

# 1. Signs and Signals

Signs, signals and pavement markings help indicate the rules of the road designed for the safe movement of vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists. As a driver, you are required to know them. The shapes of signs enable you to identify them in darkness, fading light, fog, rain or snow.

## Sign Shapes and Colours



Fluorescent yellow-green **pentagon** indicates school area. Drive cautiously. Children could be crossing the street.



**Diamond** warns you of possible dangerous conditions, either on or near the roadway (e.g., a sharp curve, turn, side road, intersection, narrow bridge). Slow down to keep full control of your vehicle.



**Octagon** is used only for stop signs. Always come to a complete stop.



**Triangle with the tip pointing down** means you must **yield** the right-of-way. Slow down and, if necessary, stop.



**Triangle with each tip cut off** indicates a **slow-moving vehicle**.



**Crossbuck** indicates a **railway crossing**. Always slow down and look both ways for trains before crossing the tracks. You must yield the right-of-way to trains.



**Square or Rectangular signs regulate** traffic and **direct** the driver.



**Note:** Times listed on signs follow the 24-hour clock so that:

0:00 = midnight	15:00 = 3 p.m.	20:00 = 8 p.m.
1 a.m. to noon remains the same.	16:00 = 4 p.m.	21:00 = 9 p.m.
13:00 = 1 p.m.	17:00 = 5 p.m.	22:00 = 10 p.m.
14:00 = 2 p.m.	18:00 = 6 p.m.	23:00 = 11 p.m.
	19:00 = 7 p.m.	

## Warning Signs

These signs warn of possible dangerous conditions immediately ahead.



Very sharp right turn ahead



Divided highway begins ahead



Sharp right curve,  
maximum recommended  
speed: 40 km/h



Divided highway ends ahead



Pedestrian crosswalk ahead



Two-way traffic ahead



Winding road ahead



Right lane ends ahead



Road ends.  
Exit right or left



Left lane ends ahead



Bump ahead



Merging roadways ahead



Steep hill ahead



Hidden intersection ahead

## Warning Signs



Bridge ices



School area indicated by fluorescent yellow-green pentagon



Narrow bridge ahead



Hazard marker showing an obstruction



Stop ahead



Low structure clearance 4.1 metres



Traffic signals ahead



Right curve ahead



Playground ahead



School crosswalk ahead



Deer crossing area ahead



Railway crossing advance warning. Track position indicates the angle the railway tracks cross the road.



Road slippery when wet



Traffic island ahead



Roundabout



Pavement ends



Maximum recommended speed on exit 40 km/h



Reserved Bus Lane ahead.



Reserved Lane located in curb lane of cross-street. If turning right, enter the second lane from the curb.



Reserved Lane located in median lane of cross-street. If turning right, enter the curb lane.



Prepare to stop. When the amber lights on the sign are flashing, approaching drivers should be prepared to stop, as the traffic signal ahead is red or about to turn red.



Railway Crossing Sign: This railway crossing sign is equipped with warning lights and bells. When the lights are flashing and the bells are ringing, be prepared to stop as they warn you of an approaching train.

The number on the square sign under the railway crossing sign indicates the number of train tracks. Refer to the *Railway Crossing* section for further information.

## Construction and Maintenance Signs

These signs warn you of road construction and maintenance areas ahead. **Slow down to a safe speed.** At some locations maximum speed limits are posted.

Drivers must **watch for and obey** the instructions of flag persons.



Maximum speed  
40 km/h when  
meeting traffic



Detour ahead



Maximum speed  
60 km/h when  
passing workers



Barricade ahead



Flying stones



Part of roadway  
has been  
removed



Construction area



Trucks entering  
on the right



Flag person ahead



Road work



Bump ahead



Pavement edge  
drop-off

## Regulatory Signs

These signs regulate your driving, informing you about speed limits, permitted turns, stopping and parking rules.



No turns allowed



No U-turn allowed



Maximum speed  
60 km/h ahead



All traffic must  
turn right



No right turn



No trucks allowed



No left turn



Keep right of this sign



Maximum speed  
60 km/h when  
passing workers



One Way  
Proceed in direction  
of arrow only



Do not enter



Parking for disabled  
persons only



All traffic must  
turn left



No right turn on  
red signal



Truck route



No right turn during  
the times shown



Maximum speed  
90 km/h

## Regulatory Signs



Parking is prohibited



Do not stop to wait



Parking permitted as indicated



Stop here for red traffic signal



Two-way traffic



Do not pass



Passing permitted



Overhead mounted sign indicating that the curb lane is reserved for buses and cyclists during the times shown



Slower traffic keep right



Keep right except to pass



This lane of traffic must turn right during the times shown, except buses and cyclists.



This lane of traffic must turn left



This lane of traffic may go through or turn right only



Through traffic is not permitted to use this lane. Traffic, having entered this lane, must turn left at the next intersecting private approach or public street.



Pedestrian Corridor



Pedestrian Crosswalk



School Crosswalk



Do not enter  
Except buses and cyclists



Snow Route  
No stopping during a declared "snow emergency"



Buses only

## Guide and Information Signs

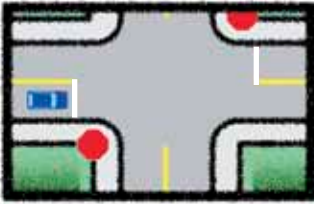
These tell you where you are, what road you are on or how to get to certain places. There are many different types of these signs, such as service signs, location signs, route marker information and distance signs. They vary in size and colour.

	<p>Eastbound Trans-Canada Highway</p>		<p>Hospital</p>
	<p>"A" indicates an alternative route that will return to the route you are on</p>		<p>Camping site</p>
	<p>Westbound Provincial Trunk Highway</p>		<p>Travel Information</p>
	<p>Southbound Provincial Road</p>		<p>Picnic site</p>
	<p>Northbound City route turns right</p>		<p>Access for disabled persons</p>
	<p>Cul-de-sac (Dead end with turnaround)</p>		<p>Stop for school bus when signals flashing</p>
	<p>Airport with scheduled service</p>		

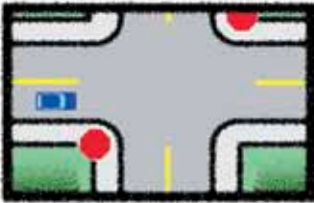
## Stop Signs

At a stop sign, you must come to a complete stop at the appropriate places illustrated below. Before proceeding from a stopped position, you must check and yield the right-of-way to pedestrians wanting to cross the street. When pedestrians are clear, you may then slowly move forward for a better view of traffic and, when safe to do so, you may then proceed to turn or cross the street.

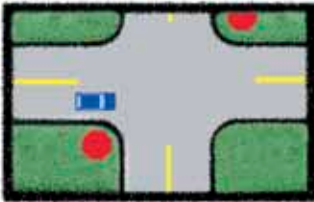
The following illustrations indicate the correct places for stopping.



Stop before the stop line.



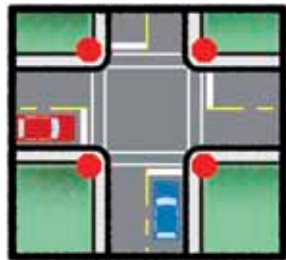
Where there is no stop line, stop just before the sidewalk.



If there is no stop line or sidewalk at the intersection, stop just before the intersecting highway.

## Four-way Stop Signs

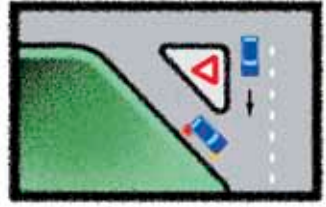
At an intersection controlled by a four-way stop sign, the vehicle that stops first should go first. After stopping and yielding to any pedestrians wanting to cross, roll slowly forward to show your intent to proceed. If two or more vehicles stop at the same time, the vehicle on the left should yield to the vehicle on the right.



## Yield Right-of-Way Signs

A yield sign means slow down as you near an intersection. Check for pedestrians and traffic. If there is traffic or pedestrians, **stop** and yield right-of-way.

Yield signs are usually located where a lane or road merges with another lane or road. You must slow down and be prepared to stop. Be careful when checking for traffic so that you do not run into the car ahead of you.



## Traffic Control Signals

**Red** — Stop in front of the marked crosswalk or, if there is no marked crosswalk, before the sidewalk out of the way of pedestrians and vehicles. Unless a sign shows otherwise or vehicle/pedestrian traffic does not permit, you may, after stopping completely, turn right. You may also turn right or left from a one-way street to another one-way street.

**Amber** — An amber light is a warning that the light is going to turn red. Slow down and stop — **never accelerate to “make the light.”** If you are already in the intersection when the light turns amber, continue through.

**Green** — You may proceed, but you must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians in the crosswalk and to other vehicles already in the intersection. To turn left, you may enter the intersection on a green light, but you must yield to pedestrians and oncoming traffic, and you may have to complete the turn during an amber or red light.



Horizontal



Vertical

**Flashing Red** — Come to a complete stop, proceeding only when safe.

**Flashing Amber** — Slow down and be prepared to stop. You must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.

**Amber Arrow** — A steady amber arrow may be shown after a green arrow. The amber arrow is a warning that oncoming traffic may next receive a green signal. Slow down and stop. If you are already in the intersection when the amber signal appears, continue and complete your turn.

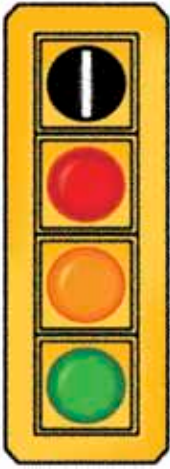
**Green Arrow** — You may proceed only in the direction of the arrow, either steady or flashing, providing you are in the proper lane.

**Flashing Green Left-Arrow** — You may proceed only to make a left turn, unless facing another signal that indicates other movements are allowed. (Flashing left-arrows may be shown together with steady red, amber or green lights.)

**Green U-Turn Arrow** — You may proceed to make a U-turn after yielding to pedestrians and other vehicles already in the intersection.

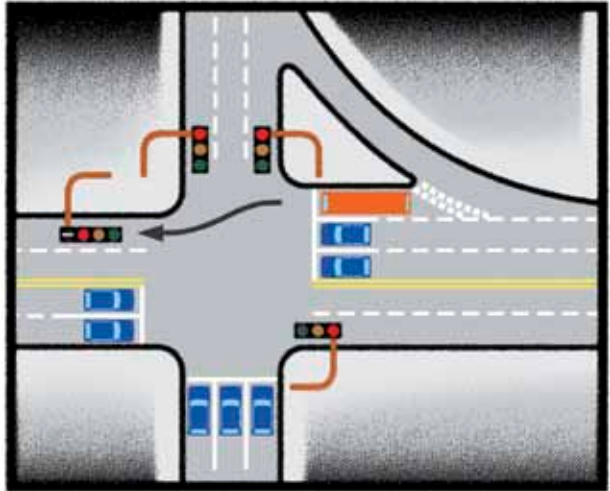
**Green Left-Arrow with Red Light** — When a green left-arrow is shown with a red light together you may proceed and make a left turn only. It is illegal to make a right turn at an intersection when a green left-arrow is shown with a red light, even if there is no sign indicating a right turn is prohibited on a red light. Under no circumstances are you allowed to turn right or drive straight through when a green left-arrow is illuminated with a red light. If a green left-arrow is illuminated alone (the red light is not on) you may turn right if it is safe to do so and no sign prohibits it.





## Transit Priority Signal

A signal light with a white vertical bar on a black background allows transit buses to proceed before other traffic. Only public-transit vehicles (buses) may proceed when the Transit Priority Signal is shown, while other vehicles must remain stopped. (The Transit Priority signal is always accompanied by a steady red light).

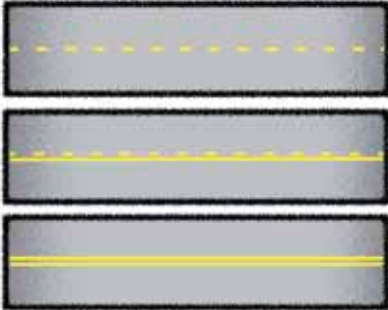


## Pavement Markings

A solid line on the left of your lane means you must not pass or change lanes. A broken line means you may pass or change lanes if safe from both front and rear to do so. It is permissible to turn left over a single or double solid line onto a public thoroughfare, private road or driveway.

### Yellow lines

**Yellow** lines indicate traffic moving in opposite directions.



**Broken line** —

Passing is permitted.

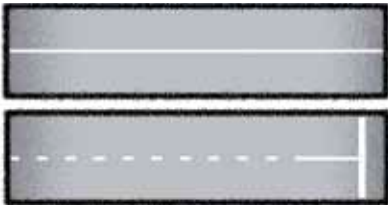
**Solid and broken line together** —

Passing is not permitted if the solid line is on your side of the highway.

**Double solid line** — Passing is prohibited for traffic going either way.

### White lines

**White** lines indicate traffic moving in the same direction.



**Solid line** —

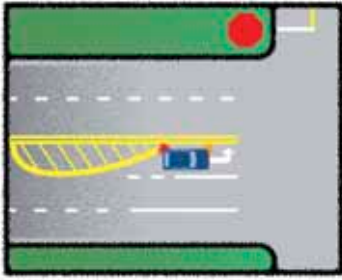
Lane changing is not permitted.

**Broken line** —

Lane changing is permitted.

**Stop line** —

You must stop before this line.



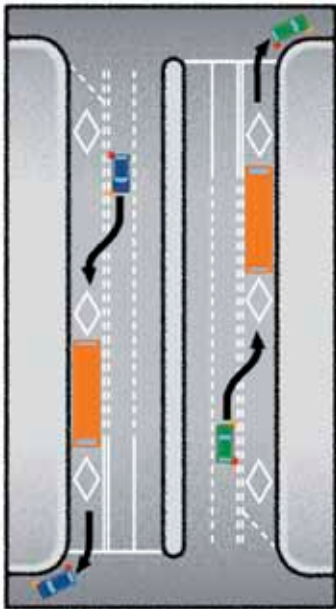
No traffic is permitted within Painted Left-Turn Islands, which are commonly used in rural areas to channel traffic into turning lanes.



## Reserved Lanes

In some urban centres, to improve the safety and flow of designated vehicles, certain traffic lanes have been reserved for specific uses. Traffic signs identify the vehicles or actions that the lanes are reserved for. The reserved lanes are marked by double broken lines and white diamond patterns.

The following are some examples of how reserved lanes are used:



### 1. With-Flow Reserved Lane

A curb lane is reserved for use by designated vehicles only. Motorists making right turns are permitted to enter the reserved lane at any point in the block preceding their turn.

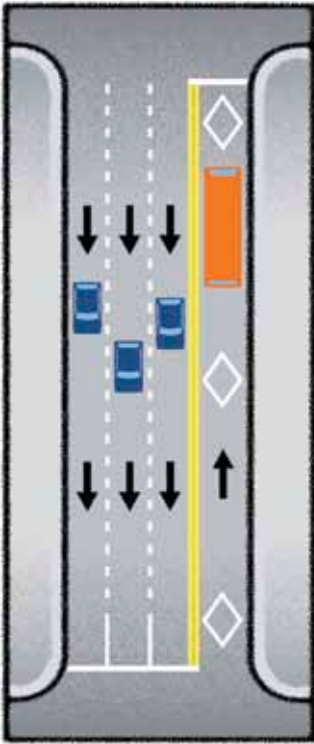
#### Pavement Markings

Double broken white lane lines and diamond symbols designate the reserved lane.

#### Turning Right onto a Reserved Lane

If you are turning right onto a street with a Diamond Lane in the curb lane, you must turn as close as practicable to the curb and into the first lane. You should then signal, check and change lanes out of the Diamond Lane into the adjacent lane as soon as it is safe to do so. If you are driving parallel

to a Diamond Lane and need to turn right, you can enter the Diamond Lane but you must turn right at the next intersection. Always be watchful and respect the rights of cyclists using the Diamond Lanes.



## 2. Contra-Flow Reserved Lane

A curb lane on a one-way street is reserved for use by designated vehicles only. Designated vehicles travel in the opposite direction of traffic.

### **Pavement Markings**

Double solid yellow lane lines and white diamond symbols designate the contra-flow lane.

## Cycling Pavement Markings

### 1. Bicycle Lanes

These on-road painted lanes are intended to provide cyclists with a defined space and help organize the flow of traffic. They are also a visual sign to motorists that cyclists have a right to the road.

Motor vehicles can occupy space on both sides of the bike lane and are able to cross the lane at any time. Most bike lanes are located to the left of the parking lane and as such require motorists to cross the bike lane when entering or leaving a parking spot. Motorists also must cross the bike lane when turning at an intersection, lane or driveway. Motorists need to be alert for cyclists already in the lane, in particular at intersections.

Cyclists are not limited to the use of a bike lane when it is provided. While the bike lane offers a defined space for cyclists, there are times when they may have to leave the bike lane in order to change lanes, make a turn or leave the roadway. Motorists should always be aware of cyclists on the road and note that the solid line on each side of the lane does not mean the cyclist cannot leave the bike lane.

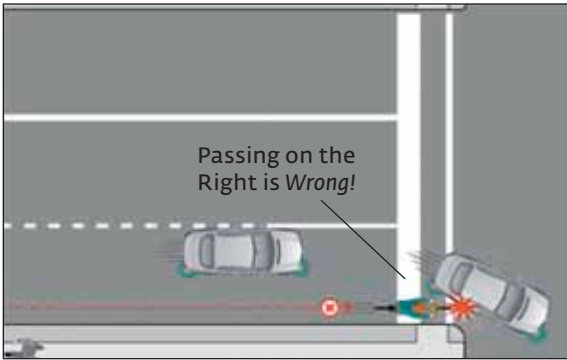


#### **Pavement Markings**

White lane lines and a diamond symbol with a bicycle designate a bicycle lane.

## 2. Sharrows

Sharrows are pavement markings painted on a roadway to encourage cyclists and motorists to share the road. They are generally intended for use on roadways with lanes that are wide enough for side-by-side bicycle and vehicle operation. Motorists should, at all times, pass cyclists at a safe distance and not assume that the sharrow indicates that they can pass within the travel lane. In sharrow lanes, cyclists should never pass a motor vehicle on the right side. This can result in the cyclist being potentially hit at an intersection if the vehicle turns right.



Sharrows do not designate a bicycle lane and should not be treated as such. While some cyclists will ride down the center of the arrow, in many locations, the sharrow marking simply indicates cyclists and motorists are to share the lane and is not an indication of where a cyclist rides within the lane.

### Pavement Markings

A chevron and bicycle symbol designate a sharrow lane.

