



# Wisconsin Driver's Book



[www.wisconsin.dmv.gov](http://www.wisconsin.dmv.gov)

January 2014

## ADDRESS CHANGE

The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) mails your renewal notice and other important information to your last known address. If you move, please change your address at the DMV within ten days.

Save time. Change your address online at [www.wisconsin.dmv.gov](http://www.wisconsin.dmv.gov)  
or by mail to: Driver Information Section, P. O. Box 7995, Madison, WI 53707-7995.

## INFORMATION AND SERVICE VIA THE INTERNET

**Need more information?** Visit the DMV online for services and information.

DMV Home Page	<a href="http://www.wisconsin.dmv.gov">www.wisconsin.dmv.gov</a>
Acceptable Documentation	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/doc/index.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/doc/index.htm</a>
Accident Reporting	<a href="http://www.dot.state.wi.us/drivers/drivers/traffic/accident.htm">www.dot.state.wi.us/drivers/drivers/traffic/accident.htm</a>
Change of Address	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/change.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/change.htm</a>
DMV Service Centers (locations, hours, etc.)	<a href="http://www.dot.wi.gov/about/locate/dmv/index.htm">www.dot.wi.gov/about/locate/dmv/index.htm</a>
Driver License Fees	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/driver-fees.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/driver-fees.htm</a>
Driver Training Schools	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/teens/schools/index.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/teens/schools/index.htm</a>
Duplicate License	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/dlreplace.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/dlreplace.htm</a>
Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Log Sheet	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/docs/hs303.pdf">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/docs/hs303.pdf</a>
Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Points, Convictions	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/teens/gdlpoints.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/teens/gdlpoints.htm</a>
Identification (ID) Card	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/idcard.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/idcard.htm</a>
Motorists' Handbook online	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/handbook.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/handbook.htm</a>
New Wisconsin Residents	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/nonreside/index.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/nonreside/index.htm</a>
Occupational License	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/ revoke/occlcx.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/ revoke/occlcx.htm</a>
Online Services	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/online.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/online.htm</a>
Opt Out (withhold your name from lists being sold)	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/optout.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/optout.htm</a>
Points and Point System	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/points/pointfaq.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/points/pointfaq.htm</a>
Reinstating a Revoked or Suspended license	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/ revoke/reinstat.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/ revoke/reinstat.htm</a>
Schedule a Skills (Road) Test	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/schedule.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/schedule.htm</a>
Teen Drivers	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/teens/index.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/teens/index.htm</a>
Traffic Safety Courses	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/points/trafsaf.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/points/trafsaf.htm</a>
Vehicle Registration Fees	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/vehicles/veh-fees.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/vehicles/veh-fees.htm</a>
Vehicle Registration/Licensing, General Information	<a href="http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/vehicles/title/index.htm">www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/vehicles/title/index.htm</a>
WI DMV Driver Practice Test Mobile Application	<a href="http://www.drivertest.dot.wi.gov">www.drivertest.dot.wi.gov</a>



**Still have a question or need more information?**

Email your question to: [driverrecords.dmv@dot.wi.gov](mailto:driverrecords.dmv@dot.wi.gov) or call (608) 266-2353.

## CONSIDER SAVING A LIFE BY BECOMING AN ORGAN DONOR

You will be asked if you wish to register as an organ, tissue and eye donor when you apply for or renew your Identification (ID) card, instruction permit or driver license. Upon death, donors help save and improve lives through transplantation, therapy, research or education. If you are 18 or older, checking the box indicates your legal consent for donation. Check the box to include your name in the donor registry every time you update your driver record. Please share your decision with your family. You can also register online at [www.DonorRegistry.Wisconsin.gov](http://www.DonorRegistry.Wisconsin.gov).

## ABSOLUTE SOBRIETY

Wisconsin has an Absolute Sobriety or "Not a Drop" law. This means that drivers under 21 may not have a drop of alcohol in their system when operating a motor vehicle.

**Note:** This manual is intended to inform the user of the Rules of the Road (Wisconsin state laws and Administrative Rules), as well as important safety tips. Information in this and other handbooks and manuals published by the Division of Motor Vehicles is not all-inclusive and is subject to change at any time due to new or revised laws.





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## INTRODUCTION

This large print, abridged version of the Wisconsin Motorists' Handbook is intended for use by persons with limited reading proficiency. All other readers should study the Wisconsin Motorists' Handbook.

This book will help you understand the basic rules of driving. However, it is not a complete statement of Wisconsin traffic law. If you have a question the book does not answer, ask a driver license examiner or a police officer.

## GETTING A LICENSE

If you want to drive a car in Wisconsin, you must:

- Have a driver license from another state.  
*or*
- Pass a Wisconsin knowledge test, a traffic signs test and a vision test.  
*and*
- Get a Wisconsin instruction (learner's) permit.  
*and*
- Practice driving.  
*and*
- Pass the road test.

If you are under 18, you need to complete a Driver Education course. You will also need to have an adult sponsor.

You must show documents to the DMV examiner to prove your:

- citizenship or immigration status;
- name and date of birth;
- identity;
- address (where you live);
- Social Security number.

## **LEARNING TO DRIVE WITH AN INSTRUCTION PERMIT**

You must be at least 15½ years old.

All persons learning to drive must have an instruction permit.

To get an instruction permit, you must pass several tests.

You may not drive alone with an instruction permit.

The person sitting next to you must have 2 years driving experience and hold a regular license (not a probationary or occupational license). You must drive with one of these people sitting next to you:

- A certified driver education teacher age 19 or older. Other students may sit in the back seat of the car.

***or***

- One of your parents, your guardian or your spouse age 19 or older. Your immediate family members may ride along in the back seat.

***or***

- A person age 21 or older. (If you are under age 18, this person must have permission, in writing, from your parent or guardian before they can ride with you.)

## **THREE TESTS: TRAFFIC SIGNS, KNOWLEDGE AND ROAD TESTS**

Most tests are given at the Wisconsin Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) by a driver license examiner. Some driver education teachers give the tests, too. The tests are to see if you understand Wisconsin road signs and Wisconsin traffic laws.

The person who gives you the tests will also check your vision. The examiner wants to find out if you can see well enough to drive safely.

You must pass a traffic signs test and a knowledge test to get an instruction permit.

Later, after you practice driving, you must pass a road test to get a full driver license.

### **TRAFFIC SIGNS TEST**

You will need to identify several signs by their colors and shapes.

### **KNOWLEDGE TEST**

You will need to answer 50 questions. These questions will ask you about good driving habits, traffic rules, laws and other driving-related things.

*Scan this QR code or go online at [www.drivertest.dot.wi.gov](http://www.drivertest.dot.wi.gov) to take a practice driving test.*



If you have trouble reading the test, tell the examiner. They can give you the test with audio (you will hear the questions and answer choices through a set of headphones.) The examiner is there to help you.

When you pass the traffic signs and knowledge tests and pay the required fee, you will get your instruction permit.

A person with a valid driver license from another state may get a Wisconsin license without taking these tests.

## **THE ROAD TEST**

Seven or more days after you get your instruction permit, you can take a driving test. You need to make an appointment for a road test. (See inside back cover.)

You should practice driving before taking the road test.

## **TIPS FOR TAKING THE ROAD TEST**

Be sure the car you want to drive for the test is safe. The examiner will check the car's:

- Headlights (high and low beam)
- Turn signals
- Brakes
- Brake lights
- Horn
- Windshield wipers
- Speedometer
- Tail lights
- Current license plate
- License plate light
- Tires
- Defroster
- Windows
- Mirrors
- Exhaust system
- Safety belts (Be sure the safety belts work and are clean.)

## TAKING THE ROAD TEST

The examiner will watch to be sure you do these things:

- Put your car in neutral and push the clutch all the way down before you start. If you have an automatic transmission, this does not apply.
- Look behind you to be sure the way is clear before you pull out.
- Keep your foot off the clutch pedal when you drive (except to shift.)

The examiner will:

- Tell you where to drive and where to stop and turn. You will have enough time to plan what to do.
- Check to see that you put on your turn signal, check your mirrors and look over your shoulder before you change lanes.
- Check to see if you have both hands on the wheel.
- Check to see that you are sitting up straight.
- Check to see if you drive within the speed limit.
- Ask you to park.
- Ask you to back up.
- Ask you to stop on a hill and park.
- Ask you to turn around using the “Y” turn.
- May ask you to turn onto a one-way street.

You will not get a driver license if any of these things happen during the road test:

- You break a traffic law.
- You cause danger for another driver or a pedestrian.
- You are in a crash.

- You appear not to have had enough training or practice driving.
- You are unable to control your car or handle driving in traffic.
- You make too many driving mistakes.

Do not try to have someone else take your road test for you. It is against the law.

If you pass the road test and pay the required fee, you will get your driver license.

Be sure to carry your driver license with you every time you drive a car. Do not keep it in the glove box.

## **MOVING TO WISCONSIN FROM ANOTHER STATE**

If you move to Wisconsin with a driver license from another state, you must get a Wisconsin license within 60 days. You must give up your other license. You must show a second ID, like a signed Social Security card or picture ID.

Your vision will be checked. You may need to take tests about traffic laws and traffic signs. Usually, a road test is not needed.

## **MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE REQUIREMENT**

You may not drive a car in Wisconsin unless it has car insurance. Insurance pays for damages if you crash. As the driver or owner of a vehicle, it is your responsibility to have insurance.

You should keep proof of the insurance in your car. The proof can be an insurance card or letter from the insurance company.

A police officer may ask you for proof of insurance at a traffic stop or crash. You can be fined up to \$500 if you do not have insurance. The police will not stop you just to check for insurance.

## BEFORE YOU DRIVE

### **PLAN AHEAD — SAVE GAS!**

You can save gas and make your car last longer if you do these things:

- Ride the bus or take a cab.
- Car pool or ride share.
- Walk or ride a bicycle whenever possible.
- Avoid driving during rush hour.
- Start slowly and slow down gradually.
- Avoid braking when it is not needed.
- When running errands, make a list before you leave home. Plan a route so you do not have to backtrack.
- Call ahead to make sure they have what you need or want.

## CHECK YOUR CAR

Make sure your car is safe to drive. This will help in case there is an emergency. For example, you will be able to stop quickly when needed if your brakes are in good shape.

Make sure all lights work: turn signals, brake lights, tail lights and headlights.

Keep your headlights, backup, brake and tail lights clean. Dirt on them can reduce the light by as much as 50%.

The windshield of your car should be replaced if it is cracked or broken. It can be very dangerous if something hits a cracked or broken windshield.

Keep your windshield clean. A dirty windshield is hard to see through.

Clear snow and ice from all the windows before you drive.

Windshield wipers need to be in good shape. If the blades are worn, they will not work well and could cause a problem.

Keep your windshield washer container full.

Do not hang things from the mirror. Do not clutter up your windows with decals (stickers). Besides being illegal, they could block your view.

Worn or bald tires can affect how your car handles. You will not be able to stop as fast. You could have a flat tire. You will not have good traction. You can hydroplane even if driving slowly when it is raining. That is when the tires of your car ride on top of water on the road. If that happens, you will not have control of your car.

Keep the right amount of air in your tires. You will get better gas mileage. Your car will handle better, too.

Make sure the steering works correctly. It could be hard to control your car if something is wrong with the steering.

Shocks, springs and struts help make for a smooth ride in your car. If they are worn, the ride will be rough. The car may be hard to control, too.

Make sure the muffler and exhaust pipes are in good shape. Leaking exhaust can kill you! Good mufflers and pipes help your car run better, too.

Make sure the motor runs well. Otherwise, it could quit on the road. That could be dangerous! A car that does not run well costs more to run. And it is more likely to break down or to cause a crash.

Make sure things in the car are put away. If you need to stop quickly, loose things can fly around and hurt someone. Things on the floor could roll under the brake pedal. That could keep you from being able to stop!

Make sure your horn works. If you need it to warn somebody, it could save your life.

## **THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU DRIVE**

Everyone's safety depends a lot on what you do before you drive. Here are some things you should do before you start to drive:

- Check the tires to make sure they have enough air in them.
- Make sure all windows are cleared of snow and ice.
- Adjust the seat.
- Adjust the mirrors.
- Buckle your safety belt.
- Make sure others in the car are buckled up, too.

## SAFETY BELTS

Wisconsin requires all people in the car to wear a safety belt or be in an approved safety seat. If your car has airbags, you still need to wear a safety belt.



If you are not sitting behind the steering wheel, you cannot control the car. Safety belts keep you in your seat so you can control the car if something happens. Safety belts also keep you from being thrown out of the car if you are in a bad crash. Wearing a safety belt helps you to avoid being hurt in a crash. Always buckle up! It can save your life!

Your safety belt should fit across your hips. If your car has separate seat and shoulder belts, always wear both.

## CHILDREN AND SAFETY BELTS OR SEATS

The safest place for children is in the middle of the back seat. If they are in the front seat and the airbags go off, children can be badly hurt or even die.

Always buckle children in a safety seat, booster seat or safety belt. Wisconsin law says:

- Children under 4 years old must be in a safety seat.
- Children 4 to 8 years old must be in a safety seat or booster seat.
- Children over 8 or taller than 57 inches should use a safety belt.



## WARNING

Do not hold a baby in your arms or on your lap.

Children must be in a safety seat, booster seat or safety belt at all times.



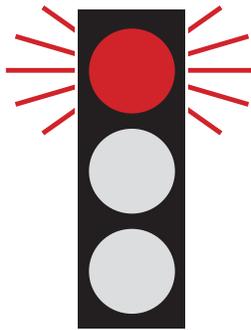
# RULES OF THE ROAD

## TRAFFIC SIGNALS (LIGHTS)



### Red

You must stop. If it is safe and there is no sign saying right turns are not allowed, you can turn right after stopping. You must yield to all pedestrians and traffic!



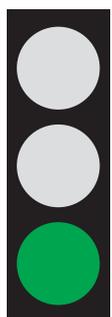
### Flashing Red

You must stop. Go when it is safe. You do not have to wait for the light to turn green.



### Red arrow

You must stop. Under Wisconsin law, a red arrow means the same thing as a red traffic light.



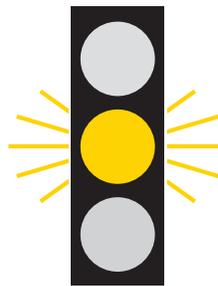
### Green

You can go if it is safe. Wait for people crossing the street or vehicles still in the intersection.



### Yellow

Means be careful. Stop if you can do so safely. The yellow light will soon turn red.



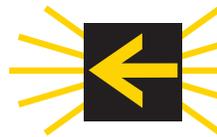
### Flashing yellow

Slow down. You may continue, but do so carefully. Look for other cars first.



### Yellow arrow

Stop if you can do so safely. The yellow will soon turn red. But if you have already started to turn, complete the turn.



### Flashing yellow arrow

Turns are permitted. You must first yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians. Then proceed with caution.



### Green arrow

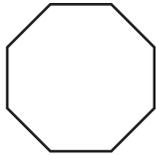
You may turn the way the arrow points. Be careful. Wait for people crossing the street. You must wait for other cars that are still in the intersection.

## TRAFFIC SIGNS

Traffic signs tell you about traffic rules and hazards. They tell you where you are and how to get to where you want to go. They tell you where services are. Each type of sign is identified by its shape and color.

### SIGN SHAPES

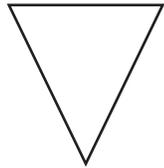
The shape of a sign is the first thing you will see. You need to know what the shape means in case the sign is covered by snow or dirt.



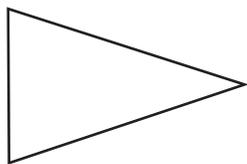
**STOP SIGN**



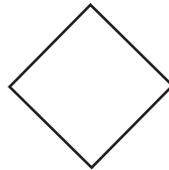
**GUIDE SIGN**



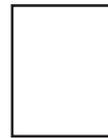
**YIELD SIGN**



**NO PASSING ZONE**



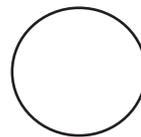
**WARNING OF  
POSSIBLE DANGER**



**INFORMATION ON DRIVING  
RULES AND LAWS**



**SCHOOL AND SCHOOL  
CROSSING SIGN**



**RAILROAD CROSSING**

## **SIGN COLORS**

This is what sign colors mean.



**RED**

Stop, yield, or you cannot do something



**BLUE**

Tells you where you can get help



**YELLOW**

Warning



**ORANGE**

The road is being fixed or people are working on or near the road



**WHITE**

Information, rules or laws



**BROWN**

Parks, recreation areas or scenic places



**GREEN**

Information

## WORDS FOUND ON TRAFFIC SIGNS

You should know what these words mean.

ahead	emergency	motorized	slow
airport	enforced	narrow	soft
all way	enter	north	south
alternate	entrance	obey	speed
arrow	except	oil	steep
begin	excluded	oncoming	survey crew
between signs	exempt	only	temporary
beyond	exit	outlet	through
bike	expressway	outside	tons
block	facing	park	tow away zone
bridge	fallen rock	pavement	tracks
bump	feet	ped	trailer hitch
business	flashing	pedestrian	unlawful
bypass	grade	pick-up	uses
careful	gravel	playground	village
carefully	highway	present	walk
cattle	hitchhiking	proceed	warning
caution	hospital	prohibited	way
clearance	increase	push button	weigh station
closed	intersection	radar	west
commercial	interstate	railroad	wet
construction	junction	ramp	winding
controlled	lane	reduce	work
county	law	reserved	wrong
crossing	limit	rest area	X-ing
crosswalk	local	restricted	yield
curb	lodging	resume	your
decrease	loose	road	zone
deer	low	rough	
detour	lugs	route	
dip	machinery	school	
direction	maintenance	sharp	
divided	merging	shoulders	
double	minimum	signals	
down	motorcycle	single	
east	motorists	slippery	

## SIGN EXAMPLES

RED means you must stop or yield. Some red signs mean you must not do something.



A **stop sign** is red with white letters. It has eight sides. A stop sign means you must stop. Just slowing down for a stop sign is against the law.

These signs tell you **not** to do something. The red circle and stripe means NO.



**NO TRUCKS**



**NO LEFT TURN**



**NO U-TURN**



**NO BICYCLES**



**NO RIGHT TURN**



**NO ENTRY**



This sign means **YIELD the right-of-way**. Slow down. Other cars on the road that you want to cross or enter have the right-of-way. You must let them go first.

The **YIELD sign** is a triangle pointing down.

**YELLOW** means caution or warning.



The railroad crossing sign is a round, yellow sign with a black "X". The RR on the sign means Rail Road. It is before the crossing. It warns of possible danger. Always slow down and look both ways before crossing railroad tracks.

Some caution or warning signs are diamond shaped. They tell you of possible danger ahead.

These signs show an image of the warning.



**INTERSECTION**



**MERGING TRAFFIC  
FROM RIGHT**



**HILL**



**DIVIDED HIGHWAY**



**PEDESTRIAN  
CROSSING**



**SIGNAL AHEAD**



**SLIPPERY  
WHEN WET**



**TWO-WAY TRAFFIC**



**DEER CROSSING**



A 5-sided sign means you are in a **School Zone**. You must slow to 15 mph (unless another speed is posted) when children or a crossing guard are present.



The **NO PASSING sign** is found on the left side of the road. The sign will face you. If you pass, you have to be back on your side of the road before you reach the no passing zone sign.

Here are some other signs that warn you of danger ahead.

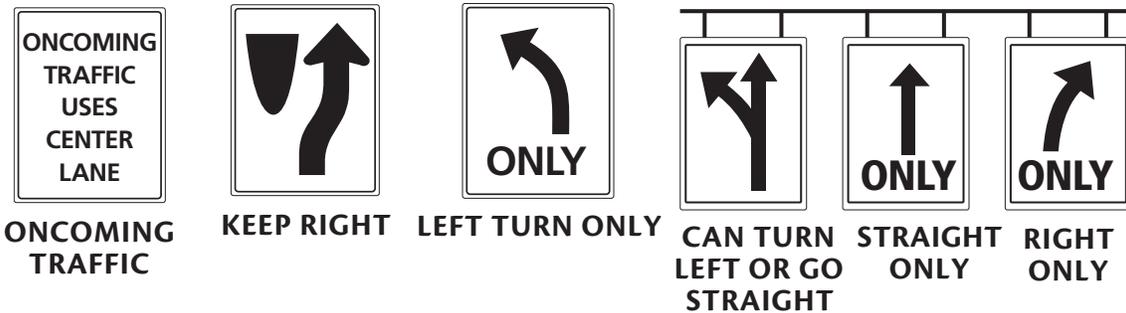


**STOP AHEAD**



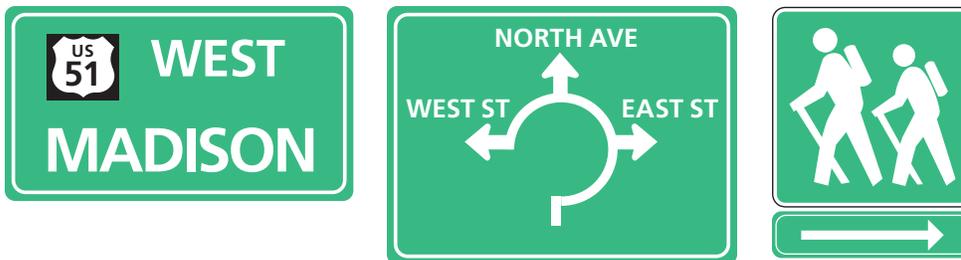
**WHITE** and **BLACK** means regulations (rules) and information.

These signs are square or a rectangle.



**GREEN** means where to go for places or things.

These signs tell drivers and people walking which way to go.



**BLUE** means there are services nearby.

These are service signs.



**ORANGE** means people are working on the road. Slow down and drive carefully when you are passing people working on the road.



**FLAGGER**



**WORKER**



A **slow moving vehicle** must have a sign on the back of it. The sign is in the shape of a triangle and reflects light. The sign tells you the trailer, tractor, horse-drawn vehicle or truck is moving at a speed of less than 25 mph.

Slow down when you see the slow-moving vehicle sign. You may need to stay behind the vehicle because of traffic coming toward you. Be very careful when you do pass.

**BROWN** means information about a recreation or scenic place.



You will see these signs pointing to a swimming pool, park, ice skating rink or other places where people go to relax and have fun.

## PEOPLE DIRECTING TRAFFIC

If a police officer or other official person is directing traffic, you do not need to obey signs or signals. You should do what that person directs you to do.



## CROSSWALKS

Crosswalks are special areas for people to cross the street. They are often (but not always) marked with yellow or white lines. People in a crosswalk have the right-of-way.

Not all crosswalks are at corners or intersections. They may be in the middle of a block.

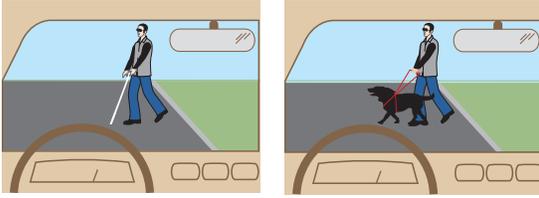
These signs are used at crosswalks. Older signs will be yellow. Newer signs are fluorescent green.

## PEDESTRIANS

A person who walks is called a pedestrian. You must wait for a pedestrian to cross the road before driving forward.



At some corners, pedestrians have “WALK” and “DON’T WALK” signals. If a signal changes from “WALK” to “DON’T WALK” when the pedestrian is still in the road, you must wait for them to cross the road before driving forward.



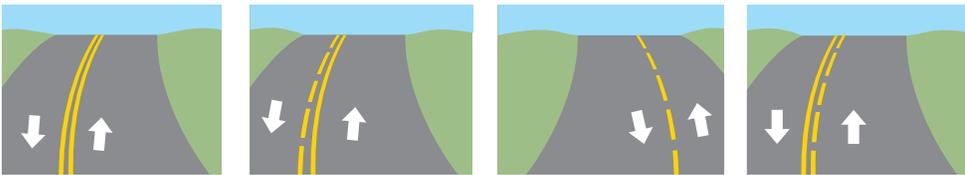
**Blind people** may carry a white cane when they walk. Or they may be led by a guide dog. If you see anyone in the road with a white cane or guide dog, stop at least 10 feet away until the person is off the road.



## ROAD MARKINGS

**Yellow road markings** divide lanes of traffic going in opposite directions.

You must not pass if there is a solid yellow line on your side of the center line.



**DO NOT PASS**

**YOU MAY PASS**

Although it is sometimes legal to pass on the right, it is usually not a good idea. The other driver may not expect you to pass on the right and might turn right as you are passing. This would cause a crash. Pass on the left if at all possible.

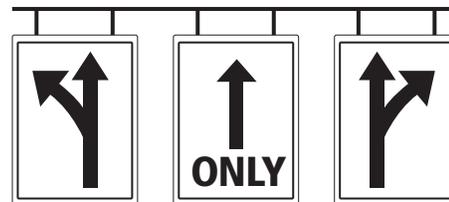
You can pass on the right when the car ahead is making a left turn. You must not drive off the pavement, though.

Some signs or lines painted on the road will show what you can do from certain lanes. These signs or road markings mean:

**Left lane:** *can go straight or turn left.*

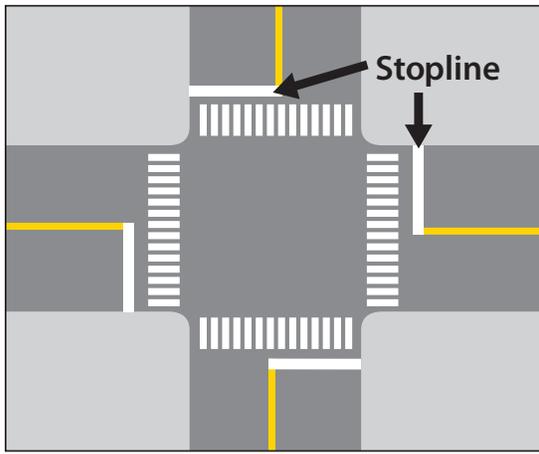
**Middle lane:** *can only go straight.*

**Right lane:** *can go straight or turn right.*

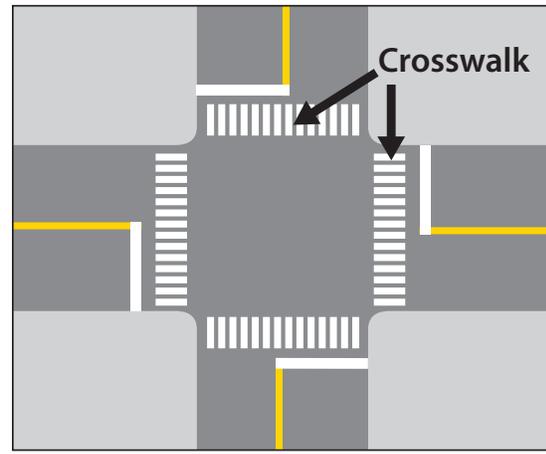


## STOPPING

There are rules about where your car should be when you stop for a stop sign.



The front part of your car should be just before the stop line painted on the road.



If there is no stop line painted on the road, you must stop before you enter the crosswalk (place where people walk).

Be alert so you know ahead of time when you will have to stop. Trying to stop quickly can make you lose control of your car. It is also harder for someone behind you to stop without hitting you.

Try to avoid panic stops by seeing things far enough ahead of time. You may not need to stop at all if you see things far enough ahead. Sometimes all you may need to do is slow down or change lanes.

Keep your car in gear while driving. That way, the engine will help give braking power.

## INTERSECTIONS



An intersection is where two or more roads cross or join.

Slow down when you come to an intersection without a STOP sign. Watch for cars crossing the road you are on. Watch for people walking, too.

Before you start through an intersection, you need to check for cross traffic. Look left. Look right. Look across (straight ahead.) Then look left again.

If your view of the cross street is blocked by trees, buildings or parked cars, slow down even more. You may need to stop quickly if another car appears that you could not see because something blocked your view.

If you cannot see down the cross street because of trees, buildings or parked cars, slowly pull ahead a little bit. Check down the cross street again. Make sure nobody is coming before you go. Be sure to look for people walking, too!

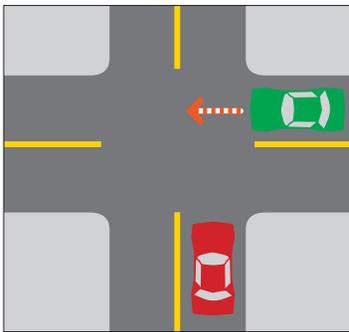
## RIGHT-OF-WAY

There are rules about who can go first at intersections (crossings.) These rules are called the “right-of-way.” You “yield” the right-of-way when you let someone else go first.

Pedestrians (people walking) **always** have the right-of-way. It does not matter where they walk—if they are on a street or road—always yield the right-of-way to pedestrians!

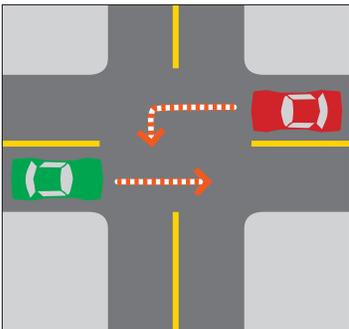
Here are some examples of who has the right-of-way:

### CONTROLLED INTERSECTIONS



Intersections with stop signs at all corners (4-way stop) are called controlled intersections. The first driver to get there has the right-of-way. If two or more drivers get there at the same time, the driver to your right can go first.

### UNCONTROLLED INTERSECTIONS



Uncontrolled intersections are those with no signs or stop lights. In the drawing at the left, the driver going straight (green car) has the right-of-way. The red car must let the green car go through the crossing first.

If more than one driver is going straight, the one to your right can go first.

In this drawing, the red car must wait. The green car can go first. The green car has the right-of-way because it is going straight. The red car must wait because it is turning.

# RULES FOR DRIVING ROUNDABOUTS

[www.wisconsinroundabouts.gov](http://www.wisconsinroundabouts.gov)

## GENERAL INFORMATION FOR ALL ROUNDABOUTS

The same general rules apply for driving through a roundabout as for driving through any other type of intersection.

## TRUCK APRON

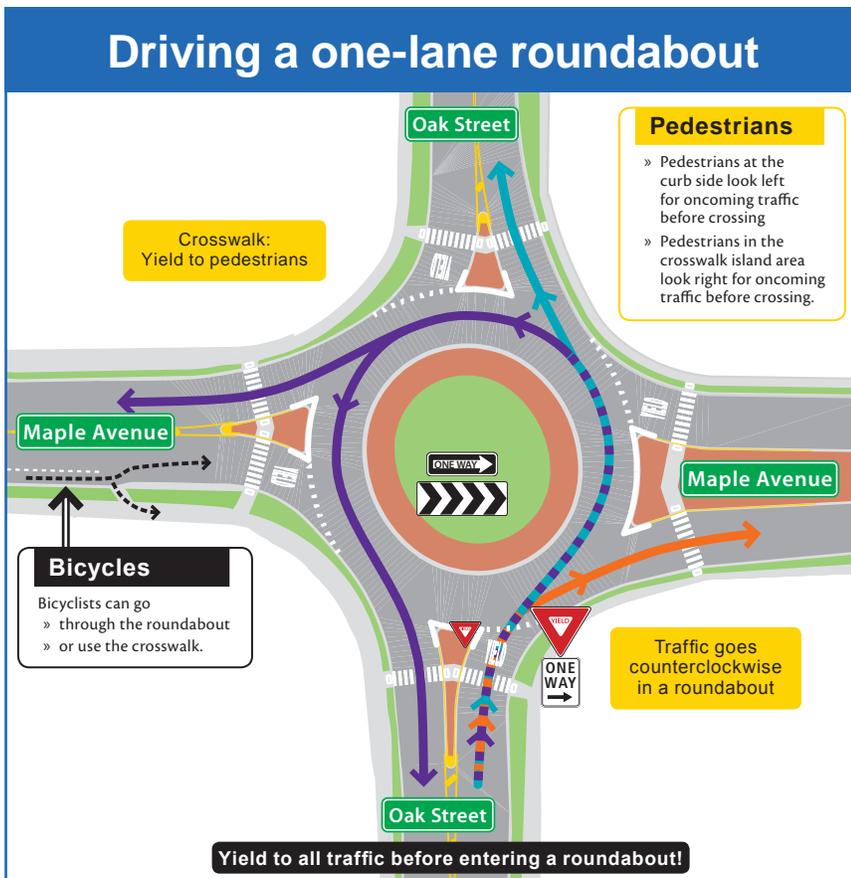
A truck apron is a paved area on the inside of a roundabout for the rear wheels of large trucks to use when turning. Truck aprons are not to be used by cars, SUVs or pickup trucks.

## EMERGENCY VEHICLES IN A ROUNDABOUT

- Always yield to emergency vehicles.
- If you have not entered the roundabout, pull over and allow emergency vehicles to pass.
- If you have entered the roundabout, continue to your exit, then pull over and allow emergency vehicles to pass.
- Avoid stopping in the roundabout.

## STEPS FOR DRIVING A ROUNDABOUT

1. Slow down. Obey traffic signs.
2. Yield to people walking and biking.
3. Yield to traffic on your left already in the roundabout.
4. Enter the roundabout when there is a safe gap in traffic.
5. Drive slowly in the roundabout.
6. As you approach your exit, turn on your right turn signal.
7. Yield to people walking and biking as you exit.



## << DRIVING A ONE-LANE ROUNDABOUT

This drawing shows how traffic moves in a one-lane roundabout. The one-lane roundabout is one of the safest intersections.

## URNS

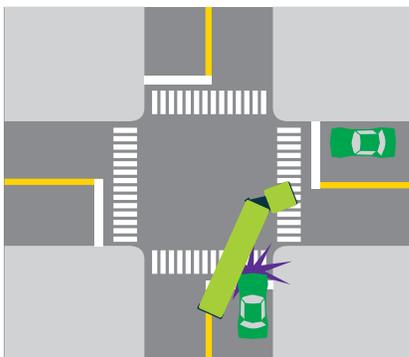
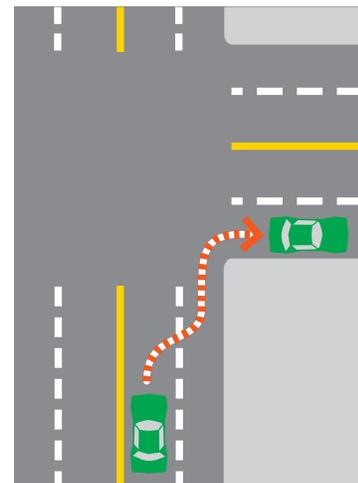
Before you turn, you should check your mirrors for drivers behind you. They need to know you will be slowing down. Otherwise they could run into you.

You can move into a bus/bicycle lane to prepare for a turn. But make sure it is safe! First check for someone riding a bicycle in the lane. Turn your head and look.

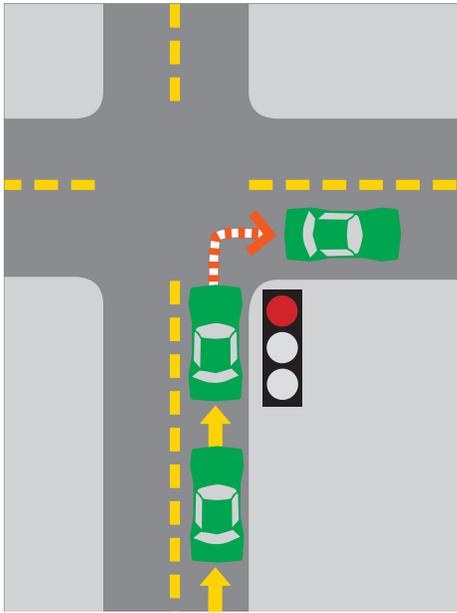
## RIGHT TURNS

Here are the steps for a right turn:

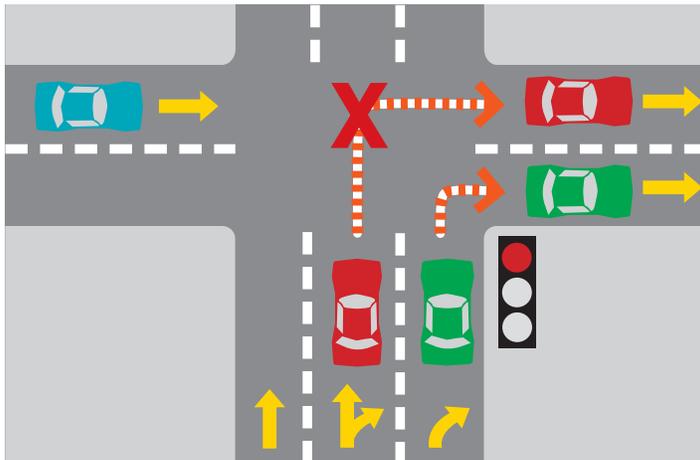
- Move to the far-right travel lane.
- Put your turn signal on about 100 feet from the corner. But if there is a driveway between you and where you want to turn, wait until you have passed the driveway before you put on your turn signal. Otherwise, other people might think you are turning into the driveway.
- Look both ways for traffic and people crossing.
- Turn into the lane closest to the right side of the road as you turn the corner. Watch for cars parked along the curb.



**Caution:** Watch for large trucks and buses making right turns. In order to make the turn, they may **need** to swing left before turning right. Do not try to pass these vehicles on the right.



Right turns can be made when a traffic light is red unless there is a “No turn on red” sign. Move into the lane farthest to the right. Stop. Wait until all pedestrians, bicycles and cars are out of the way.



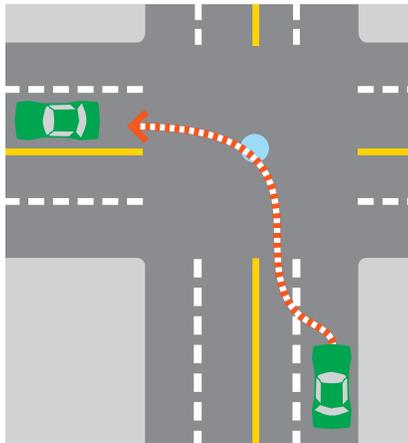
If there is more than one lane for right turns, you can only turn right on red from the lane farthest to the right (see the green car).

The red cars and the red “X” show what **not** to do. If you were to turn from the left lane, you would be in the way of the blue car coming through the intersection on a green light.

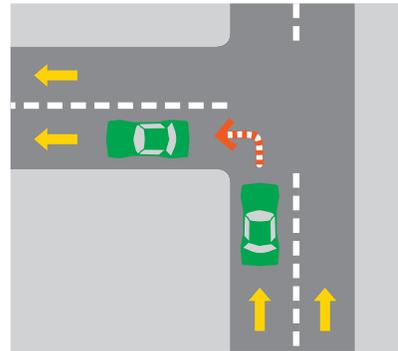
## LEFT TURNS

To make a left turn:

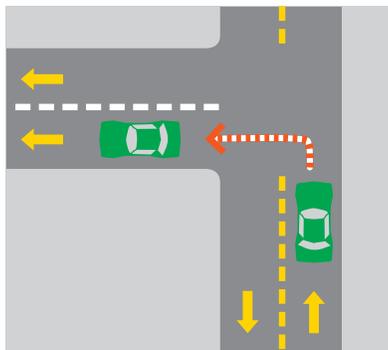
- Move over close to the center line.
- Put your turn signal on and slow down 100 feet from the corner.
- Look both ways for traffic and people crossing.
- As you turn, keep close to the center line, but stay on the right side of it.
- After you complete the turn, return to the right most lane. Remember to use your turn signal to show you are moving over!



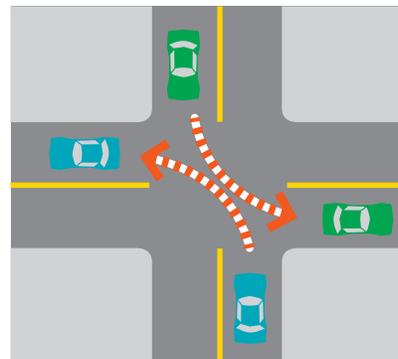
**FROM DIVIDED TO  
DIVIDED HIGHWAY**



**FROM ONE-WAY TO  
ONE-WAY STREET**



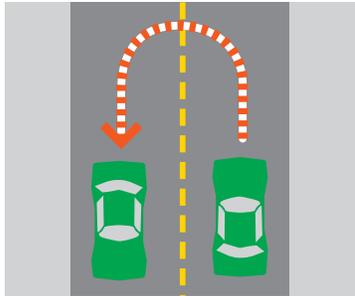
**FROM TWO-WAY TO  
ONE-WAY STREET**



**FROM TWO-WAY TO  
TWO-WAY STREET**

To make a left turn at a green traffic light:

- Enter the intersection. Keep your wheels straight.
- Wait for traffic to clear. Then make your left turn.



## U-TURN

A U-turn is a turn on the road as shown in the drawing.

You can make a U-turn on any country, two-lane road if it can be done safely.

You may not make a U-turn at any of these places:

- In a business district.
- On a main highway in a residential area.
- When a sign says you cannot make a U-turn.
- When a police officer is directing traffic.
- Any place where a U-turn cannot be made safely.

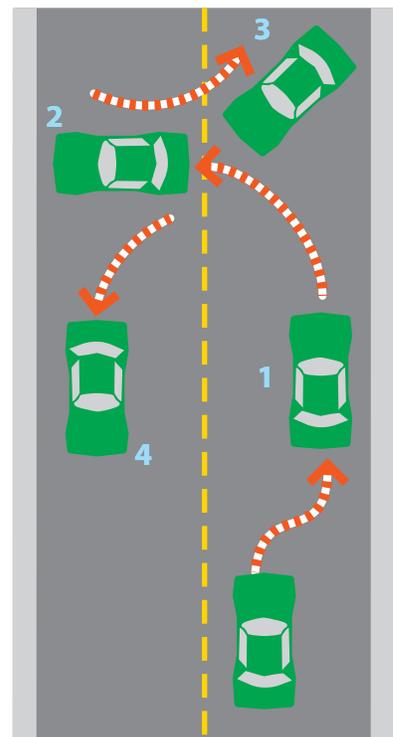
## Y-TURN

A Y-turn is used to turn around on a road. You should not attempt a Y-turn if there is another way to turn around. Because making a Y-turn is a test of skill and judgment, it is used in the road test.

This is how to make a Y-turn on a two-lane road.

Before each step, check for traffic in your blind spot.

1. Signal right. Pull to the right side of the road and stop. (See #1 in the drawing.)
2. Check traffic in mirrors and blind spot. When the way is clear, signal left. Pull over at an angle to the left side of the road. (#2)



3. Check for traffic. Turn wheels to the right. Look through the back window. Back close to the curb behind you. If there is a curb, do not touch it with the car wheels. (#3)
4. Turn wheels to the left. Check for traffic. Pull ahead when it is safe to do so. (#4)

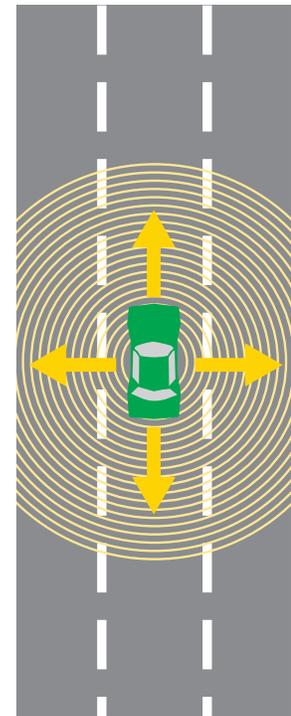
## SPACE

You need to keep space between your car and other cars. This “cushion of space” should be on all sides of your car— front, back and both sides.

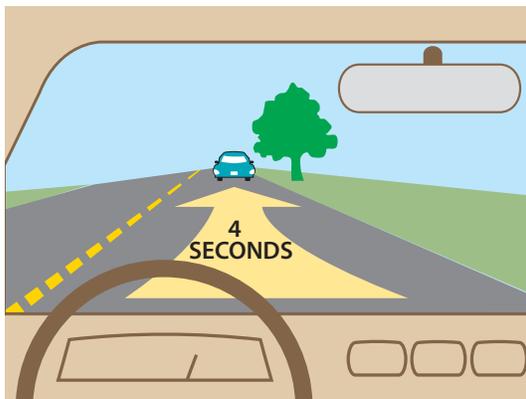
To be safe, you need space alongside your car. If you have to swerve to miss something in the road, you will need that space to be open so you have somewhere to go!

You should look well ahead of your car. Look at least 10 to 15 seconds ahead. Look from side to side, too. That will help you see danger ahead of time. It will give you time to react and avoid the danger.

Remember, the faster you drive, the farther ahead you should look.



## FOLLOWING



If you stay back from the car in front of you, you will have time to react and stop if you need to. If you are too close behind the car ahead of you, you could run into them if they need to stop quickly.

You should keep at least 3 to 4 seconds between you and the car ahead of you. Here is how to figure out how close you are to the car in front of you.

When the car ahead passes a post or marker of any kind, count “one thousand one, one thousand two, one thousand three, one thousand four.” When you get to “one thousand three” or “one thousand four”, your car should not have passed the post or marker from which you started counting. If you already passed the post or marker, you are too close.

Increase your following distance to even more than 3 or 4 seconds when:

- Road conditions are bad.
- Following a motorcycle or bicycle.
- Following drivers who cannot see behind because their view is blocked.
- You have a heavy load or are pulling a trailer.
- Someone is following you too closely.
- You are following an emergency vehicle.
- Coming up to railroad crossings.
- Stopping on a hill or incline.

## **BEING FOLLOWED**

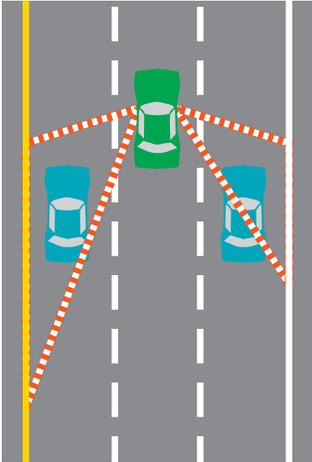
You need to watch behind your car, too. If someone follows you too closely, it is called tailgating.

It is dangerous to have someone tailgate you. If you need to stop quickly, they can run into you. If you slow down a little, it will help make them want to pass you.

Check your rearview mirror often for traffic behind you. You can see if someone is following too closely. Check your mirrors every 6 to 8 seconds.

You should let cars behind you know if there is danger ahead. You can do this by quickly tapping your brake pedal 3 or 4 times.

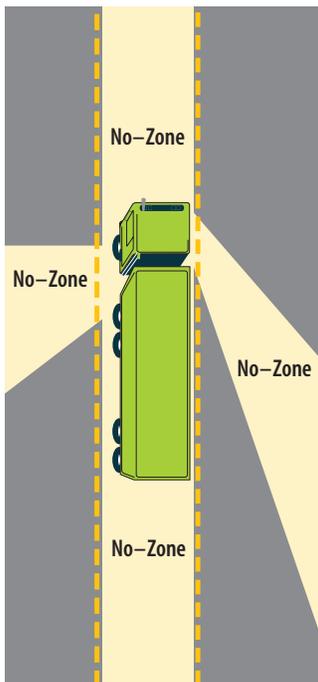
## BLIND SPOTS



The “blind spot” is the area beside you or near the rear corners of your car. You cannot see these spots in the mirrors. You need to turn your head and look over your shoulder to see if a car is there.

Look over your shoulder in the direction you want to go. For example, if you want to move over to the left, look over your left shoulder.

## NO ZONE



Big trucks have trouble seeing you if you get too close. They cannot see cars close behind them or in front of them. They have trouble seeing cars along side them, too. These areas are called the “No Zone.” Stay out of the “No Zone!”

Stay at least 200 feet behind big trucks. And do not stay in the area alongside a truck. They cannot see you there!

If you pass a big truck, wait until you can see both of its headlights in your rearview mirror before you pull back in. Big trucks cannot see things closer than 20 feet in front of them. This area is part of the “No Zone”, too.

## CURVES

Slow down before you enter a curve. This will help you keep control of your car while you make the curve.

## FUNERAL PROCESSIONS

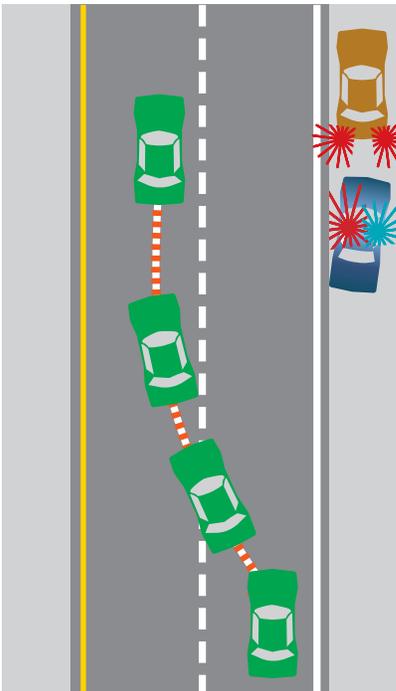
Drivers in a funeral procession (line) should turn on their headlights. Only the first car in the line must obey traffic signs or signals. Other traffic should stop and let the funeral procession go. Be careful, though! You need to be ready to slow or stop if other drivers do not follow this rule.

## EMERGENCY VEHICLES

When you hear a siren or see flashing red lights, pull over to the side of the road and stop until the emergency vehicle has passed.

If you are in an intersection, finish going through it before you pull over and stop.

When you see a snow plow with its red or amber lights on, slow down. The snow it throws will make it hard for you to see. Give the plow as much room as you can. Stay at least 200 feet behind it. Do not try to pass it because you may not see a car coming toward you.

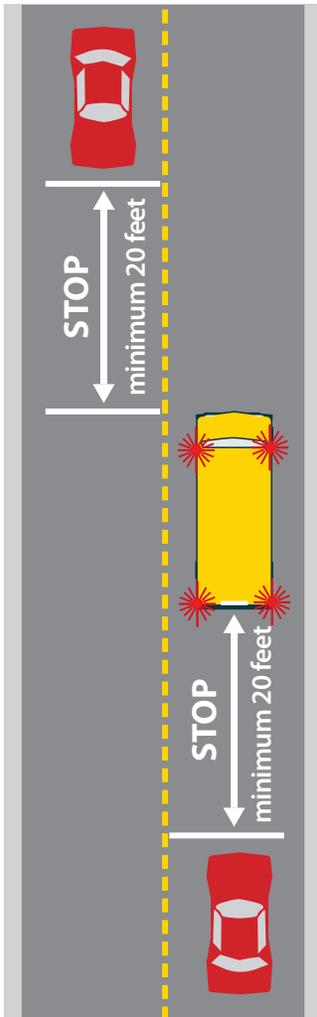


### MOVE OVER LAW

When you approach an emergency vehicle (such as a police car) that is stopped with its flashing lights on, you must move over into a lane away from the emergency vehicle until you safely pass. If it is not safe to move over to another lane, slow down until you have passed.

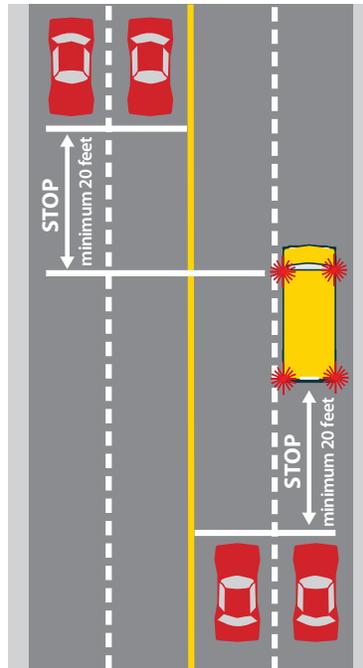
## SCHOOL BUSES

You must stop if you approach a school bus that has stopped and has its flashing lights on and stop arm out. It is loading or unloading children. You may not go until the flashing lights on the bus go off. You may not make a right turn in front of a school bus or a city bus that is stopped at an intersection to load or unload people.



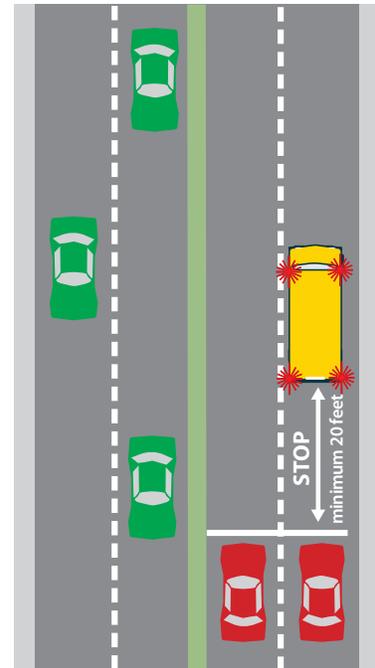
### TWO LANE ROAD

On a 2-lane road, all cars must stop at least 20 feet behind or in front of the school bus.



### HIGHWAY WITHOUT MEDIAN STRIP

On a multi-lane street or highway **without** a median strip, all cars must stop for a school bus that is stopped with its lights flashing, even if the school bus is on the other side of the street or highway.



### DIVIDED HIGHWAY WITH MEDIAN STRIP

On a divided street or highway **with** a median strip, you do not need to stop for a school bus that has stopped on the other side of the divided highway.

## PARKING RULES

When you park on a level surface, put your car in 'park'. If your car has a stick shift, put it in gear. Set the parking brake.

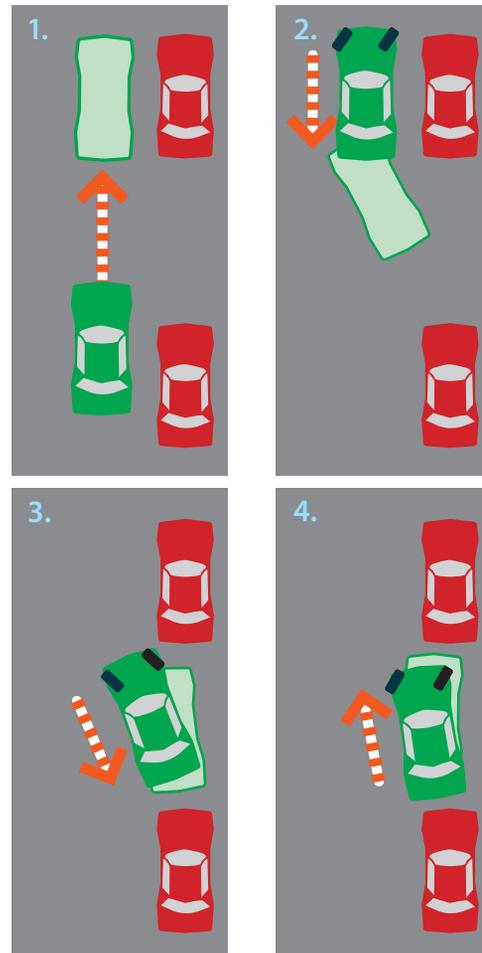
Most parking lots and some streets require angle parking. Lines painted on the pavement show you the parking space for each car.

Where parking is allowed, you may park next to the curb on the same side of the street you are driving on. This is called parallel parking. In parallel parking, your front and back wheels should be within 1 foot of the curb or the side of the street. Your front and back bumpers should be no closer than 2 feet from the car in front or in back of you.

### STEPS TO PARALLEL PARK

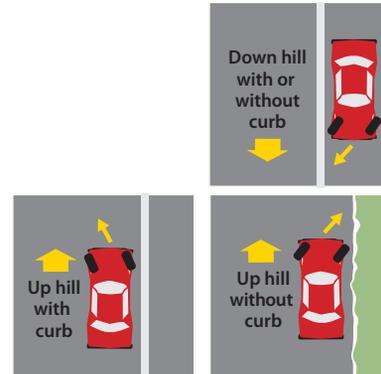
Watch for traffic, pedestrians and fixed objects during each step.

1. Check for traffic. Put your turn signal on. Stop even with the car ahead of the spot where you want to park. You should be about 2 feet away from it.
2. Turn the wheel to the right and slowly back toward the car behind the spot where you want to park.
3. When clear of the car ahead, turn the wheel sharply to the left. Back slowly to the car behind.
4. Turn wheel to the right. Move forward into the center of the parking space.



## HILL PARKING

1. When you park downhill, turn your front wheels toward the curb.
2. When you park uphill, turn your front wheels away from the curb.
3. When you park uphill and there is no curb, turn your front wheels toward the side of the road.



Do not park:

- In an intersection.
- In a construction area if your vehicle will block traffic.
- Within 15 feet of a crosswalk or intersection.
- Within 10 feet of a fire hydrant.
- Within 25 feet of a railroad crossing.
- More than 1 foot from the curb.
- Within 15 feet of a fire station driveway or right across the street from a fire station driveway.
- Within 4 feet of a driveway, alley or private road.
- By the area of a curb removed or lowered for access to a sidewalk.
- In front of a school from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on school days or as posted.
- At entrances to public buildings during certain hours that are posted on signs.
- On a bridge or overpass.
- In a tunnel or underpass.
- On the wrong side of the street.
- In any areas reserved for disabled persons, unless you have a special parking permit or license plates for the disabled.
- On the road side of a parked vehicle (double parking).
- On railroad tracks.
- Wherever a sign says you cannot park.

## **SPEED AND SPEED LIMITS**

If you go faster than the posted speed limit, you could get a ticket.

You must not drive faster than:

- 15 miles per hour (mph) when you pass a school and children are outside.
- 15 mph when you pass a sign marked SCHOOL CROSSING and children or a crossing guard are present.
- 25 mph when you drive on a street in the city limits and in areas where people live.
- 35 mph when you drive outside the city but near the city.
- 55 mph when you drive in the country on state or federal roads.
- 65 mph on marked rural interstate highways.



Where there are signs with other posted speed limits, obey the posted speed limit. You should never drive faster than the speed limit.

Do not drive too much slower than the posted speed limit, though. If you do, traffic can bunch up behind you. This is called “impeding traffic.” Driving too slowly on a busy highway can be just as dangerous as driving too fast. It can make a crash more likely to happen.

If you need to drive slower than the speed limit, stay in the far right lane. Watch traffic conditions around you. If traffic gets bunched up behind you, speed up or pull off the road so the traffic can go around you.

On a divided road, try not to block lanes by driving beside other traffic. If someone stays beside you, speed up or slow down so traffic behind can get by.

## HEADLIGHTS

Parking lights are not legal for driving. Only use them at night to help others see your car when it is parked.

Dim your headlights 500 feet before you meet or come up behind a car on the highway. 500 feet is about 1 block.



Dim your headlights when you drive along a lighted street at night.

Dim your headlights in fog. Bright headlights cause glare.

Turn on your headlights when you are part of a funeral line.

Turn on your headlights if it is raining, even just a little. Other drivers will be able to see you better.

Headlights must be turned on during the hours of darkness. This is from  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour after sunset to  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour before sunrise, or anytime weather conditions make it hard to see.

A good rule is, anytime your windshield wipers are on, your headlights should also be on.

Sometimes you can see okay without your headlights on but it is hard for other drivers to see you. If it is cloudy and gray out, it is a good idea to turn on your headlights. That will help other drivers see your car.

If you meet a car with its bright lights on, look toward the right side of the road. This will help you see better until the car has passed.

## BACKING

When you back up, look through the back window. Turn your head and body. Looking in your rear view mirror is not enough.

Back no faster than a slow walk.

## SIGNALING

- Always signal before you turn.
- Signal at least 100 feet before you turn. This is about 3 seconds or half a block before you turn.
- Signal before changing lanes.

## HAND SIGNALS



LEFT

RIGHT

STOP

When you signal, you should use the signals on your car. If the signals on the car do not work, get them fixed as soon as you can. Use the proper hand signals until then.

## BAD ROAD CONDITIONS



When the roads are bad because of rain or snow, driving can be made less dangerous by knowing and doing these things.

Slow down!

If it has just started to rain, the pavement can be very slippery.

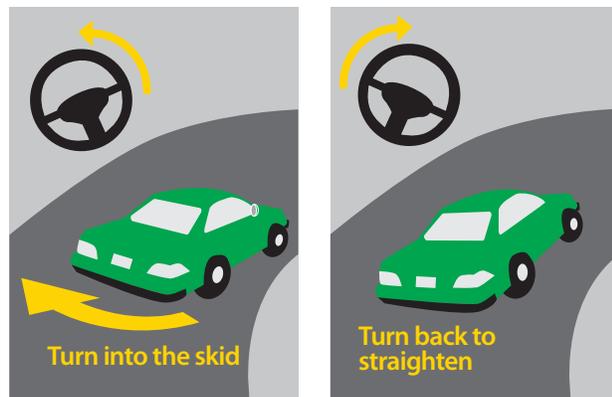
If your wheels slip off the road, slow down until you feel sure you can safely return to the road.

Slow down more when it rains hard. If there is a lot of water on the road, your tires can hydroplane. That means they ride on top of the water. If that happens, you can lose control of your car very quickly and easily. Your car can hydroplane at low speeds if your tires are bald.

When you drive in the fog, watch the centerline or right edge of the road as a guide.

To stop on snow covered roads, use light braking. Gently “pump” the brakes. If your car does not have anti-lock brakes (ABS), do not slam on the brakes or your car could skid.

Do not slam on your brakes if you start to skid. Turn your wheels in the direction of the skid (yellow arrow). Then, when the wheels regain their grip, gently turn back.



If you drive on icy roads, try to avoid using your brakes. Do not over-steer or make sudden, sharp turns. That will make you lose control of your car. Your car can easily go into a skid.

Keep the windshield wiper blades clean. If they are worn, replace them.

Make sure the defroster works.

Before you start to drive, clean all the snow and ice off all the windows, lights and signals. It is against the law to not have the windows completely clean.

Adjust your driving speed to the weather. Drive more slowly if it is hard to see or if the road is slippery.

Stay farther behind the car ahead of you than you would if the roads were clear. Then you can stop in time if the car ahead has trouble or skids (remember the following distance rules.)

Bridges and overpasses sometimes are icy and slick even when the rest of the road is dry. Moisture on bridges and overpasses freezes faster than on the rest of the road.

When the temperature is close to freezing, ice is wet and is more slippery than when it is colder out.

## **FREEWAY DRIVING**

A freeway is a wide highway. Freeways do not have intersections. Freeways have four or more lanes of traffic. Usually the lanes are divided with each direction having its own set of lanes.

### **BEFORE YOU DRIVE ON A FREEWAY**

Check your car to make sure:

- It is in good mechanical shape.
- The tires are in good shape.
- You will not run out of gas.
- The oil and water levels are okay.

Check yourself to make sure:

- You do not drive when you are tired.
- You do not take drugs or alcohol.
- You plan the trip.
- You know which entrances and exits to use for getting on and off a freeway.
- You watch what is happening.
- You look in the rear view mirror often.
- You stop and rest before you get tired.

## **SPECIAL FREEWAY DRIVING RULES**

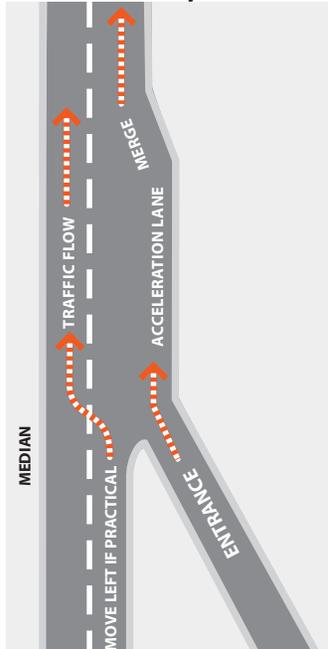
Never back up on a freeway. If you miss your exit, go to the next one and get off. Re-enter the freeway and drive back to where you want to get off.

Do not stop on the shoulder unless it is an emergency. Do not walk. Stay by the car and wait for an officer.

Do not stop on a freeway unless an officer is stopping all the cars because there is a problem ahead.

## ENTERING A FREEWAY

Entrance ramp



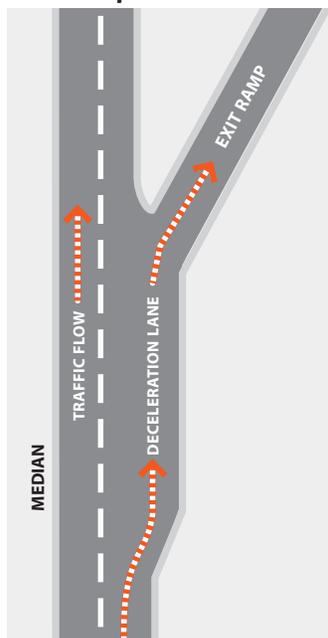
An entrance ramp is a one-way road allowing safe, easy entry onto a freeway.

You must use good sense and good timing in order to merge smoothly with traffic already on the freeway. Use the side mirror and look over your shoulder to check traffic already on the freeway. Try to match your speed with the speed of the freeway traffic. Pick a gap in the line of cars and get into the traffic smoothly.

Make room for cars entering the freeway. Signal and move over into the next lane if no one is beside you. Be sure to look over your shoulder to check the blind spot first!

## EXITING A FREEWAY

Exit ramp



An exit ramp is a one-way road allowing safe, easy exit off a freeway.

You must watch all signs in order to get off the freeway at the right place. Get into the proper lane when there is a gap in traffic. Signal and move into the exit lane. Wait to slow down until you enter the exit ramp. Never slow down suddenly on the freeway. You could cause a crash!

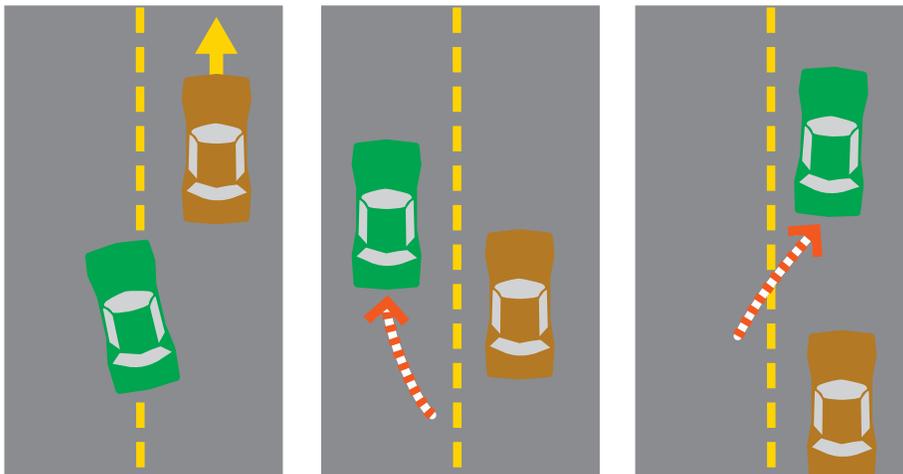
## PASSING

Some truck drivers will flash their lights at night when you are behind them. This means they think the road is clear for you to pass. You may not want to pass, though. Passing can be dangerous. **DO NOT** pass a truck just because the driver flashes the lights. Pass only when you know it is safe.

### STEPS IN PASSING:

- Check that you are not in a no passing zone.
- Check that no cars are coming toward you.
- Check your mirrors to see if a car is about to pass you.
- Look in your “blind spot.”
- Signal that you are changing lanes.
- Pass on the left of the car ahead of you.
- After you pass the car, signal that you are changing lanes.
- Return to the right lane. Do not return too soon. Be sure the car you passed is far enough behind before you return to the right lane.

This drawing shows the steps in passing on a two lane road. Follow the same steps when passing on a four lane road.



## BEING PASSED

If someone is trying to pass you, stay in your lane. Go the same speed as you were.

If a car is close behind you and wants to pass, slow down a little. This will make more space in front of you. It will give the car that wants to pass more room to pull back in once it has passed you.



## RAILROAD CROSSINGS

Never try to beat a train that is coming! A train will not be able to stop if you have trouble crossing the tracks.

Always make sure there are no trains coming before you cross the tracks. Here are some things to remember about railroad crossings:

- Even if the warning lights are not flashing, look both ways.
- Before crossing the tracks, make sure you can see all the tracks.
- If a train has crossed the road you are on, make sure it is well down the track before you go.

## DEER AND OTHER ANIMALS IN THE ROAD



Deer are common in Wisconsin and cause many crashes.

Be very careful when you see a DEER CROSSING sign — especially at night.

Farm animals being herded on the road have the right-of-way. Be careful not to frighten the animals!

## **MOTORCYCLES AND BICYCLES**

Motorcycles and bicycles require special precautions because they are smaller than cars or trucks. That makes them harder to see.

Do not turn left in front of a motorcycle.  
It may be closer than you think!

Watch for motorcycles and bicycles at intersections.

When following a motorcycle, leave a bigger space between your car and the motorcycle than if you were behind another car.

Remember, motorcycles are entitled to a full lane, the same as a car.

To pass a motorcycle or bicycle, wait until it is safe to pass. Then move into another lane as you would when passing a car. Do not return to your lane until clear of the motorcycle or bicycle.

## **DISTRACTIONS WHILE DRIVING**

When you drive, you need to put all your attention on driving. Do not be distracted by what is going on in your car. It could lead to a crash. You could hit someone walking. You could go off the road. You may not notice something dangerous ahead. Or you could miss an important sign or traffic signal.

You should pull over to the side of the road and stop if you need to do any of these things:

- Use a cell phone.
- Read a map.
- Discipline children in the car.
- Eat.
- Put on makeup or shave.

- Brush your teeth.
- Write.
- Use a computer.
- Look for something on the floor or in the glove box.
- Find change for tolls.

Plan ahead. Take care of as many of these kinds of things as you can before you start to drive. Or wait until you get to where you are going.

Talking on a cell phone can make your chances of being in a crash go up by as much as four times.

If you have a Regular license and need to use the phone, pull over to the side of the road and stop.

**If you have a Probationary license or Instruction Permit, using a cell phone while driving is against the law, except to report an emergency.**



**Never text while driving. Texting while driving is against the law in Wisconsin.**

Keep your radio turned down so you can hear sirens, horns or screeching tires. If you do not hear these noises, you may not react to danger in time to avoid a crash.

Children or pets can be distracting, too.

Always keep pets in a carrier when they are in the car. Or have someone hold them while you drive. If children are not behaving, pull over and stop before you discipline them.

## BE IN SHAPE TO DRIVE

### VISION

To drive safely, you need to see well. If you cannot see clearly, you will have trouble seeing signs and other traffic. You may not see bad road conditions or problems ahead. You may not see things soon enough to react and avoid a crash.

Wisconsin law says you need to pass an eye test before you can get a driver license. The law says you need to have 20/40 vision in at least one eye. That can be with glasses or without them.

You should have your eyes checked every 2 years by an eye doctor.

If you have glasses, always wear them when you drive. Do not wear dark glasses at night.

### HEARING

To drive safely, you need to hear horns honking or sirens close by. Screeching tires can tell you about danger.

If you have trouble hearing, you should rely more on your eyes. Be more alert so you see what is going on around you.

### FATIGUE

You cannot drive safely when you are tired. You will not see as well. You will not be as alert. It will take longer to decide what to do. And you may not make the best decision.

You could fall asleep while you are driving. That could mean you would crash and hurt somebody. Even worse, someone could be killed.

If you are tired while you drive, stop as soon as you can. Go to the next exit or rest area. Stop there. Take a rest break until you feel more awake.

## **HEALTH**

Health problems can affect your driving. Even a cold can affect how well you drive. If you do not feel well, try to get someone else to drive.

Some health problems can be very dangerous. If you have epilepsy, it needs to be kept under medical control.

People with diabetes should not drive if there is any chance of an insulin reaction or blackout. These things can happen if diabetics skip a meal or do not take their insulin correctly. If your doctor is changing your insulin dosage, you should have someone else drive.

If you are being treated for heart disease, you might have a higher risk of fainting. Ask your doctor if your heart disease can affect how well you can drive.

## **EMOTIONS**

If you are worried or angry, it too can affect how you drive. So can being depressed or afraid.

Give yourself time to cool off if you are angry or excited. Calm down before you drive.

If you are upset, keep your mind on your driving. Try listening to the radio. It may help to calm you down.

## EMERGENCIES

There is always a chance of car problems while you drive. Your car owner's manual will tell you what you should do to keep your car in good shape. If you do what the manual says, you will have fewer problems with your car.

Here is what to do if you have these problems:

### **BRAKES STOP WORKING**

Pump the brakes a few times.

If that does not work, use the parking brake. Put it on slowly so you do not lock the wheels. That would cause you to skid.

If your car still does not slow down or stop, shift to lower gears. Look for a safe place to stop. Get your car off the road. Do not drive it until the brakes are fixed!

### **TIRE BLOWOUT**

If a tire suddenly goes flat:

- Hold the steering wheel firmly. Keep the car going straight.
- Slow down. Take your foot off the gas.
- Do not put on the brakes until your car is almost stopped.
- Pull off the road in a safe place.

### **ENGINE QUILTS**

The car may be hard to steer. Hold the steering wheel firmly. Do not turn the key to "off."

Pull off the road. The brakes will work but you will have to push hard on the pedal.

## **HEADLIGHTS QUIT WORKING**

Try the switch a few times. If that does not work, put on the 4-way flashers, turn signals or fog lights.

Pull off the road as soon as you can.

## **GAS PEDAL STICKS**

If the engine keeps going faster and faster:

- Watch the road!
- Shift to neutral.
- Pull off the road when it is safe.
- Turn off the engine.

## AVOIDING CRASHES

Most of the time you can do things that will keep you from having a crash. There are three things you can do that will help to keep from crashing. They are stop, turn or speed up.

### STOPPING FAST

Most newer cars have an Anti-lock Braking System (ABS).

Read your car owner's manual on how to use it.

ABS will help you stop with less or no skidding.

ABS keeps the wheels from locking up.

If you need to stop quickly:

#### WITH ABS (ANTI-LOCK BRAKING SYSTEM)

Push on the brake pedal as hard as you can. Keep pushing on it. Do not let up. ABS will only work when the brake pedal is pushed down hard and kept there.

#### WITHOUT ABS

Push on the brake pedal as hard as you can without locking up the wheels. You can skid if the wheels lock up. If that happens, let off the brakes a little. When it stops skidding, push on the brake pedal again. Keep doing this until the car stops.

### TURNING QUICKLY

Most of the time you can turn your car faster than you can stop it. You should think about turning in order to keep from crashing.

Have a good grip on the steering wheel. You need to be ready to keep your car under control after you turn or change lanes.

If you steer away from a possible crash, you could end up in another one! Steer in the direction you want your car to go.

It is better to run off the road than to hit another car head-on. Do not swerve into a lane with cars coming at you. Turn to the right. Go off the road if you need to.

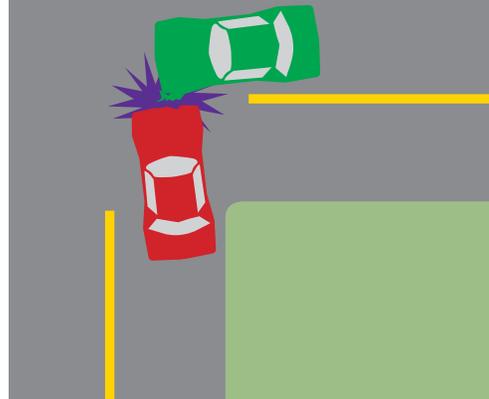
## **SPEEDING UP**

Sometimes you can keep from crashing by speeding up. This will work if another car is about to hit you from the side or from behind. If there is room in front of you, speed up. Be sure to slow down once the danger is gone.

## **CRASHES**

If you have a crash:

- Stop your car. Call 911 for help.
- Give help to anyone who is hurt, but do not move them.
- If your car can be moved, get it off the road so it does not block traffic or cause another crash.
- Get the names and addresses of everyone involved in the crash and of any witnesses, too.
- Give your name, address and driver license number to other drivers in the crash and to the police.



## **REPORTING A CRASH**

Crashes must be reported to the police if:

- You hit a parked car. Leave a note with your name and address on the car.
- There was a death or injury. You must report your crash to the police.
- There was \$200 in damage to government property (signs, guard rails, etc.)
- There was \$1,000 or more damage to any one person's car or property.

If a police officer investigates the crash, he or she will fill out the crash report.

If the police do not investigate the crash, you will need to fill out a report yourself. You can get a form from the DMV Web site or at a police station.

## DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Using drugs or alcohol before you drive affects how well you drive. You may not be able to react in time to avoid a crash. Your driving performance will be impaired.

Some important things to remember about driving while using drugs or alcohol:

- Drinking and driving results in many traffic crashes each year.
- In about ½ of Wisconsin car deaths, the driver was drinking.
- Driving after any drinking can be dangerous.
- Drugs and alcohol should never be used at the same time.
- Using drugs can lead to a crash. Even drugs that your doctor tells you to take can affect how well you drive. You can be arrested for using drugs.
- Using marijuana can affect how well you drive. You will make more mistakes.
- Drunk drivers are arrested.

When the alcohol level in your blood reaches .08% you are legally drunk. At that point it is not legal to drive.

In some cases, it is illegal to have any alcohol and drive. Drivers under age 21 can be arrested for driving with **any** amount of alcohol in their body. Their alcohol level must be 0.00%.

If you have been drinking or have taken drugs, here is what you should do:

- Do not drive.
- Take a cab, or
- Call someone to pick you up, or
- Lock your car and give the keys to a friend.  
Find a ride home with someone else. Come back to get your car when you are sober!

Coffee will not help you sober up. Neither will fresh air. The only thing that will help you sober up is time. You should not drive until you are sober.

If you are driving and you are stopped, the police officer may ask you to give a sample of your breath. This will be used to test your alcohol level.

Wisconsin's "Implied Consent" law says if a police officer asks you to take an alcohol or other drug test, you must do so. If you refuse to take this test (or any other test for alcohol) you will lose your license for at least one year and be subject to other penalties.

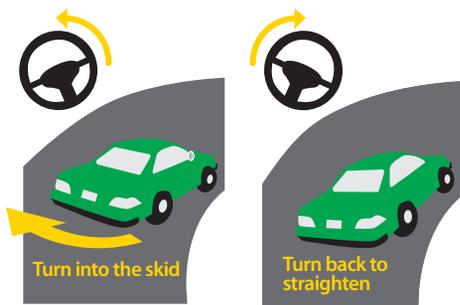
If you are arrested when you have been using drugs or drinking alcohol and driving:

- You will get fined.
- You will lose your license.
- You will be required to talk to someone at an alcohol and drug center.
- You could go to jail.

## REVIEW/SAMPLE STUDY

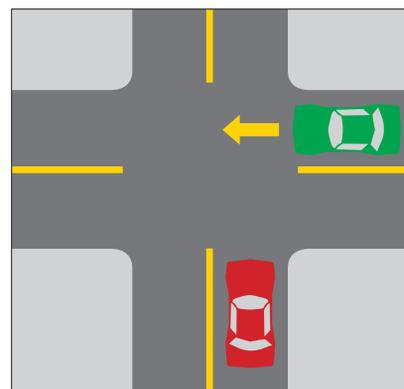
The following statements are true. Study them to help you pass the knowledge test and get your instructional permit.

1. A yellow unbroken line on the right-hand side of the center line means a no-passing zone.
2. When parking on a hill with a curb, your front wheels should be turned as follows:
  - Down hill – toward the curb.
  - Up hill – away from the curb.
3. When your car starts to skid:
  - Ease off the gas pedal.
  - Do not apply the brakes.
  - Turn the front wheels in the direction of the skid.
  - When the skid stops, turn the wheels back the other way.

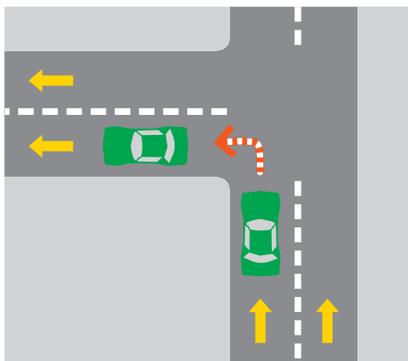


In the drawing, the back of the car is skidding in the direction shown by the yellow arrow.

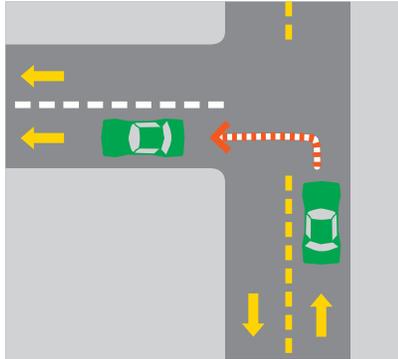
4. When two vehicles approach an intersection without traffic signs at about the same time, the driver on the left must yield the right-of-way to the driver on the right.
5. When preparing for a right turn, signal for at least 100 feet. Check traffic to the rear and drive in the right-hand lane.



6. It is unlawful to park:
  - Closer than 15 feet to a crosswalk.
  - Closer than 2 feet to the bumper of another parked car.
  - Closer than 10 feet to a fire hydrant.
  - In an alley in a business district.
  - In front of a fire station.
  - Within 4 feet of the entrance to an alley or private driveway.
  - In any area reserved for disabled parking (unless you are disabled).
  - In front of a school from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on school days.
7. The speed limit in a school zone when children or a crossing guard is present is 15 miles per hour (unless signs say otherwise.)
8. A left turn from a one-way street to a one-way street should be made from the far left lane.



9. A left turn from a two-way street onto a one-way street should be made to the far left lane.



10. The speed limit in a residential district in a city is 25 miles per hour unless another speed limit is posted
11. Headlights must be turned on:
- During the hours of darkness.
  - From ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise.
  - Anytime weather conditions make it hard to see.
  - When part of a funeral line.
12. When you hear the siren of an emergency vehicle you should pull over to the right and stop.
13. Passing on the right is permitted only:
- When the roadway is wide enough for two cars to move legally in the same direction.
  - When the car ahead is making a left turn, providing you remain on the paved part of the highway.

## PRACTICE SIGNS TEST

Match the signs with what they mean:

- A. Do Not Enter
- B. No Left Turn
- C. No Passing Zone
- D. Right Lane Ends
- E. School Zone, School Crossing
- F. Merging Traffic
- G. Two Way Traffic
- H. Divided Highway Ahead
- I. Pedestrian Crossing



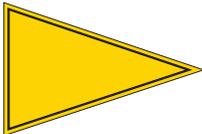
1. ....



4. ....



7. ....



2. ....



5. ....



8. ....



3. ....



6. ....



9. ....

Answers:

- 1. I      3. G      5. F      7. D      9. A
- 2. C      4. B      6. H      8. E

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## DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES (DMV) SERVICE CENTERS

### Driver Licensing and Vehicle Registration

#### Open Monday–Friday

- Find a complete listing of DMV Customer Service Centers, hours of operation and directions online at [www.wisconsinDMV.gov](http://www.wisconsinDMV.gov).
- Obtain information at [www.wisconsinDMV.gov](http://www.wisconsinDMV.gov) or call (414) 266-1000.

### Skills (Road) Test Appointments

You must make an appointment to take a skills test. Schedule your appointment for a skills test online at [www.wisconsinDMV.gov](http://www.wisconsinDMV.gov).

#### Save time. Do more online such as:

- Change your address;
- Request your driver or vehicle record;
- Apply for a duplicate driver license or ID card;
- Check the status of your driver license;
- Look up your vehicle title transfer;
- Renew your license plate;
- And more!

## STATE PATROL REGIONS

- (1) Southwest Region: . . . . . (608) 846-8500
- (2) Southeast Region: . . . . . (262) 785-4700
- (3) Northeast Region: . . . . . (920) 929-3700
- (4) North Central Region: . . . . (715) 845-1143
- (5) Northwest Region: . . . . . (715) 839-3800

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For more information on driver licensing products and services, visit [www.wisconsinDMV.gov](http://www.wisconsinDMV.gov). Email questions to [driverrecords.dmv@dot.wi.gov](mailto:driverrecords.dmv@dot.wi.gov) or call (608) 266-2353.

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# Buckle up Slow down Drive Sober



BDS124 1/2014