

Marked/unmarked crosswalks

Many intersections will have either a marked or unmarked crosswalk. By state statute, motorists must “Yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian” meaning the operator of a vehicle is required to reduce speed, or stop if necessary, to avoid endangering, colliding with or interfering in any way with pedestrian travel.



Motorists seldom give much thought to pedestrians. They are preoccupied with things that present a threat to them — other cars, busses, trucks and the like. Many drivers press the limits, driving fast, leaving little margin for error. It is easy to overlook people walking along the road or trying to cross the road.

Things to remember as a pedestrian:

- » Watch for turning vehicles; try to make eye contact with the motorist before crossing the street.
- » Do not assume the motorist can see you; wear retro-reflective material or light-colored clothing whenever possible.
- » Use extra caution when crossing multiple lane, higher speed streets.
- » Do not dart out into traffic; give the motorist a chance to yield to you.
- » If you cross a street at a place other than a crosswalk, you must yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.
- » Use good judgment; watch traffic at all times — just having the right-of-way will not prevent you from being hit.

Remember, only you can ensure your own safety when traveling.

For more information, please contact:

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HS 211 1/07

Using Crosswalks Safely



Guidance from the Wisconsin
Department of Transportation
on Crosswalk Safety

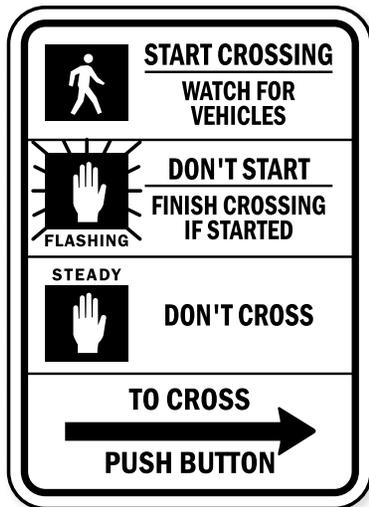
*Safety depends on you.
Cooperation between motorists
and pedestrians is essential.*

Crosswalk signals

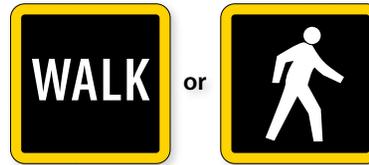


At many intersections with crosswalk signals, push buttons have been installed to assist you. Along with the push button, there may be signs indicating where the push button is and which street can be crossed by pushing the button.

There may also be push buttons on the traffic signals located in the median island. These allow those who may have only walked halfway across the street a chance to finish crossing on the next "WALK" indication.

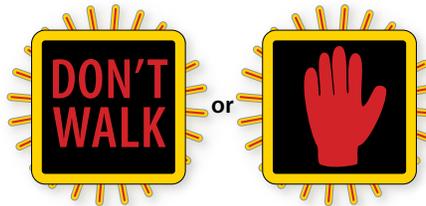


»» WALK ««



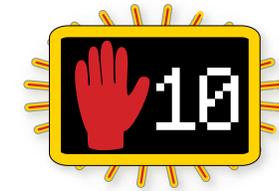
The "WALK" signal or **WHITE PEDESTRIAN** indicates that you may begin to cross the roadway. This may appear for only about 5 to 10 seconds. You may not be able to complete the street crossing with this "WALK" signal illuminated for the entire time.

»» FLASHING «« DON'T WALK



The **flashing "DON'T WALK"** or **RED HAND** will be displayed after the walk signal and will often stay on long enough for you to finish crossing the roadway.

»» FLASHING «« COUNTDOWN



There may be a **countdown pedestrian signal** located immediately adjacent to the flashing "Don't Walk" hand. This will show the number of seconds remaining in the pedestrian change interval.

DO NOT begin crossing when the "DON'T WALK" signal is flashing, but do continue to the far side if you have started to cross with the "WALK" light.

»» STEADY «« DON'T WALK



When the **steady "DON'T WALK"** or **RED HAND** is illuminated, you must not enter the roadway, vehicles will soon begin moving.