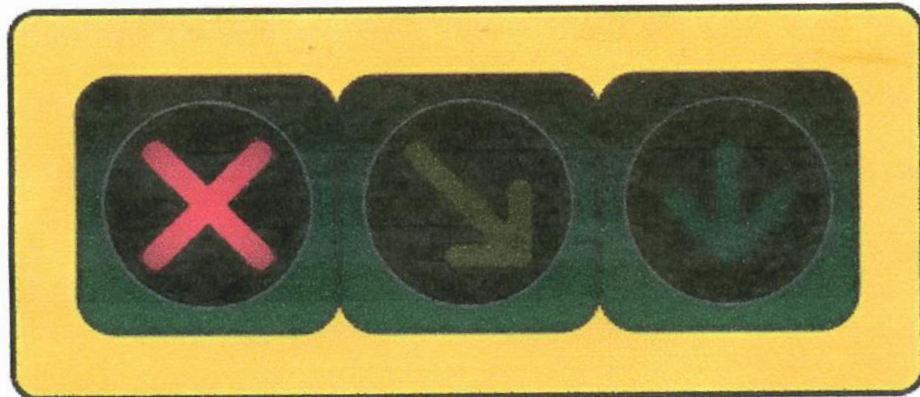
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**GO** straight ahead only after yielding to vehicles and pedestrians within the intersection.

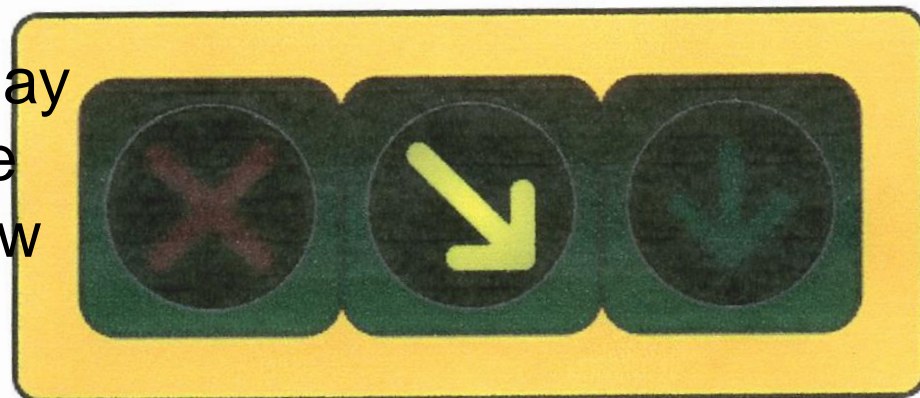
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# Reversible Lanes



**Lane is closed.**

This may also be a yellow X



**Lane closure is imminent.**



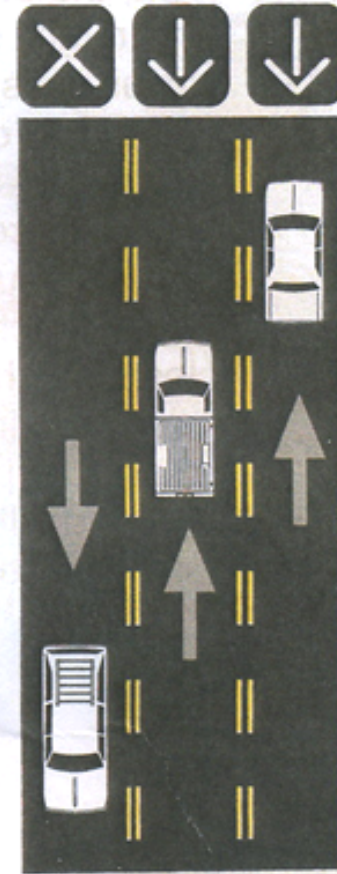
**Lane is open.**

EACH LANE HAS IT'S OWN SIGNAL ABOVE IT

Each lane has its own signal above it

## Reversible Lanes

Some travel lanes are designed to carry traffic in one direction at certain times and in the opposite direction at other times. These lanes are usually marked by double-dashed yellow lines. Before you start driving in them, check to see which lanes you can use at that time. There may be signs posted by the side of the road or overhead. Sometimes special lights are used. A green arrow means you can use the lane beneath it; a red "X" means you may not. A flashing yellow "X" means the lane is only for turning. A steady yellow "X" means that the use of the lane is changing and you should move out of it as soon as it is safe to do so.



Example of a different style signal above each lane.

## **Pedestrian Signals**

A pedestrian signal is used at an intersection with heavy traffic. These signals or symbols are mounted near traffic lights as seen in the picture. Pedestrians should only cross at an intersection when they face a WALK signal or symbol. Pedestrians must clear the intersection or wait on a curb when the DON'T WALK signal or symbol flashes or remains lit.

Normally, the WALK signal or symbol and the green traffic light will be on at the same time for pedestrians and drivers going in the same direction. The DON'T WALK signal or symbol usually begins to flash just before the yellow light appears for drivers. If you approach an intersection and see the DON'T WALK signal flashing, predict that your green light will soon change.

The pedestrian DON'T WALK signal will remain on when a green right- or left-turn signal is permitting a driver's path of travel to cross the crosswalk. Pedestrians must wait until their WALK signal or symbol is lit. When turning on a green left-turn signal, drivers should be alert to pedestrians crossing.

## **Officer's Signal**

You must obey signals given by a traffic control officer, even if the officer's signals contradict the traffic signal. A hand held up with the palm toward you means stop. A hand waving you on means go. Signals can be given with lighted wands during times of low visibility.

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Walk and don't walk signs are not universal. Sometimes you will see the words "Walk" and "Don't Walk." You might see a figure for "Walk" and an X through the figure for "Don't Walk." You might also see just the figure and hand without the words. Be a smart driver. Watch for the possible differences



When the pedestrian signal says DON'T WALK, predict that your green light will soon change.

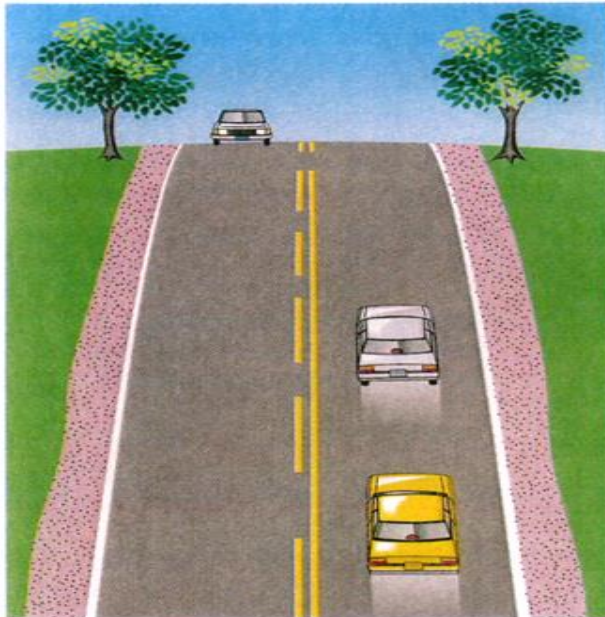
Note the "Don't Walk" sign in this picture is a hand without words. Some have the hand and a count-down feature next to the hand. 10, 9, 8.....etc.



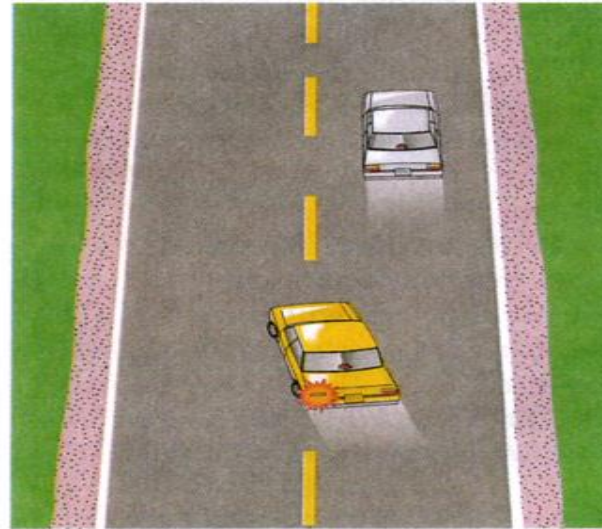
### Yellow Line Markings

A broken yellow line separates two-way traffic. It also means a driver may pass only when no traffic is coming from the opposite direction.

A solid yellow line on the driver's side of the center line indicates that passing is not allowed. Passing is allowed only when the solid yellow line no longer appears on the driver's



No passing is allowed on the side of a road that has a solid yellow line.



Passing is allowed across a broken yellow line.

side of the highway. Turning left across a solid yellow line into a driveway or alley is allowed after yielding to oncoming traffic.

Two solid yellow lines that divide traffic prohibit passing that involves crossing the solid lines, as shown in the picture on page 32. Some cities permit you to make left turns across these lines after yielding to oncoming traffic.

Many cities use a **shared left-turn lane** to help drivers make safer mid-block left turns to and from businesses on a busy street. Solid and broken yellow lines are used with left-turn arrows from both directions to identify a shared left-turn lane.

## White Line Markings

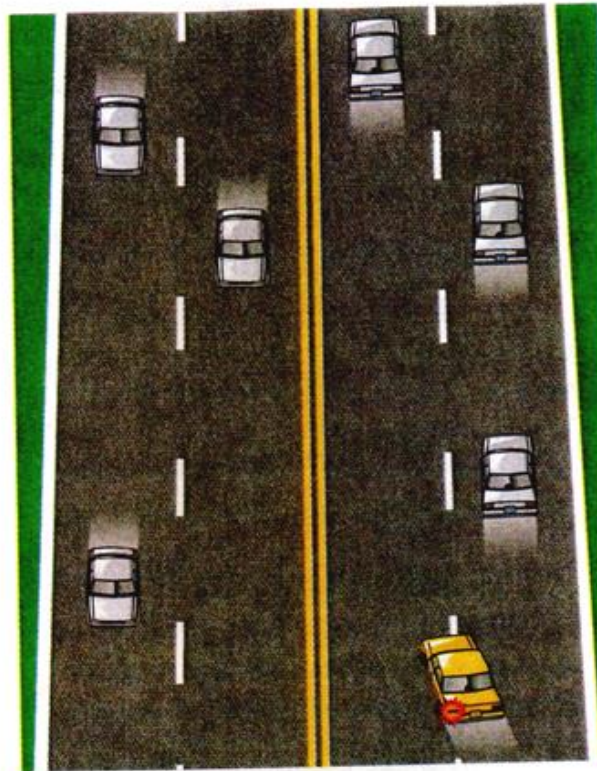
Broken white lines separate lanes of traffic that are moving in the same direction. You may cross these broken white lines when changing lanes.

Solid white lane lines keep drivers in their lanes and restrict lane changing. Solid white lines indicate that you should not cross them. These lines identify locations where changing lanes is hazardous. Plan ahead to prevent crossing solid white lane markings.

White arrows are painted in lanes to tell you when and where to turn. If you are in a lane with an arrow and the word **ONLY**, you *must* continue in the direction of the arrow. You may turn or go straight if there is a curved and straight arrow in your lane.

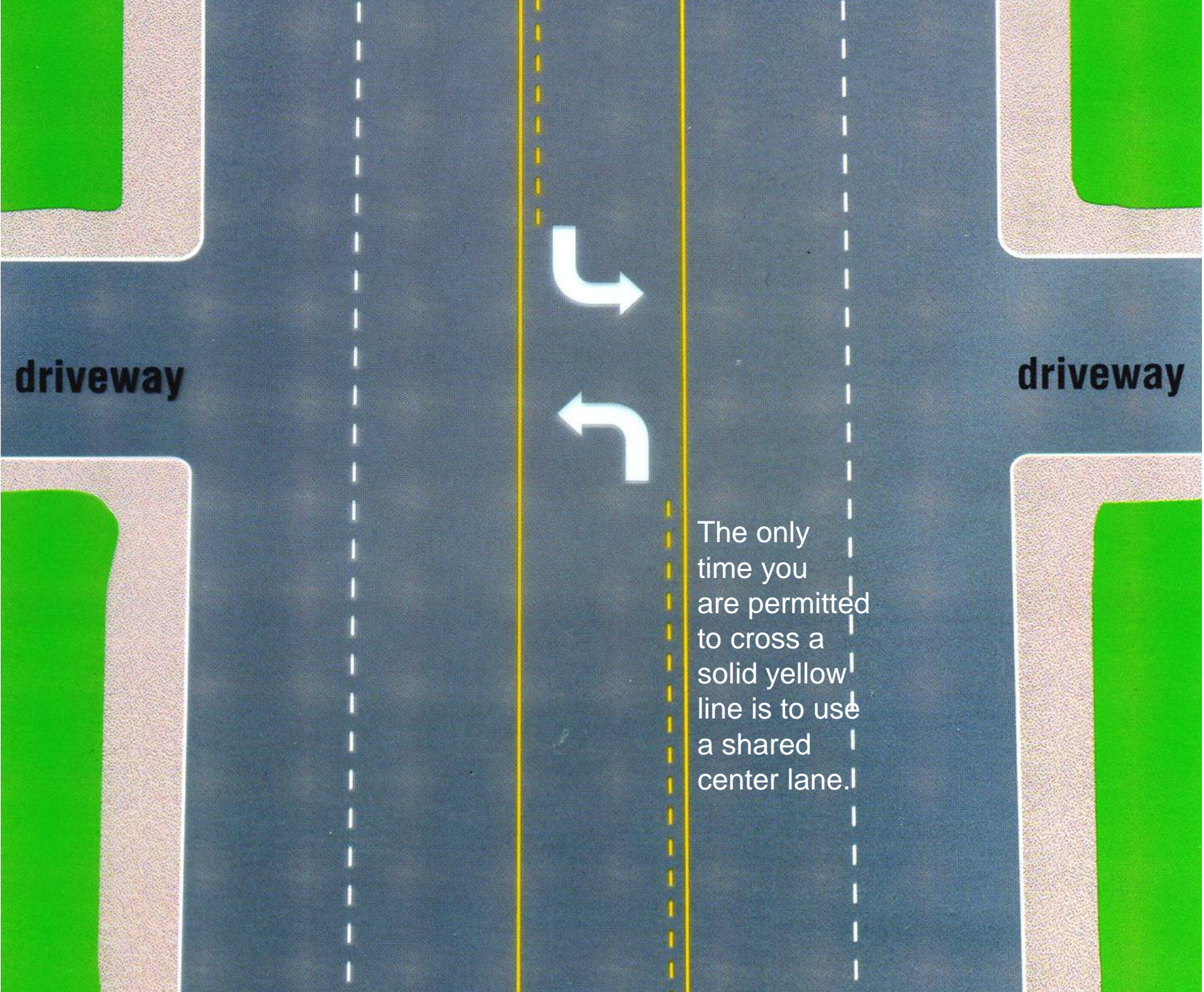
Solid white lines are used along the side of a roadway to mark the edge of the roadway. These lines help you to see the edge of the roadway at night or under poor visibility driving conditions.

Solid white lines are also used to mark pedestrian crosswalks and stop lines. Some crosswalks have diagonal or perpendicular lines between them or are painted a



No passing is allowed if it involves crossing a double yellow line.

different color to highlight the area. You must yield the right of way to pedestrians in crosswalks. Stop lines across your lane at intersections show where to stop at a **STOP** sign or a traffic light.

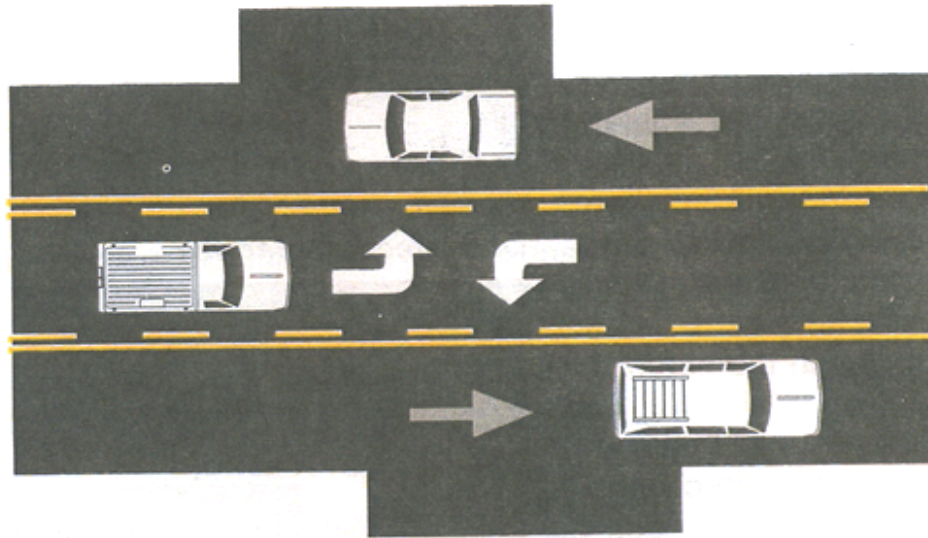


driveway

driveway

The only time you are permitted to cross a solid yellow line is to use a shared center lane.

## Shared Center Lane



These center lanes are reserved for making left turns (or U-turns when they are permitted) but can be used by vehicles traveling in both directions. On the pavement, left-turn arrows for traffic in one direction alternate with left-hand arrows for traffic coming from the other direction. These lanes are marked on each side by a solid yellow and dashed yellow lines.

Note that shared center turn lane markings are unique.

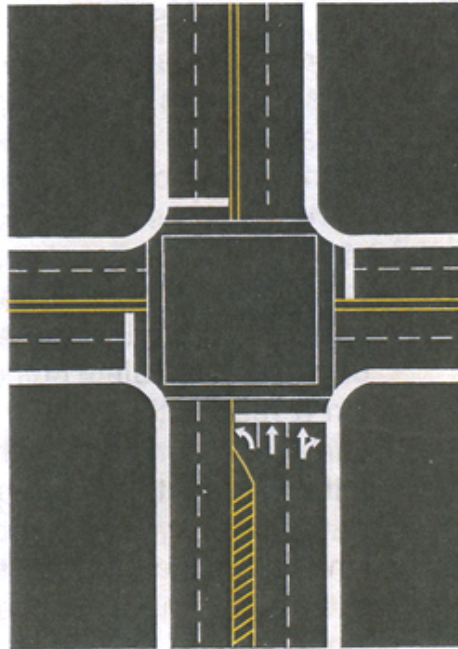
Can you enter a shared center lane too soon?



Solid white lines separate traffic lanes and mark pedestrian crosswalks and stop lines. Arrows with the word ONLY indicate the direction you must go when driving in these lanes.

## Crosswalks, Stop Lines and Directional Arrow Markings

When required to stop because of a sign or signal, you must stop before your vehicle reaches the stop line, or a crosswalk if there is one. Crosswalks define the area where pedestrians are to cross the roadway. You must yield to pedestrians in or about to enter a crosswalk. Not all crosswalks are marked. Be alert for pedestrians when crossing intersections that do not have defined crosswalks. Special arrow markings may be present.



## **Rumble Strips and Raised Roadway Markers**

**Rumble strips** are short sections of corrugated roadway. These strips alert you through the noise your tires make when you drive over them.

Rumble strips warn of hazards such as a major or dangerous intersection, a toll plaza, or an unexpected need to stop or reduce speed. Sometimes a rumble strip is used to warn that you are driving too close to the roadway edge, as the picture shows.

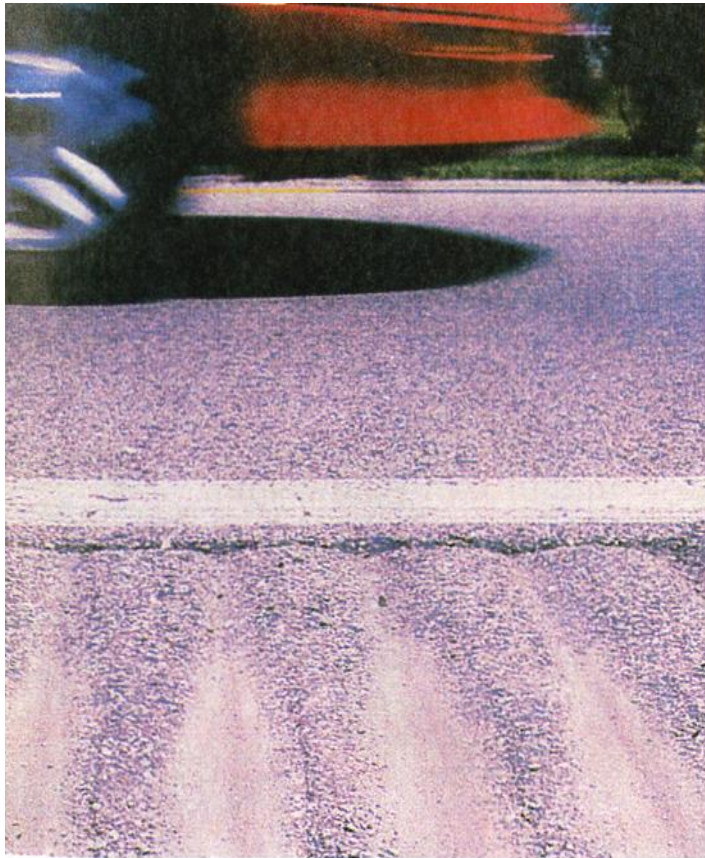
On some highways, drivers might have a difficult time seeing the driving lane at night. Raised or lowered roadway markers are used in such situations. These markers act as small reflectors. They are raised in areas where snow seldom occurs. In snow removal areas, these markers will be lower than the surface of the roadway.

Roadway markers are color coded. White markers are used at the edge of a roadway or between lanes, just as white lines are used. Yellow markers may locate the left edge of an expressway. If you are driving and see red roadway markers, pull off the roadway immediately. These red markers warn that you are driving in the wrong direction. Safely get your car going in the proper direction.

## **Other Roadway Markings**

A special white marking on the roadway is used to show you where an exit ramp starts. It is dangerous and illegal to make a last minute decision to cross this area.

The railroad markings using an "X" and two "Rs" on each side of the roadway warn you that a railroad crossing is ahead. Do not pass near railroad crossings.



This type of rumble strip will let you know when you have wandered off the roadway.



Be a smart driver  
If the road marker glows red instead of yellow or white, you are going the wrong way

Roadway markers shine when struck by headlight beams to help drivers see the driving lane at night.





You may not park alongside this yellow curb marking.

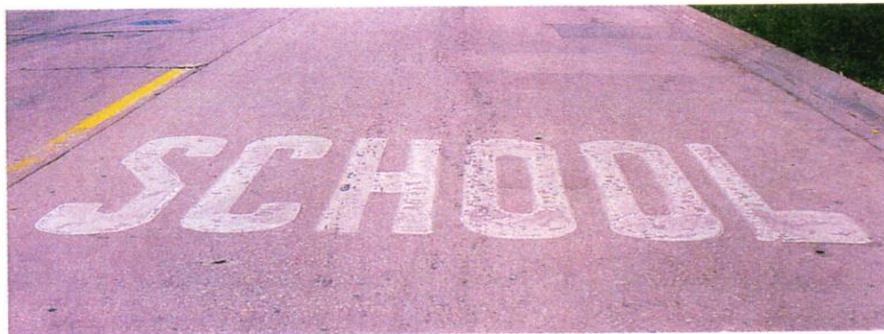


These parking spaces are reserved for handicapped drivers or passengers.

## Be a smart driver. Watch for painted signs and curbs

Notice the marking for the school crossing below. When you see this white marking, watch for children in the area.

Curbs alongside a road might be painted to indicate warnings or that parking is not permitted. No-Parking zones often are near fire hydrants, curves, and intersections. The curb marking in the top left picture shows a No-Parking zone. The markings may be red, yellow, or white.



Predict that children could be crossing ahead.

The top right picture shows a parking space reserved for vehicles having handicapped drivers or passengers. Check for signs that say HANDICAPPED PARKING ONLY and signs and pavement markings with the handicapped parking symbol. It is illegal to park in this space without proper permit.

## Common signs painted on the pavement

School

Handicapped

Crosswalks

Curbs painted yellow or red

Words: PED Xing or RR Xing

Turn arrows

## **Parking Is Not Allowed**

There are many areas where you cannot park. Check for signs that may prohibit or limit parking. Some parking restrictions are indicated by colored curb markings. Do not park:

- on a crosswalk;
- in front of a public or private driveway;
- on any bridge outside city limits or in highway tunnels;
- alongside another stopped or parked car (double parking);
- closer than five feet from a fire hydrant;
- closer than 10 feet from a stop sign;
- closer than 20 feet from a fire station entrance;
- closer than 50 feet from a hotel or theater entrance;
- closer than 50 feet from a railroad crossing;

## Decision Making



1. What is the speed limit in this situation? What speed law might make driving at the posted speed limit illegal?



2. You will be making a left turn at the traffic light ahead. Are you in the correct lane to make that turn? Explain your answer.




3. The orange sign and arrow ahead are used to warn drivers about what condition? If you were driving the vehicle that the scene is viewed from, what mistake would you have already made?



4. You want to pass the slower moving vehicle ahead. Is it safe and legal to pass here? Why or why not?

Signs, signs, everywhere are signs.....

“Thank you Lord for thinkin’ of me, I’m alive and doin’  
fine.....Signs, signs  everywhere are signs.....

Performed by: Three Sides Now, 1971