

How should pedestrians use pedestrian crossings at traffic lights?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When the green pedestrian ('WALK' signal) is displayed, pedestrians can begin to cross the road with care
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The <i>flashing</i> red pedestrian ('DON'T WALK' signal) means pedestrians who have already begun crossing during the green 'WALK' signal can finish crossing.• Pedestrians must not begin crossing when the red pedestrian is flashing.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The <i>steady</i> red pedestrian ('DON'T WALK' signal) indicates that pedestrians should not begin crossing. Instead, pedestrians should press the button and wait for the green WALK signal.

- The timing of the green pedestrian signal varies from location to location. However, there will always be enough 'clearance' time after the flashing red pedestrian appears for pedestrians to safely finish crossing the road.
- There may be some instances when the green pedestrian is automatically activated such as during peak periods. In other instances, the push button will have to be pressed to activate the green pedestrian.

What provisions are there for the visually and hearing impaired?

- Some push buttons emit a beeping sound. These are called 'audio tactile push buttons'. This is so visually impaired pedestrians can use the steady beeping sound as a homing signal to locate and activate the push button.
- When it is time to cross the road, the push button produces a distinct high-pitched tone to alert pedestrians that the green pedestrian is being displayed which is then followed by a series of fixed fast beep tones for the remainder of the green pedestrian time.
- There is an embossed arrow on the face plate of the push button to show the direction of the walk. Visually impaired pedestrians can feel the embossed arrow to obtain the direction of the cross walk if necessary.
- The embossed arrow also physically pulses in time with the audio sounds of the tactile unit. These vibrations further assist pedestrians with hearing impairments to feel the changes as they occur.
- The audio tactile functionality is referred to as an Accessible Pedestrian System and it helps to make our cities more pedestrian friendly, for all to use.
- The volume of the tones is automatically adjusted to be just above the ambient noise of the location. This allows the tones to be heard over high traffic noise and then quieten down when traffic noise is low, such as at night.

Need more information?

- Contact the Department of State Growth's Transport Systems Group at traffic.signals@stategrowth.tas.gov.au

Pedestrian Push Button layout

