

Pedestrian Crossing

Each year in the U.S., more than 4,700 pedestrians are killed and 61,000 are injured in traffic crashes.

While it is easy to blame drivers, they are not always responsible for these crashes. All too often, pedestrians are at fault.

Pedestrian Safety Tips

- Whenever possible stay on the sidewalks and pathways because these routes offer protection from vehicles.
- If you must walk on the road, travel on the shoulder of the left lane facing oncoming traffic.
- Just like drivers, pedestrians are often distracted by technology. Remove headphones and avoid talking on cell phones when crossing the street. With your full attention, you will be able to respond to hazards and avoid collisions with vehicles.
- Always use crosswalks and pedestrian activated signals when they are available. Cross only at intersections if they are not available.
- Crossing in the middle of the road, or jay walking is extremely dangerous because drivers are not anticipating pedestrians crossing in the middle of the street so they may not have enough time to avoid hitting you.
- At night, make yourself more visible by wearing bright color clothing or reflective material and use a flashlight or headlamp.

Crossing Rules for Pedestrians

Always follow these steps when crossing a street:

1. Before crossing, stop at the curb, edge of the road, or corner before proceeding.
2. Look left-right-left, and if it's clear, begin crossing, looking over your shoulder for turning vehicles.
3. Continue to check for traffic while crossing.

Pedestrian Safety Rules in Work Zones

- Work zones are potentially dangerous because so much is happening. It's up to the pedestrian to be alert and stay on a safe path through the work zone.
- It's always safest to simply avoid the area. If possible, cross the street before getting to the work zone or take another route. If it's not practical to avoid the work zone, then the pedestrian must be attentive and careful.
- It's very important to obey ALL work zone signs, pavement markings and personnel.
- Pavement markings and distinctive orange signs define the SAFE way to travel through the work area.

Work Zone Safety Tips for Every Pedestrian to Remember

- Construction vehicles often move suddenly and quickly. Effective work zone signs and pavement markings will guide the pedestrian away from danger areas, but everyone in a work zone should always be alert for moving construction vehicles and other unexpected hazards.

- Watch where you're going! Construction work may be fascinating to watch, but remember that your first responsibility is to get through the work zone as safely as you can.

Safety Cues to Watch for in Work Zones

- Orange work zone signs communicate to both drivers and pedestrians what is going on and how to travel safely through the work zone. It can indicate that a sidewalk is closed and that a detour must be taken.
- Pavement markings are painted or taped lines on the pavement which delineate vehicle travel lanes and can also indicate pedestrian paths.
- Remember, the key to safety is to be alert, and **DON'T MISS YOUR SAFETY CUES.**