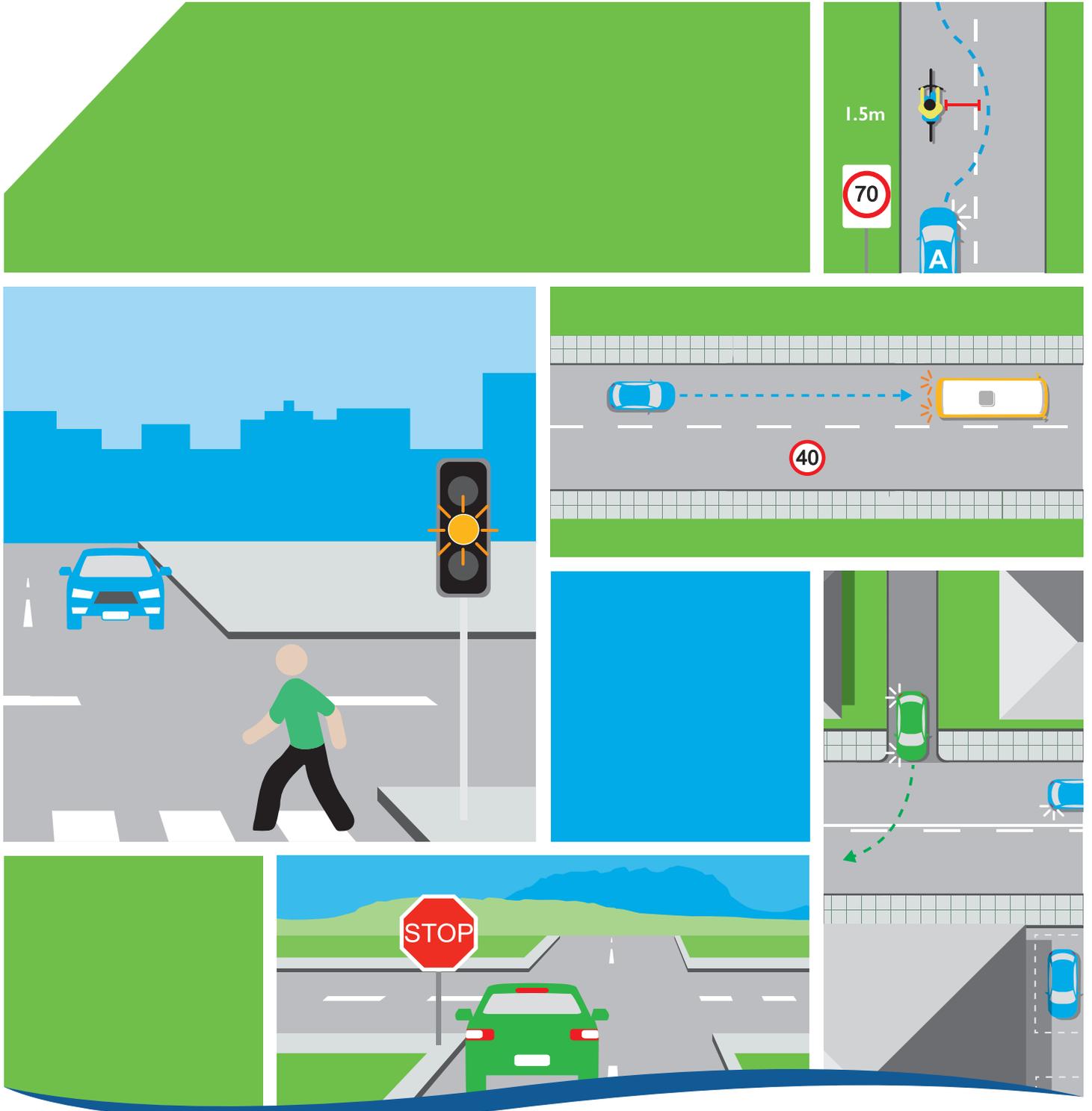


# Tasmanian Road Rules



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Please visit [www.transport.tas.gov.au](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au) for further information on this publication.

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# TASMANIAN ROAD RULES

Version 2.1, based on the *Road Rules 2019*.

This handbook contains road rules and relevant information for all road users. It sets out in explanatory text and diagrams the rules around safe road behaviour.

Some of the most common Road Rules are available as short films online at [www.transport.tas.gov.au/licensing/getting\\_your\\_car\\_licence](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/licensing/getting_your_car_licence). These videos are available in languages other than English.

If you are planning to drive a heavy vehicle, please visit [www.transport.tas.gov.au](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au) to download a copy of the *Tasmanian Heavy Vehicle Driver's Handbook*.

Feedback, comments or questions about the Road Rules are welcome. You can contact the Department of State Growth by:

- email: [info@stategrowth.tas.gov.au](mailto:info@stategrowth.tas.gov.au)
- phone: 1300 135 513
- post: Department of State Growth, GPO Box 536, Hobart, TAS 7001

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# I. Introduction to the Tasmanian Road Rules

## Why do we have Road Rules?

The Road Rules are an invaluable safety measure that, when followed, save lives. The rules make our actions on the road predictable, which helps us avoid crashes that can lead to death, injury and property damage. The rules also make for the smooth and efficient movement of traffic through our cities, towns and regional communities.

Tragically, every year more than 30 people are killed and close to 300 are seriously injured on Tasmanian roads. Travelling on our roads is one of the most dangerous things anyone can do.



**It is always your responsibility to travel safely to avoid crashing with other road users.**

Driving with care means following the Road Rules and is a standard that must be maintained throughout your driving life.

Road laws change from time to time, and it is also your responsibility to be aware of what the rules are, and how to comply safely. Ignorance of the law is not an excuse if you break a road rule.

We all have a responsibility to follow the Road Rules – whether we are a driver, passenger, motorcyclist, bicycle rider or pedestrian.

## How road design supports safety

Our roads are designed to keep us as safe as possible when using them.

Road markings, traffic islands, signs, traffic lights, roundabouts, safety barriers, intersections, warning signs and speed limits are all in place for this purpose.

All of these design aspects of our roads are discussed in the Road Rules.

## The Road Rules are the law

The Road Rules are based on model laws agreed to and adopted by all Australian jurisdictions. Although there are some variations between states, the Road Rules are mostly consistent across Australia.

When you are using Tasmanian roads, these laws apply to you:

- *Road Rules 2019*
- *Vehicle and Traffic Act 1999*
- *Road Safety (Alcohol and Drugs) Act 1970*
- *Traffic Act 1925*
- *Motor Accidents (Liabilities and Compensation) Act 1973*
- *Criminal Code Act 1924*
- *Civil Liability Act 2002* and common law duty of care.

If you break the law, you will receive penalties including:

- demerit points and fines for traffic infringements
- loss of driver licence
- fines and jail time for a criminal conviction
- having to pay a financial settlement if civil action is taken against you.

# I. Introduction to the Tasmanian Road Rules *continued*

## The top five causes of crashes

Most crashes that lead to injuries or deaths are the result of one or more of the following factors:

- speeding
- distraction and inattention
- alcohol or drugs
- failure to use seatbelts properly
- fatigue.

The Road Rules and other laws have been developed to help prevent crashes caused by these factors. That is why we have speed limits, ban the use of mobile phones, mandate seatbelt use, and limit the consumption of drugs and alcohol.



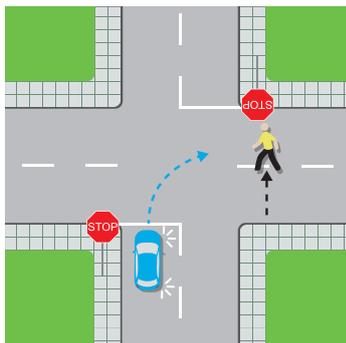
**You are responsible for making sure you are fit to drive before you enter onto the road.**

## Why are motor vehicles dangerous?

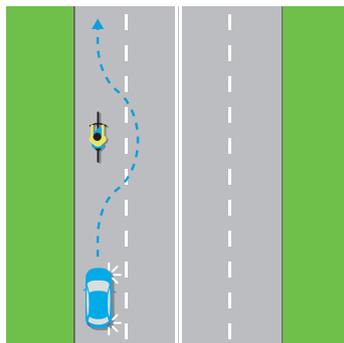
Motor vehicles are large, heavy pieces of equipment moving at speed, that we use in complex decision-making environments. Even at low speeds, motor vehicles can cause significant harm.

Pedestrians, bicycle riders and motorcyclists are particularly vulnerable on our roads as they do not have the same protection as motorists in vehicles.

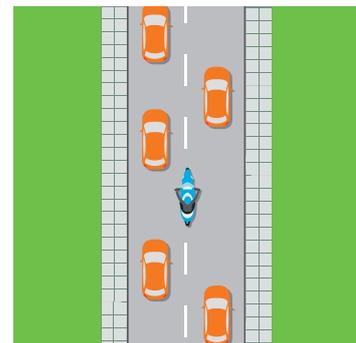
## Sharing the road with vulnerable road users



Pedestrians



Bicycle riders



Motorcyclists

## Sharing the road with pedestrians

Pedestrians have a right to share the road.

As a driver, you are legally required to give way (refer to Section 7, "Giving Way") to pedestrians at crossings and when turning at intersections. However, you should **always** be prepared to stop for pedestrians.

Pedestrians include:

- people on foot
- people on wheeled devices such as skateboards, rollerblades, wheelchairs, motorised mobility devices and personal mobility devices
- a person pushing a bicycle.

Particularly vulnerable pedestrians are:

- the elderly
- children
- people affected by drugs or alcohol.

Pedestrians do not always act how you expect, particularly children.

You should be aware of the location and behaviour of pedestrians at all times, and you must try to avoid a collision even if the pedestrian is doing the wrong thing.



**When you are driving in or around pedestrian areas, remember to drive slowly and always be prepared to stop.**

### Sharing the road with bicycle riders

Bicycle riders have an equal right to use the road as drivers of other vehicles. They share the same rights and responsibilities as drivers and motorcyclists.



**Bicycle riders are allowed to use the whole lane on roads with lane markings and ride two abreast (side by side). They are also allowed to ride on footpaths and across pedestrian crossings.**

Bicycle riders are much more likely to be killed or injured in a crash than a car driver.

This is because they are not as well protected as the occupants of vehicles. Bicycle riders do not have the body of a car around them to protect them from the impact of a crash, and they are less stable because their vehicles only have two wheels.

Bicycle riders also travel at much lower speeds than motorcyclists and vehicles, meaning they cannot move as quickly out of the way of harm.



**When driving, look out for bicycle riders, particularly when changing lanes, entering roundabouts or opening car doors. You could seriously injure or kill a rider if you crash into them.**

### Sharing the road with motorcyclists

Motorcyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as drivers. However, motorcyclists are much more likely to be killed or injured in a crash than a car driver.

Motorcyclists are most at risk on:

- busy city roads – at intersections and when changing lanes
- country roads – when riding through bends and on unsealed roads.

Like bicycle riders, motorcyclists do not have the protection that vehicle occupants have in a crash. Motorcyclists can travel at high speeds, and are vulnerable in wet conditions or on windy roads.



**As a driver, look out for motorcyclists who may be lane filtering or in your blind spot before you move your vehicle (see lane filtering in Section 12 “Overtaking”).**

As a motorcyclist, make sure you are riding safely to the conditions, maintain your vehicle, and consider investing in quality motorcycling gear that will provide you with the greatest protection in the event of a crash.

## 2. Who and what is covered by the Road Rules?

The Road Rules apply to road users, vehicles, wheeled recreational devices and pedestrians.

Some rules apply to all road users, while other rules apply to some road users.

It is important to understand these differences, as some rules also apply separately to road or road-related areas.

Additional laws apply to drivers of heavy vehicles. For more information go to:

- [www.transport.tas.gov.au/vehicles\\_and\\_vehicle\\_inspections/heavy\\_vehicles](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/vehicles_and_vehicle_inspections/heavy_vehicles)
- [www.nhvr.gov.au](http://www.nhvr.gov.au)

### Who is a road user?

A road user is a driver, rider, passenger or pedestrian.

This is how we describe each type of road user:

<b>Driver</b>	A person who is driving and in control of a vehicle (this excludes motorcycles, bicycles, an animal or animal-drawn vehicle).
<b>Rider</b>	A person who is riding and in control of a motorcycle, bicycle, an animal or animal-drawn vehicle.
<b>Passenger</b>	A person who is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• in a vehicle but is not the driver</li><li>• on a motorcycle but is not the rider</li><li>• not needed for the normal operation of the vehicle.</li></ul>
<b>Pedestrian</b>	A person walking on or alongside a road, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a person driving a motorised wheelchair that is unable to travel more than 10 km/h (on level ground)</li><li>• a person in a non-motorised wheelchair</li><li>• a person pushing a motorised or non-motorised wheelchair</li><li>• a person in or on a 'personal mobility device', 'wheeled recreational device' or 'wheeled toy' (see below for definitions of these).</li></ul>
<b>Personal mobility device</b>	An electrically powered device with one or more wheels designed to transport one person that is fitted with a stopping system using brakes, gears or motor control. A PMD must not exceed 125 cm in length, by 70 cm in width, by 135 cm in height, or 45 kgs in weight, or be capable of exceeding 25km/h when powered by the motor(s).
<b>Wheeled recreational device</b>	Wheeled devices that are used for recreation or play. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Includes</b> – rollerblades, roller-skates, skateboards, scooters (including motorised scooters), unicycles or similar wheeled device</li><li>• <b>Does not include</b> – golf buggies, prams, strollers, trollies, or a motor-assisted device other than a motorised scooter. A motorised scooter is a scooter that is propelled by one or more electric motors with a combined maximum power output of 200 watts and a top speed of no more than 10km/h.</li></ul>
<b>Wheeled toys</b>	Children's pedal cars, scooters (other than a motorised scooter), tricycles or a similar toy, but only when it is being used by a child who is under 12 years old.

## What is a vehicle?

This is what we mean by 'vehicle':

---

<b>Vehicle</b>	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• cars</li><li>• trucks, lorries and semi-trailers</li><li>• buses</li><li>• motorcycles</li><li>• bicycles, including e-bikes</li><li>• trams</li><li>• trailers</li><li>• tractors (when used on a road)</li><li>• a combination (a group of vehicles connected together)</li><li>• motorised wheelchairs that can travel over 10 km/h</li><li>• an animal being ridden (for example, a horse)</li><li>• an animal-drawn vehicle (for example, horse and cart).</li></ul>
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## What is a road or road-related area?

This is what we mean by 'road' or 'road-related area':

---

<b>Road</b>	A road is an area open for public use that has been built mainly for driving or riding vehicles.
<b>Road-related area</b>	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• road-dividing strips</li><li>• a footpath or nature strip adjacent to a road</li><li>• areas open to the public for use by bicycle riders or animals</li><li>• any other areas open to the public for driving, riding or parking vehicles.</li></ul>

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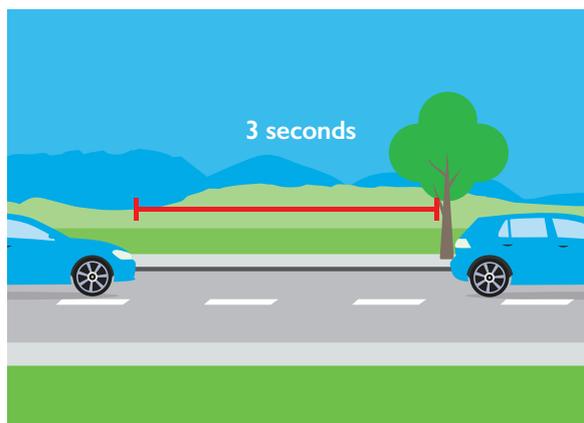
## 3. General safety

### Keeping a safe distance

Driving too closely to a vehicle in front of you is dangerous. This is sometimes called *tailgating*. You must keep enough distance behind a vehicle travelling in front of you to safely avoid a crash.

Safe following distances are different depending on the conditions, the type of vehicle, and the speed at which the vehicles are travelling.

It is recommended that, when following a vehicle you should travel **3 seconds** behind the vehicle to provide enough time to avoid a crash if something suddenly happens ahead.



### Seatbelts

Wearing your seatbelt is the best way to reduce serious injury in a crash.

You and your passengers must wear your seatbelts when in a vehicle that is moving or is stationary, but not parked.

As a driver, you are responsible at all times for making sure that everyone in the vehicle is wearing their seatbelt, particularly children. Make sure to do this before you turn on the vehicle and start driving.

Remember:

- seatbelts must be securely fastened for them to work properly
- never put more than one person in a seatbelt, only one person should occupy a seat
- a seatbelt that was used in a severe crash must be replaced.

There are some circumstances where your medical practitioner may grant an exemption for wearing a seatbelt. Please visit [www.transport.tas.gov.au/licensing/exemptions/seatbelt\\_exemptions](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/licensing/exemptions/seatbelt_exemptions) for more information.

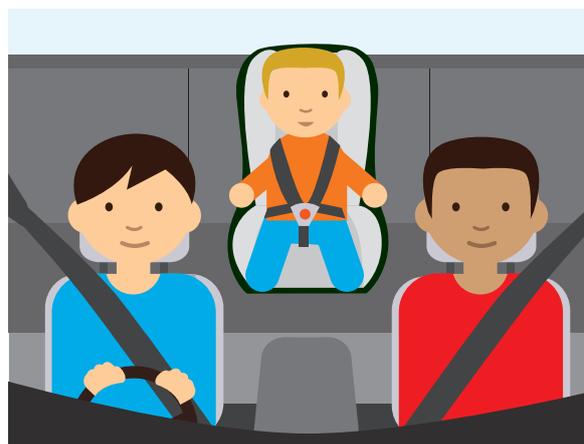
### Children and seatbelts

Because of their small size, children are highly vulnerable to serious injury if they are not properly restrained in a vehicle.

The requirements for how to make your child safe in the car depends on their age, size and height. As children grow, their restraint and safety needs change.

You are required by law to ensure that:

- children from birth to 7 years old are in a correctly fitted child restraint or car seat in the appropriate section of the car (for example, in the backseat, where possible)
- children from 7 years to 16 years old are using a correctly fitted child restraint or car seat or seatbelt depending on their size
- children under 4 years old are not in the front seat of a motor vehicle (unless the vehicle does not have a backseat)
- children under 7 years old are not in the front seat of a motor vehicle (unless the vehicle does not have a backseat, or unless the other seats are occupied by passengers who are also under 7 years old).



Remember, the driver of the vehicle is held responsible if a passenger is not wearing a seatbelt or is not in an appropriately fitted child restraint.

Please visit [www.transport.tas.gov.au/road\\_safety\\_and\\_rules/road\\_rules/child\\_restraints\\_-\\_a\\_guide\\_to\\_car\\_seats](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/road_safety_and_rules/road_rules/child_restraints_-_a_guide_to_car_seats) for more information on the use of seatbelts for children.

## Mobile phones and other devices

Mobile phones, GPS devices and car stereos are common causes of driver distraction.

Distractions that divert your attention away from driving increase your risk of crashing. Distraction can be as dangerous as drink driving.

It is **illegal** to do any of the following when driving:

- hold a mobile phone in your hand or rest it on any part of your body (whether or not you are on a phone call)
- type or enter anything into a mobile phone, or send or look at anything that is on a mobile phone (for example, a text message)
- turn a mobile phone on or off
- operate any other function of a mobile phone.



**You can only use a hand-held mobile phone if your vehicle is parked. This includes to write or send a text, or to put an address into your GPS.**



**Do not use your hand-held mobile phone while driving or while at the traffic lights waiting.**

### Rules for full and P2 provisional licensed drivers

You **must not** use a hand-held mobile phone to make or receive a call when you are driving or when the vehicle is stationary, but not parked (for example, waiting at the traffic lights), unless:

- the mobile phone is in a commercially designed holder and fixed to the vehicle; or
- the mobile phone can be operated without touching any part of the phone, such as via Bluetooth or voice activation.

A mobile phone's GPS function may only be used if:

- the phone is secured in a commercially designed and manufactured fixed mounting
- the mounting is fixed in a location that will not distract or obscure your view in any way, and
- using the GPS does not require you to touch or press anything on the phone.



### Rules for learner and PI licensed drivers

All learners and PI provisional (first year) licence holders are banned from using mobile phones whilst driving (including when a vehicle is stationary, but not parked). This includes hands-free and voice-activation mode.

The total mobile phone ban does not extend to listening to music or GPS directions played through a mobile phone, as long as the music or GPS function is set up prior to commencing driving so that the driver does not interact with it in any way while driving (which includes looking at the phone).



### 3. General safety *continued*

#### Television receivers and visual display units

You **must not** drive a vehicle that has a television receiver or visual display if any part of the image on the screen is visible to you from the normal driving position or is likely to distract another driver.

This rule applies:

- to screens either inside or on the outside of the vehicle
- when the vehicle is moving or stationary in traffic.

You are allowed to use a *driver's aid* if it is an integrated part of the vehicle design, or it is secured in a commercially designed holder that is fixed to the vehicle.

Examples of driver's aids include:

- a navigational system, such as GPS
- reversing camera
- a taxi dispatch system
- ticket-issuing machines.

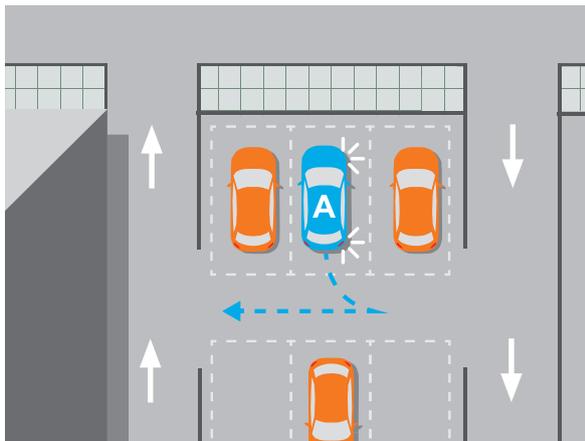
#### Driving in reverse

You must only reverse your vehicle when it is safe to do so.

Before reversing, check for pedestrians, obstructions or other vehicles.

Never reverse more than you need to or is reasonable.

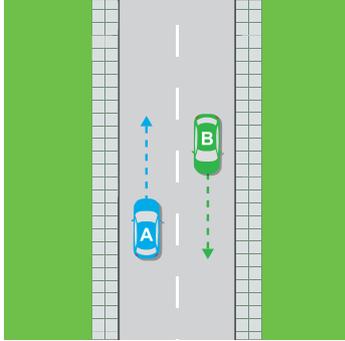
Use your indicators to show other road users which way you will be reversing.



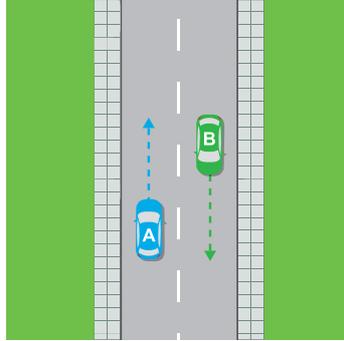
## 4. Keeping left

### Keeping left on single-lane roads

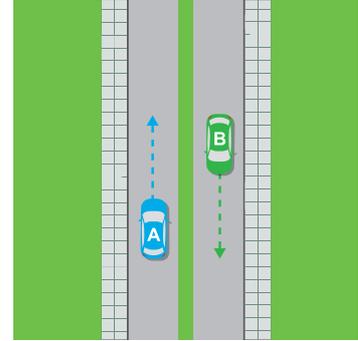
When driving, keep as close as practical to the left side of a road.



Where there are **no marked lanes**, keep as far as practical to the left of any oncoming vehicles.



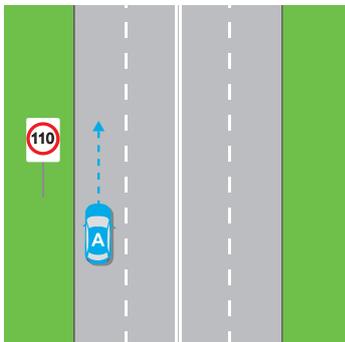
Where there is only **one lane going each way**, keep to the left of the dividing line.



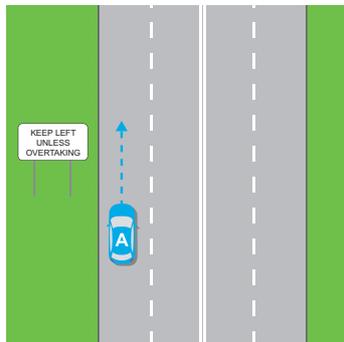
Where there is a **median strip** in the middle of the road (except if you are turning into a median strip parking area), keep to the left of the median strip.

### Keeping left on multi-lane roads

When you are driving on roads where two or more lanes of traffic are travelling in the same direction, you must travel in the left-hand lane where:



- the speed limit is more than 80 km/h (except when overtaking)

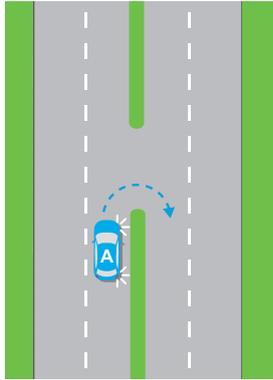


- there is a **Keep left unless overtaking** sign.

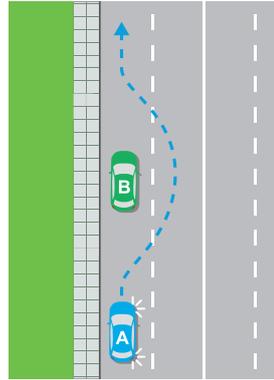
## 4. Keeping left *continued*

### Exceptions to keeping left

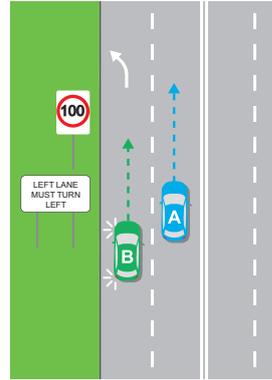
On roads with two or more lanes of traffic travelling in the same direction, you may drive in the right lane when:



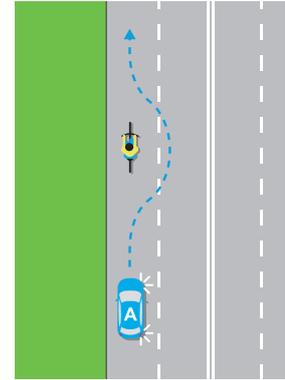
- you are turning right to perform a U-turn



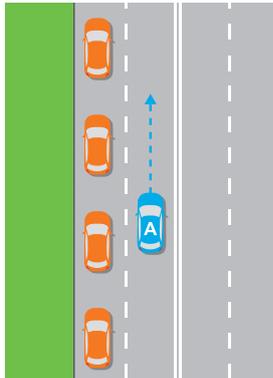
- you are overtaking a vehicle in the left lane



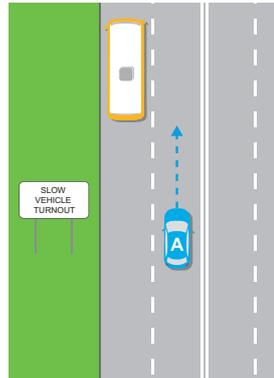
- there is a **Left lane must turn left** sign, and you are not turning left



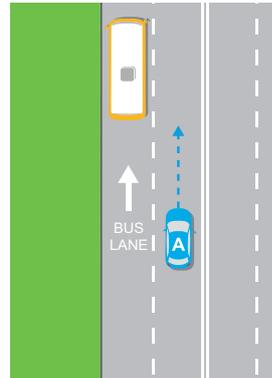
- you are avoiding a hazard on the road or passing a bicycle rider, (when it is safe to do so)



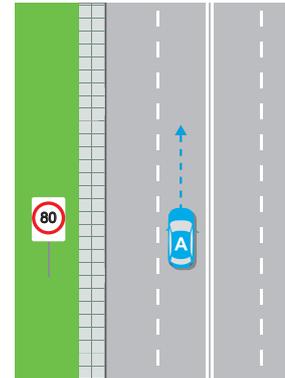
- traffic in the left lane is congested



- the left lane is a "slow vehicle turnout" lane

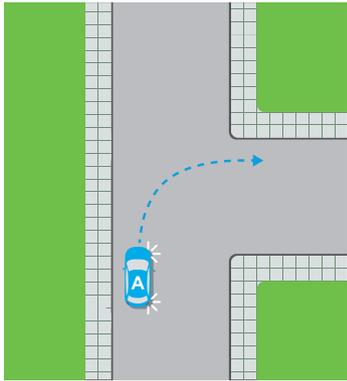


- the left lane is a special purpose lane in which you are not permitted to drive (such as a bus driving in a bus lane)

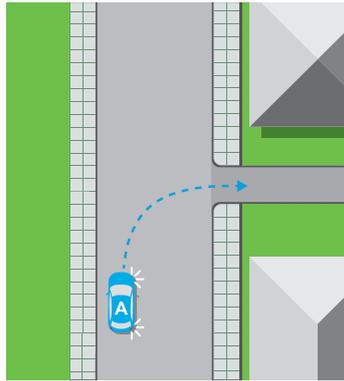


- the speed limit is 80 km/h or less.

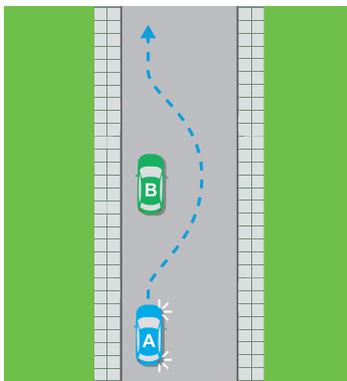
On a two-way road with no dividing lines, you may cross over to the right hand side if safe to:



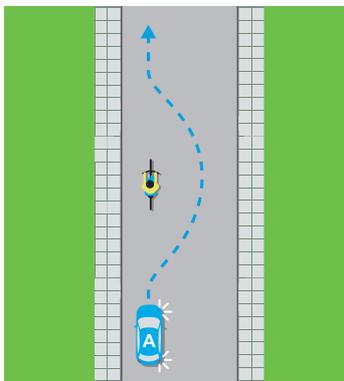
- turn into another road or perform a U-turn



- turn into an area, such as a driveway or carpark



- overtake another vehicle



- to avoid a hazard or pass a bicycle rider.

Before crossing to the right side of the road:

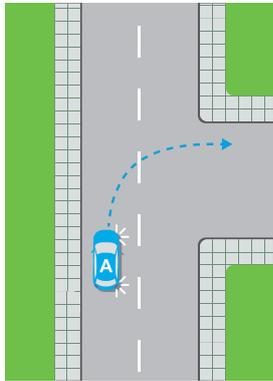
- indicate
- check your blind spots, and
- check the road ahead for traffic.

## 5. Lane and road markings

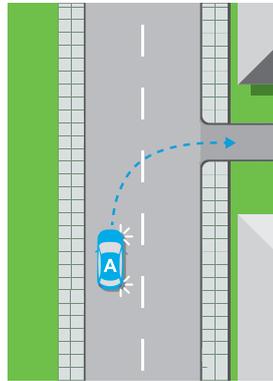
Often a road has painted dividing lines. These lines separate one line of traffic from another. They are designed to show when it is safe for you to leave your lane of traffic, and when it is not.

### Single broken line

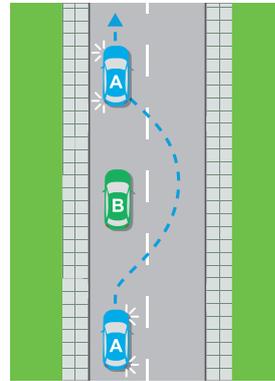
You can cross a single broken dividing line when it is safe to:



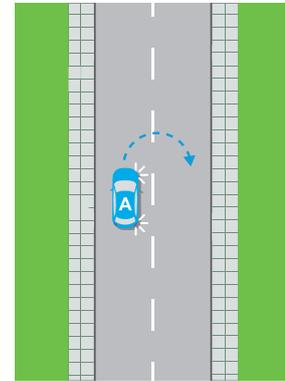
- turn from or into another road



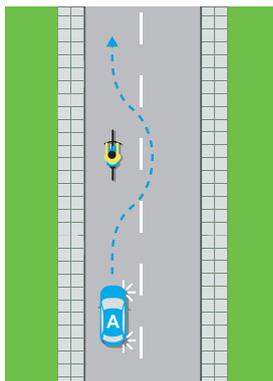
- turn from or into a road-related area, like a driveway or carpark



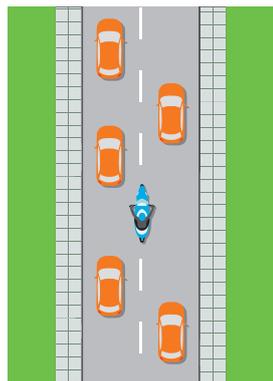
- overtake another vehicle



- perform a U-turn (if no other signs or rules say you must not)



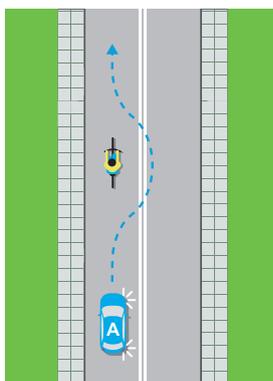
- avoid a hazard or pass a bicycle rider when it is safe to do so



- lane filter if you are a motorcyclist.

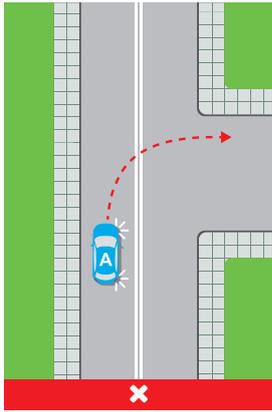
### Double continuous lines

You may **only** cross double continuous lines to avoid a hazard or pass a bicycle rider when it is safe to do so.

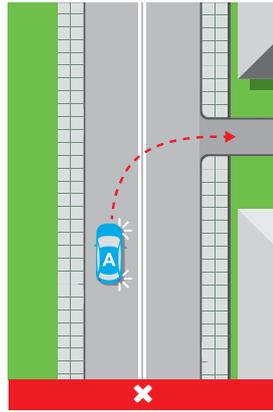


Example of crossing double continuous lines to pass a bicycle rider.

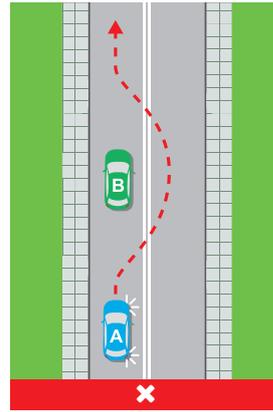
You **must not** cross double continuous lines to:



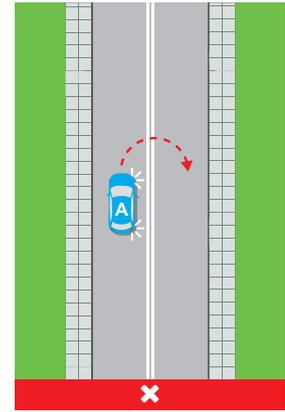
- turn from or into another road



- turn from or into a road-related area like a driveway or carpark



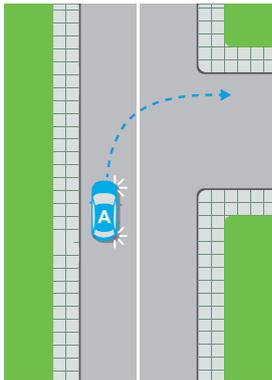
- overtake another vehicle



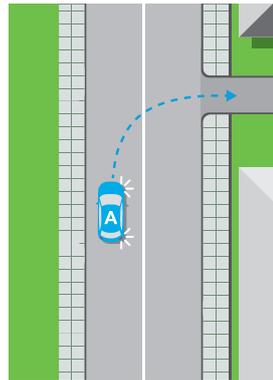
- perform a U-turn.

## Single continuous line

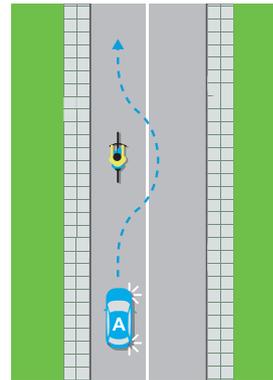
You may cross a single continuous dividing line when it is safe to:



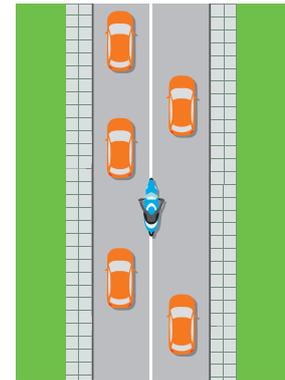
- turn from or into another road



- turn from or into an area like a driveway or carpark

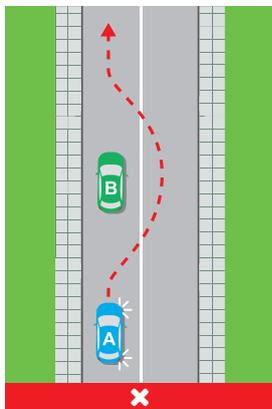


- to avoid a hazard or pass a bicycle rider

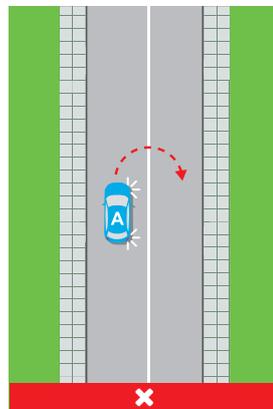


- lane filter if you are a motorcyclist.

You **must not** cross a single continuous dividing line to:



- overtake another vehicle

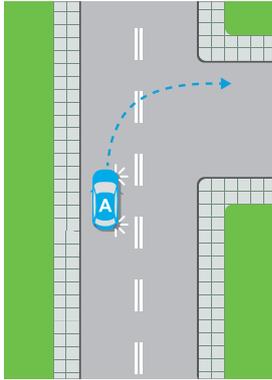


- perform a U-turn.

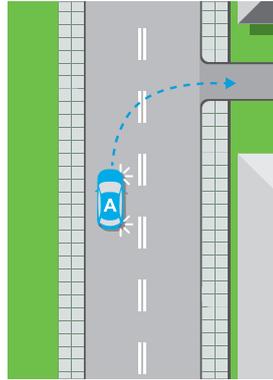
## 5. Lane and road markings *continued*

### Double broken lines

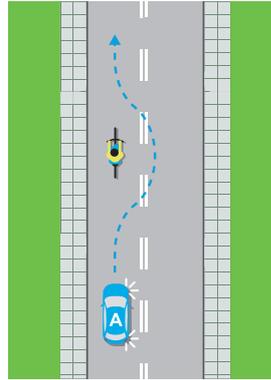
You may cross a double broken line when it is safe to:



- turn from or into another road

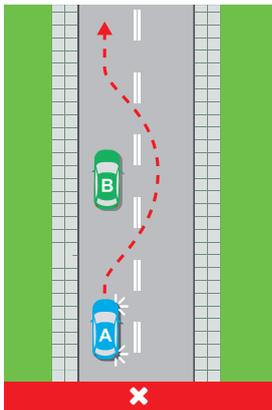


- turn from or into a road-related area like a driveway or carpark

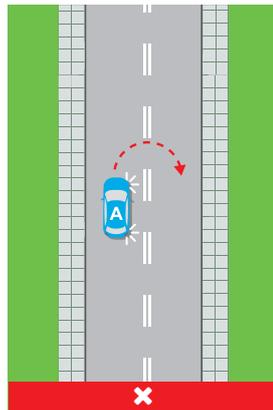


- avoid a hazard or pass a bicycle rider.

You **must not** cross double broken lines to:



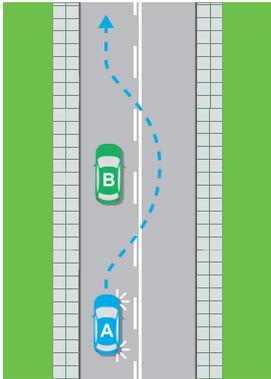
- overtake another vehicle



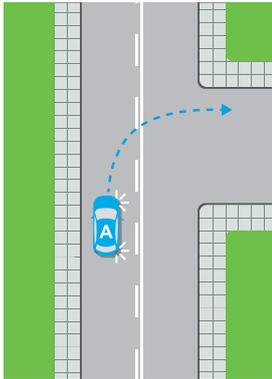
- perform a U-turn.

# Single continuous line next to a broken line

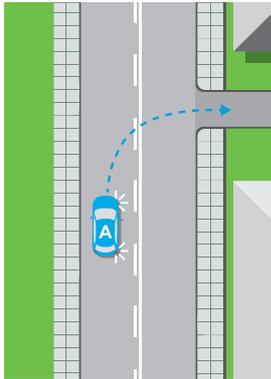
When the **broken line is on your side** of the solid line, you may cross the lines when it is safe to:



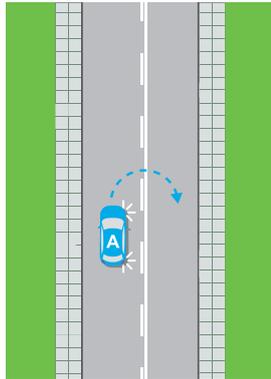
- overtake another vehicle



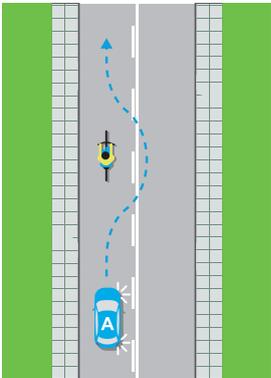
- turn from or into another road



- turn from or into an area like a driveway or carpark



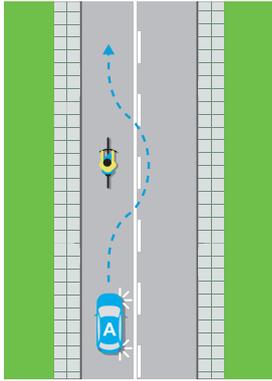
- perform a U-turn (if no other signs or rules say you must not)



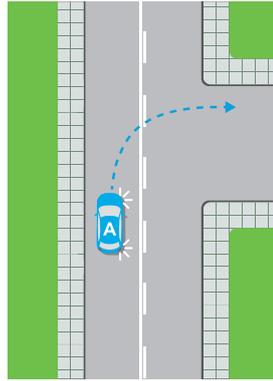
- avoid a hazard or pass a bicycle rider.

## 5. Lane and road markings *continued*

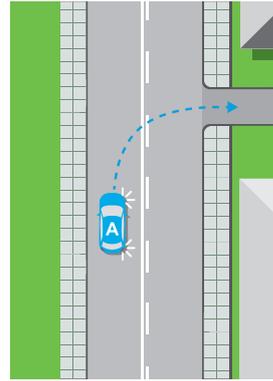
When the **solid line is on your side**, you may only cross the lines when it is safe to:



- avoid a hazard or to pass a bicycle rider

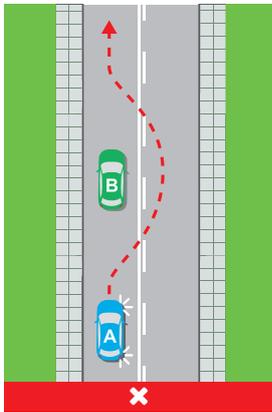


- turn from or into another road

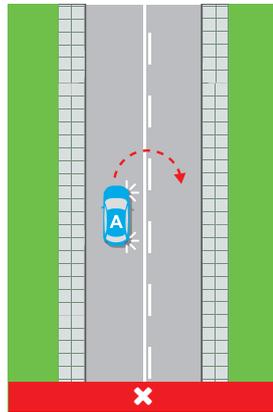


- turn from or into an area like a driveway or carpark.

You **must not** cross the solid line to:



- overtake another vehicle

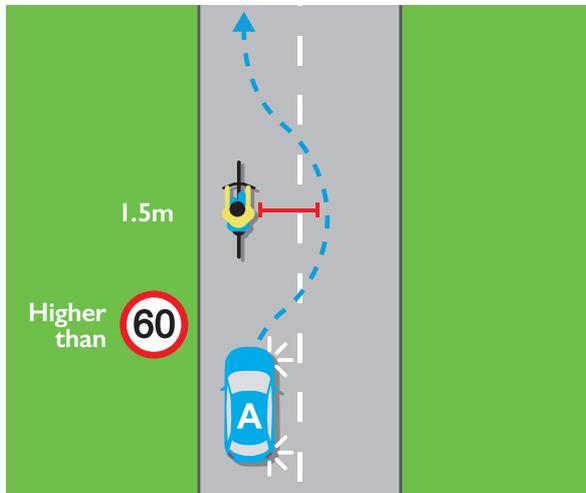


- perform a U-turn.

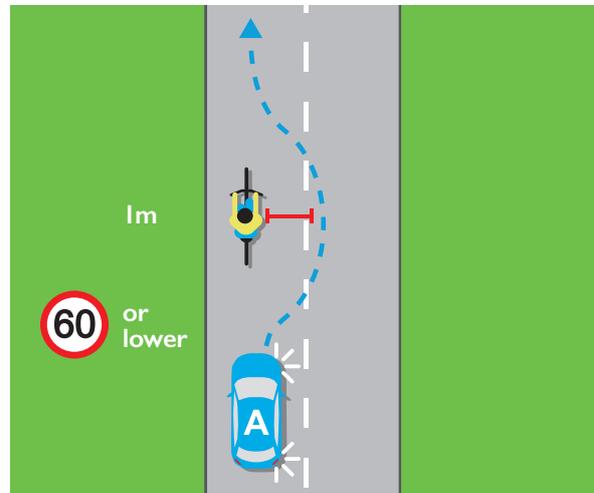
## Crossing the centre line to overtake or pass a bicycle rider

Minimum passing distances apply when overtaking bicycle riders (refer to Section 12, "Overtaking"). To overtake safely, you may cross the centre line when passing a bicycle rider.

When passing a bicycle rider, you must maintain a safe passing distance of:



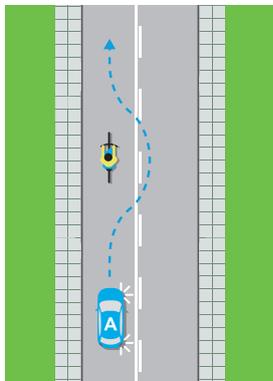
- **at least 1.5 metres** in speed zones higher than 60 km/h



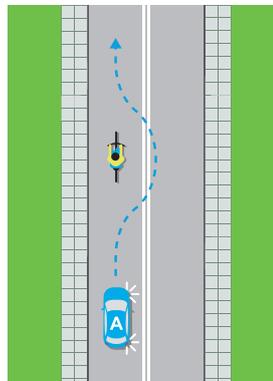
- **at least 1 metre** in 60 km/h or lower speed zones.

You **must not** pass a bicycle rider within these distances. If it is unsafe to cross the centre line to pass the bicycle rider, then you must wait until the way is clear and it safe to overtake.

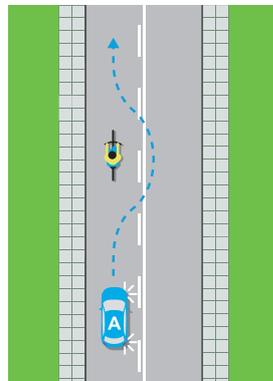
This rule applies to all roads, even where there are bicycle lanes.



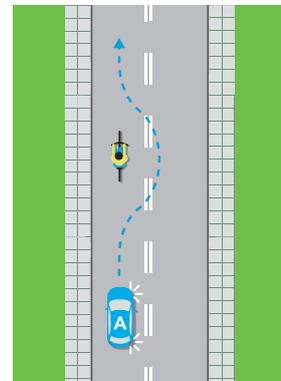
Single continuous line on your side next to a broken line.



Double continuous line.



Single continuous line next to a broken line on your side.



Double broken line.



**Remember – frustration or being in a rush is never an excuse to intimidate or put another road user in danger.**

## 5. Lane and road markings *continued*

### Lanes marked for special purposes

When driving you may see **special purpose** lanes.

Special purpose lanes are marked lanes only for the use of certain types of vehicles. They will have a sign showing the type of vehicle that can use the lane, for example, bicycle lanes and bus lanes.

Generally, you **must not** drive your car or motorcycle in a special purpose lane.

However, you can drive for up to 50 metres in a bicycle lane and 100 metres in any other special purpose lane **only** when:

- you need to cross it to enter or leave the road
- to park or stop, if parking or stopping is permitted at that place
- avoiding a hazard in your lane
- overtaking a vehicle turning right
- there is a sign allowing it.



Bus lane sign



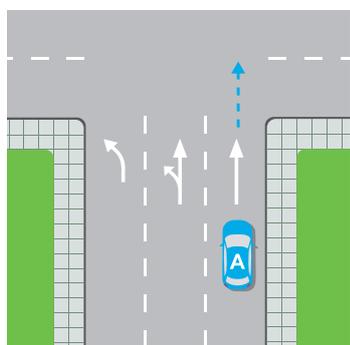
Bicycle lane sign

### Road markings

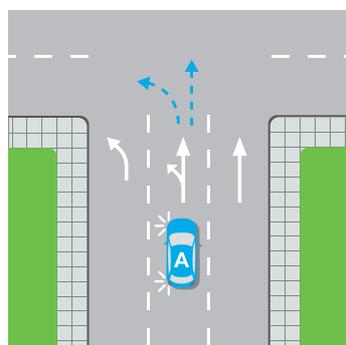
Road markings are painted or mounted on the surface of the road and can include words, figures, symbols, raised markers, marks or lines that direct or warn traffic.

#### Traffic arrows

Some intersections have painted traffic arrows. You must drive in the direction shown by the traffic arrows. For example, when:



- there is a single direction arrow in your lane, travel in the direction of that arrow



- there is an arrow in your lane with two directions, you may travel in either direction of that arrow (straight ahead or turning).

## Keep clear zones

**Keep clear** markings on the road assist with traffic flow at some intersections, particularly for vehicles entering or leaving a road-related area such as a car park.

You **must not** stop in the marked area of the road, and should only enter the area marked **Keep clear** if there is room for your vehicle to exit on the other side.



Oncoming traffic **must not** stop in the *Keep clear* zone. **Car B** must give way to **Car A** before proceeding.

## Bicycle storage areas

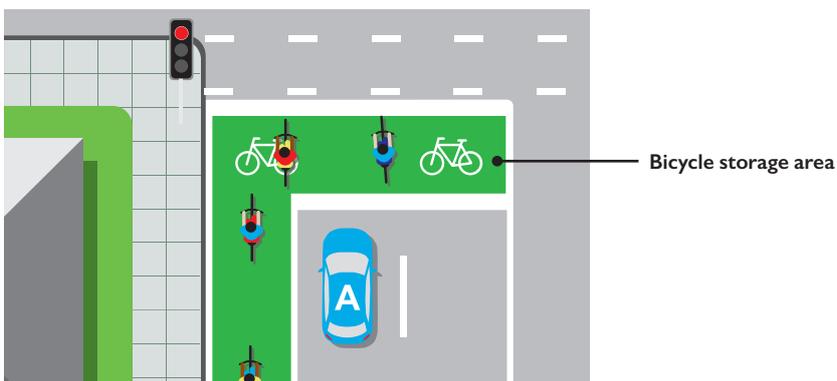
A bicycle storage area is an area of road before an intersection that is dedicated to bicycle riders.

You can identify a bicycle storage area by the painted bicycle symbols on the surface of the road. These areas open out from a bicycle lane and are situated between two parallel stop lines.

Bicycle storage areas provide bicycle riders with a safe waiting area at intersections that is separate to vehicles. Using these areas also makes bicycle riders more visible to the drivers behind them, which improves rider safety as they wait and then take off at the next green light.

Only bicycle riders may use bicycle storage areas to stop. When stopping at a red light or red arrow, you as a driver **must not** enter a bicycle storage area.

You must give way to a bicycle rider already in a bicycle storage area when proceeding on a green light.



**Car A** must give way to bicycle riders in the bicycle storage area.

## 6. Speed limits

Speed limits are the maximum safe speed you are allowed to travel. You should only drive at the speed limit on a good road and in good weather conditions. At times it is safer to travel slower than the speed limit.



**You must never travel faster than the speed limit.**

Speeding is a major cause of crashes that lead to death and serious injury. It is important to drive at a speed that is appropriate to the conditions.

Drive below the speed limit when:

- road conditions are not good (for example, when the roads are wet, gravel, narrow or winding)
- weather conditions are not good (for example, when there is fog or rain)
- there is a lot of traffic or pedestrians, or
- you are tired, upset, worried or ill.

### Speed limit signs

Speed limit signs show the fastest speed you are allowed to travel on that road.

When you pass a speed limit sign make sure you are driving at or slower than the speed on the sign.

This speed limit applies until:

- another sign displays a different speed limit
- the road ends (for example, at a T-intersection), or
- you pass an **End speed limit** sign (the default speed limit will apply if there is no speed limit sign).

Some speed signs are electronic. The speed limit on an electronic sign only applies when the sign is illuminated.

If no electronic speed limit is displayed, then the speed limit that applies is the default or the speed limit shown on the last sign passed on that road.

### Default speed limits

If there are no speed limit signs, Tasmania has default speed limits that you must obey.

The default speed limits are:



50 km/h in a built-up area



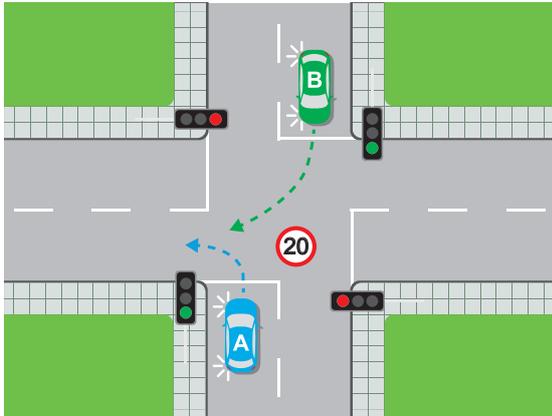
80 km/h on an unsealed road, outside a built-up area



100 km/h on a sealed road, outside a built-up area

## Speed limits at controlled intersections

Do not travel faster than 20 km/h when turning at an intersection with traffic lights.



## Speed limits for learners and P-platers

### Car

Drivers holding a learner licence (including L1 and L2 licences) **must not** drive faster than 90 km/h. When there is a lower speed limit, this must be obeyed.

P1 provisional (first year) licence holders **must not** drive faster than 100km/h. When there is a lower speed limit, this must be obeyed.



Learners plate



P1 plate



P2 plate

### Motorcycle

Learner and P1 provisional (first year) motorcycle licence holders **must not** ride faster than 80 km/h. When there is a lower speed limit, the lower limit must be obeyed.

## 6. Speed limits *continued*

### Speed limits in school zones

A speed limit of 40 km/h applies in school zones.

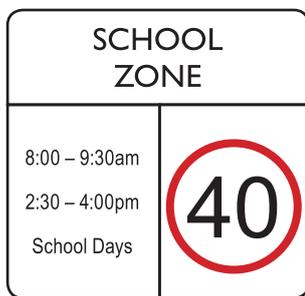
This means you **must not** travel faster than 40 km/h when you pass a **School zone** sign on official school days during the times on the sign.

Official school days are Monday to Friday during school terms. This speed limit does not apply on school holidays, weekends and public holidays.

The 40 km/h speed limit applies until you pass an **End school zone** sign or another speed limit sign, even if you turn into another road.

The 40km/h speed limit also applies in road-related areas in school zones, such as driveways or car parks.

Students and children often use school facilities on the weekends and at times outside of the normal school zone hours (for example, soccer on Saturdays), so even if the school zone is not in effect, always look out for pedestrians in these areas.



*School zone sign*



*Electronic School zone sign*

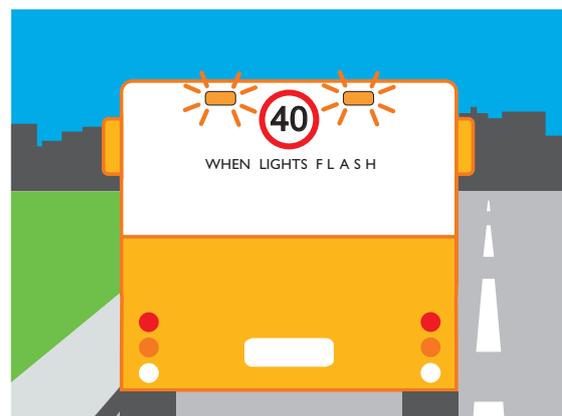
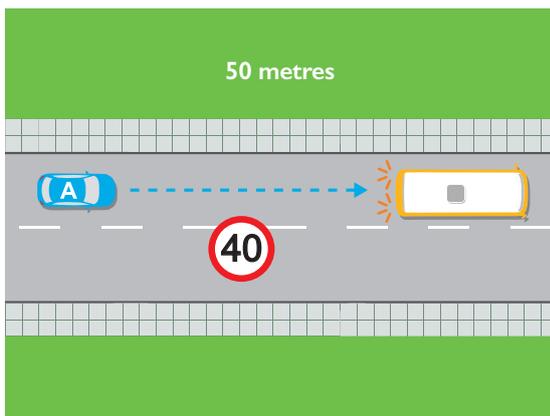


*End school zone sign*

### Speed limits around school buses

The speed limit is 40 km/h when you are within 50 metres of a school bus with its warning sign and lights flashing or lit up.

The 40 km/h speed limit applies when you are driving behind or towards a bus from either direction.



Drive carefully and look out for pedestrians, especially school children.

## Speed limits when passing emergency service and roadside assistance vehicles

When passing a slow-moving or stationary emergency service, enforcement, escort or roadside assistance vehicle that is displaying flashing red, blue, magenta or yellow lights or sounding an alarm, you must slow to 40km/h.

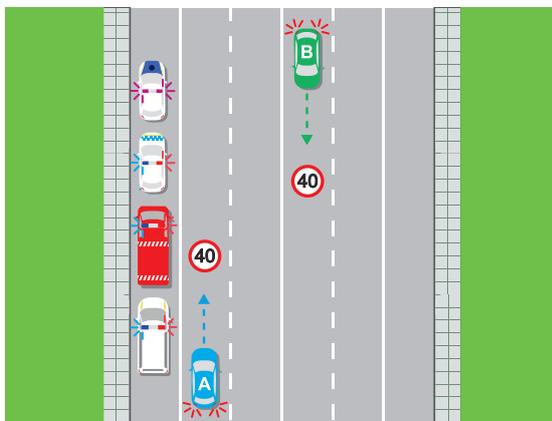
On roads with speed limits over 80km/h, you must slow to 40km/h if it is safe to do so. If it is unsafe to slow to 40km/h on a road with a speed limit over 80km/h, you must slow down as safely as possible.

You should apply your brakes gradually and safely, paying attention to the location of other vehicles and road users around you. Be aware that heavy vehicles take longer to slow down. Do not slam on your brakes.

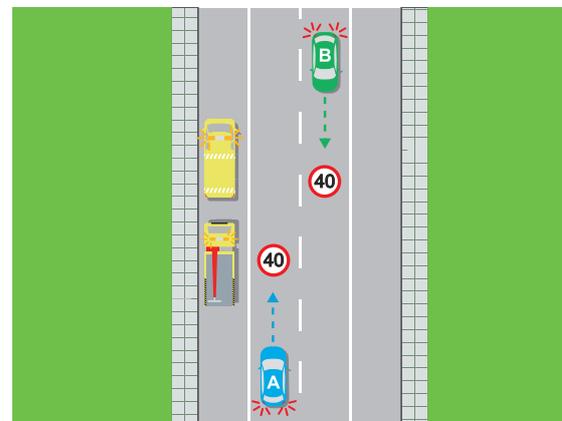
Give way to any emergency, enforcement or roadside assistance worker who may be on foot in the immediate area of the vehicle with flashing lights.

Only increase your speed when you are a safe distance from the scene.

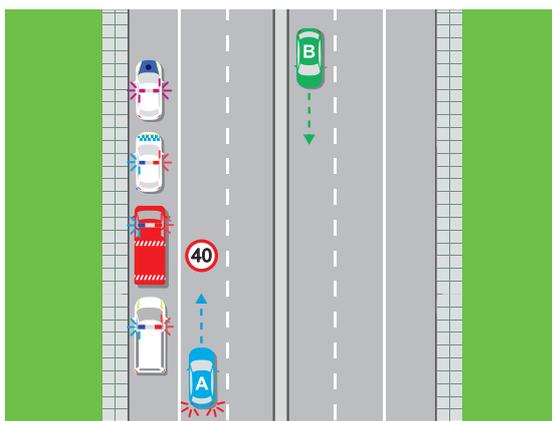
This rule does not apply when you are driving on the opposite side of a divided road that is separated by a median strip from an emergency, enforcement or roadside assistance vehicle.



On a road with a speed limit up to and including 80km/h, **Car A** and **Car B** must slow to 40km/h. On a road with a speed limit over 80km/h, both must slow to 40km/h **if safe to do so**.



On a road with a speed limit up to and including 80km/h, **Car A** and **Car B** must slow to 40km/h. On a road with a speed limit over 80km/h, both must slow to 40km/h **if safe to do so**.



On a road with a speed limit up to and including 80km/h, **Car A** must slow to 40km/h. On a road with a speed limit over 80km/h, **Car A** must slow to 40km/h if safe to do so.

**Car B** does not have to slow down because there is a dividing barrier.

## 7. Giving way

**Giving way** means that you must:

- slow down or stop until it is safe to proceed
- slow down or stop to avoid a crash
- slow down and follow the direction of **Give way** or **Stop** signs and lines (see Section 11, “Intersections”).

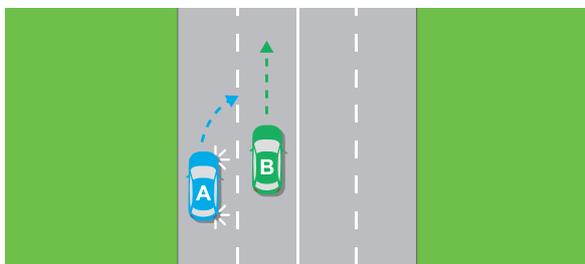


**You must always travel safely to avoid crashing with other road users, including pedestrians.**

For example, if someone is trying to change lanes at the same time as you, you should wait until it is safe before changing lanes.

At an intersection where you must give way, this means giving way to all road users including bicycle riders, pedestrians and motorcyclists, not just other motor vehicles.

### Changing lanes



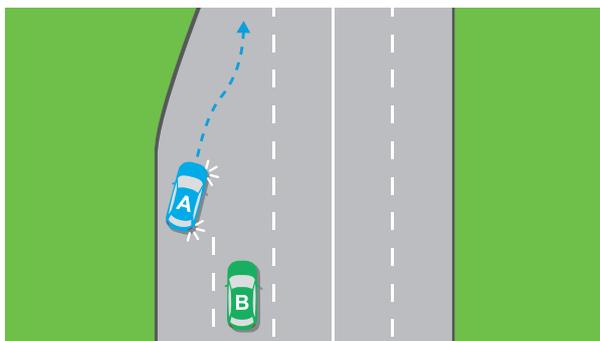
**Car A** must give way to **Car B**.

When moving from one marked lane to another marked lane of traffic, you must:

- indicate, and
- give way to any traffic in the lane being entered.

### Merging

Reduced number of lanes on unmarked roads

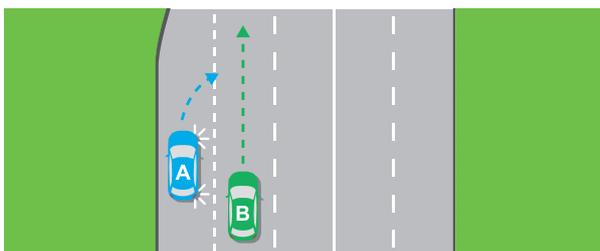


**Car B** must give way to **Car A**. **Car A** has right of way.

When you are travelling on a road that does not have line markings, and the number of lanes or lines of traffic is reduced, you must merge by giving way to any vehicle that is ahead of you.

This is often called a zip merge.

Changing lanes when a marked lane ends

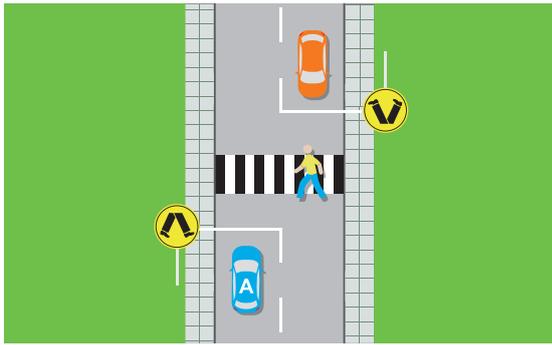


**Car A** must give way to **Car B**. **Car B** has right of way.

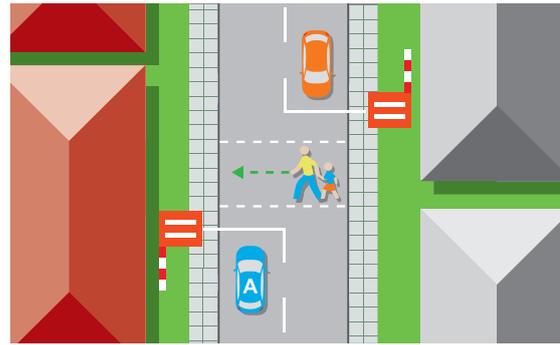
When you are travelling in a marked lane that is ending, and you need to cross a broken painted line to enter the adjacent lane, you must:

- indicate, and
- give way to any traffic in the lane you are entering.

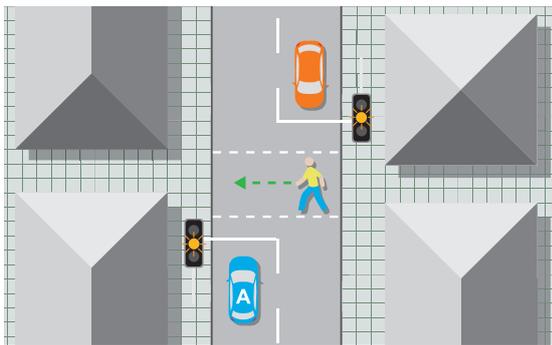
## Pedestrian crossings



A pedestrian crossing.



A children's crossing.



A marked foot crossing.

You must share the road with pedestrians. Markings on the road show where pedestrians have special rights. These are designed to make the roads safer for pedestrians.

When driving towards a pedestrian or children's crossing:

- slow down and be ready to stop safely before the stop line if necessary
- stop for children, pedestrians or bicycle riders **on or entering** the crossing, and
- do not go until all pedestrians and bicycle riders have left the crossing.

At a pedestrian crossing with traffic lights, stop when the light is red.

If there is a flashing yellow light, you must give way to any pedestrians **on or entering** the crossing. You may only go when all pedestrians have left the crossing.

You **must not** stop or park on pedestrian crossings, or within 20 metres as you approach, or 10 metres as you depart. This helps to make sure that the crossing is always visible to other vehicles as they approach.

You **must not** enter a pedestrian crossing if you are unable to drive through the crossing or if the road beyond it is blocked.



**Never overtake another vehicle at a pedestrian crossing.**

When a vehicle in front has stopped at a crossing, stop behind the vehicle and wait for it to move on. There may be a pedestrian or bicycle rider whom you cannot see.

## 7. Giving way continued

### Pedestrian shared zone

A shared zone is an area where multiple types of vehicles and pedestrians coexist, for example near aged care homes or in camp grounds.

Speeds are lower in these zones because of the presence of pedestrians. Even if no speed limit is specified, you should drive with considerable care and be aware of those who may also be in the area.

When driving in a **Shared zone** you must give way to all pedestrians in the zone.

Where there is a **Shared zone** sign with a speed limit, you must travel at or below the speed indicated on the sign.



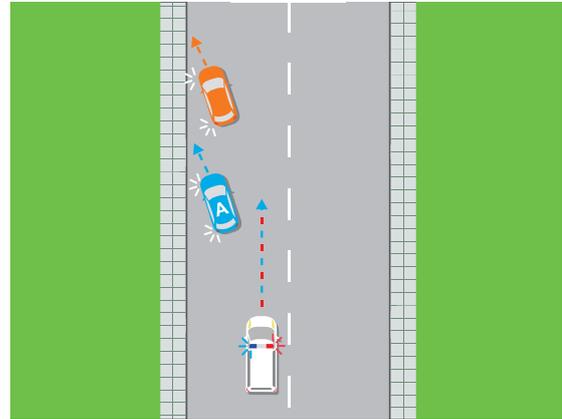
*Shared zone sign*

## Emergency vehicles

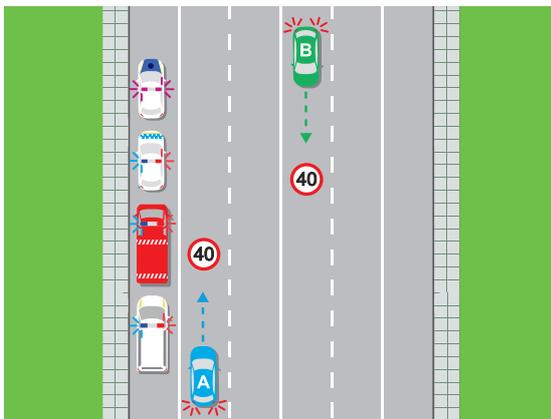
You must always give way to an emergency vehicle (such as a police car, ambulance or fire engine) displaying flashing red, blue or magenta lights or sounding a siren.

You must move out of the path of the emergency vehicle when safe to do so, by pulling over to the side of the road or moving into another lane.

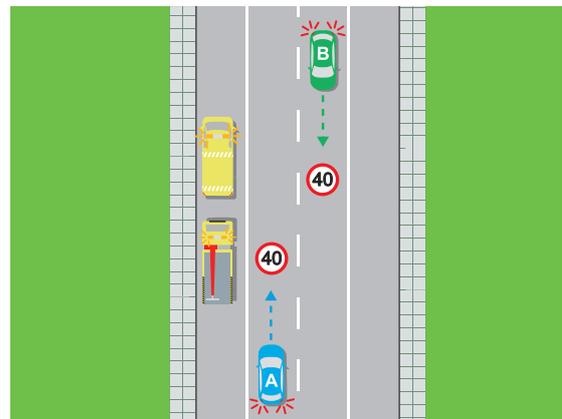
Do not move into the path of an approaching emergency vehicle with its lights flashing or sounding a siren.



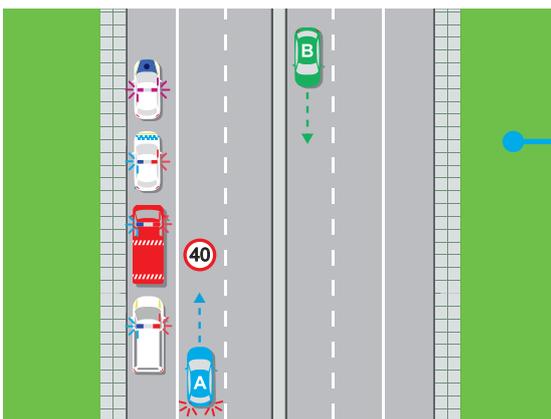
Remember – on roads up to 80km/h, you must **always** slow to 40km/h as you pass an emergency or roadside assistance vehicle that is displaying flashing blue, red, magenta or yellow lights or sounding a siren. On roads over 80km/h, you must slow to 40km/h if it is safe to do so. This applies in both directions (unless there is a dividing barrier). You should slow down safely and avoid braking suddenly.



On a road with a speed limit up to and including 80km/h, **Car A** and **Car B** must slow to 40km/h. On a road with a speed limit over 80km/h, both must slow to 40km/h **if safe to do so**.



On a road with a speed limit up to and including 80km/h, **Car A** and **Car B** must slow to 40km/h. On a road with a speed limit over 80km/h, both must slow to 40km/h **if safe to do so**.



On a road with a speed limit up to and including 80km/h, **Car A** must slow to 40km/h. On a road with a speed limit over 80km/h, **Car A** must slow to 40km/h if safe to do so.

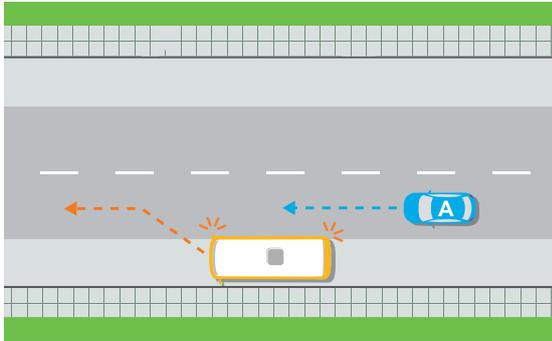
**Car B** does not have to slow down because there is a dividing barrier.

## 7. Giving way continued

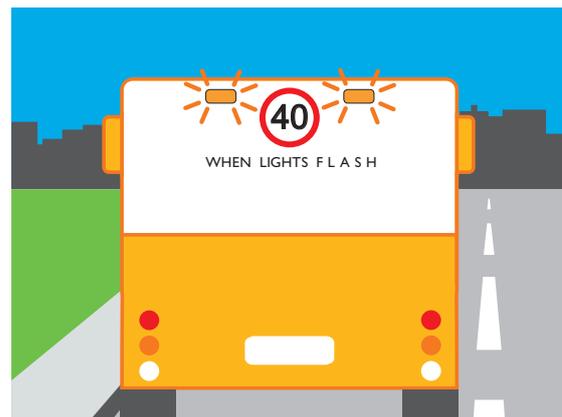
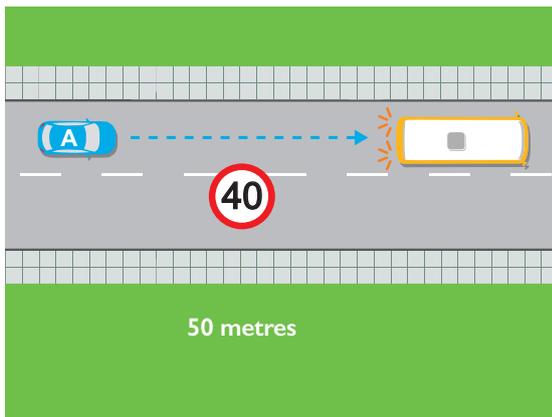
### Buses

You must give way to a bus that is in front of you when it:

- has stopped or is moving slowly at the far left of the road, on the shoulder of the road, or in a bus stop
- has a **Give way to buses** sign
- has its right indicator on, and
- is about to enter your lane of traffic.



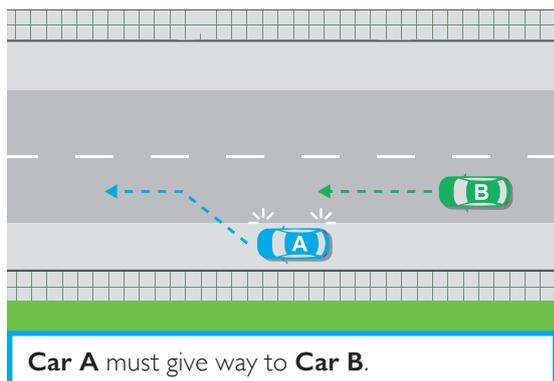
Remember – the speed limit is 40 km/h when you are within 50 metres of a bus that is displaying a **School bus warning** sign and school bus warning lights.



### Entering traffic

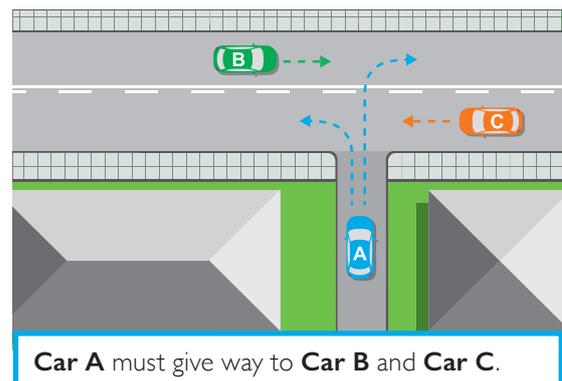
When entering traffic from a stationary position on the side of the road, you must:

- give way to traffic travelling in the lane you are entering, and
- indicate for at least **5 seconds** before driving.



When entering traffic from a carpark or driveway, you must give way to:

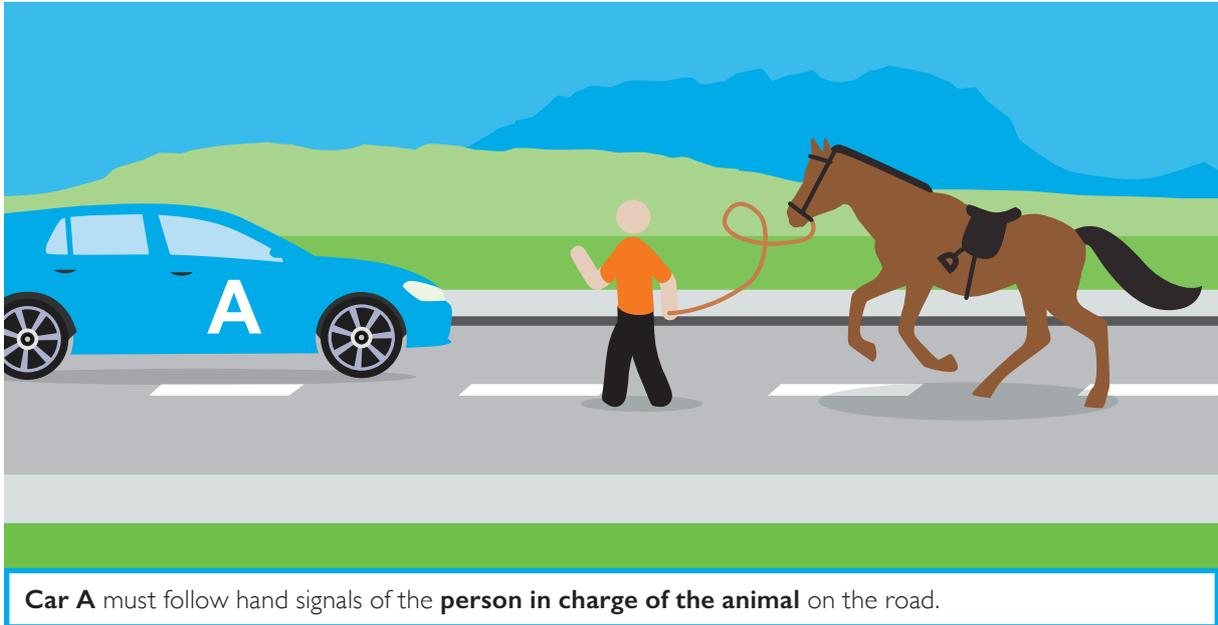
- traffic travelling in the lane you are entering or crossing, and
- pedestrians.



## Horses and livestock

All road users must give way to agitated or alarmed horses and livestock, which means animals refusing to move, or that are difficult to control on the road.

If the rider of a horse or someone in charge of livestock gives a signal, by raising a hand and pointing to the horse, or gives a verbal instruction, you must stop and not move again until the horse or livestock has become settled and it is safe to proceed.



**Car A** must follow hand signals of the **person in charge of the animal** on the road.

## 8. Making turns

Turning is a change of direction. It can include turning left or right into a new road or road-related area, or turning around completely to travel in the opposite direction.

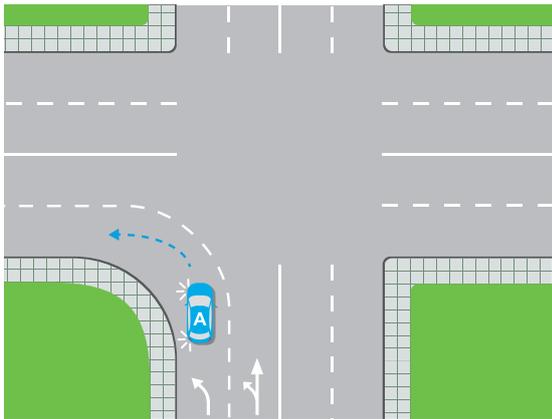
Line markings and signs tell you where you can and cannot turn, and are installed intentionally to improve road safety.

You must always follow line markings and signs, and indicate in the direction you are turning so that other road users can see what you plan to do.

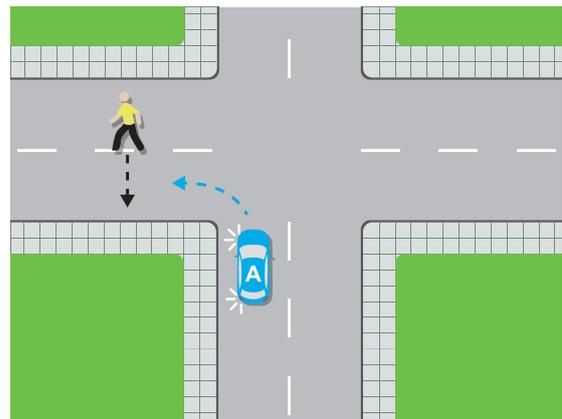
Slow down before you make the turn and while turning. If you travel too fast, you might lose control.

### Left turns

When turning left:

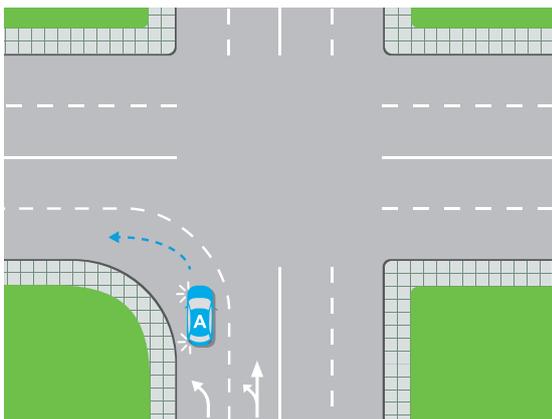


- indicate before making the turn, even when the lane has traffic arrows
- slow down or stop until it is safe to proceed, and

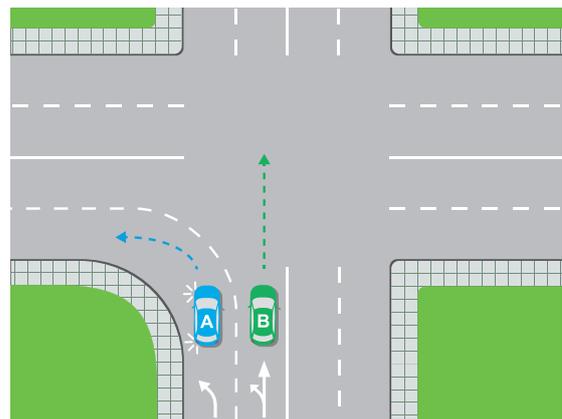


- give way to all pedestrians on the road you are turning into, and any oncoming vehicles on the right.

When turning left from a **two-way** or **one-way road**, drive as close as you can to the left of the road.



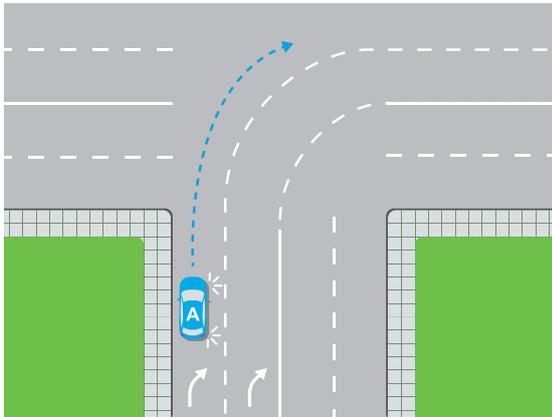
If there are line markings going around the corner (turn lines), you must follow the turn lines. Otherwise, you can choose the lane you want to turn into (if it is safe).



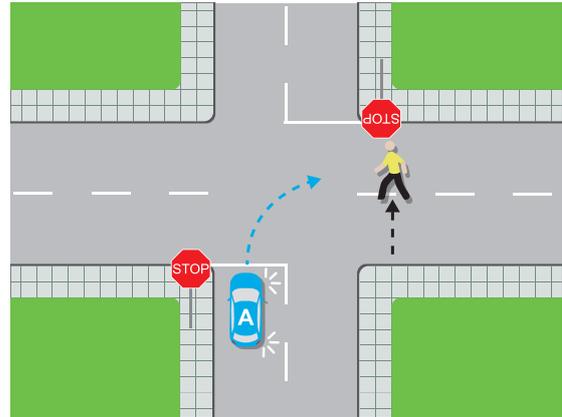
When turning from a multi-lane road, turn only from the left lane unless the traffic arrows on the road show that you can turn left.

## Right turns

When turning right:

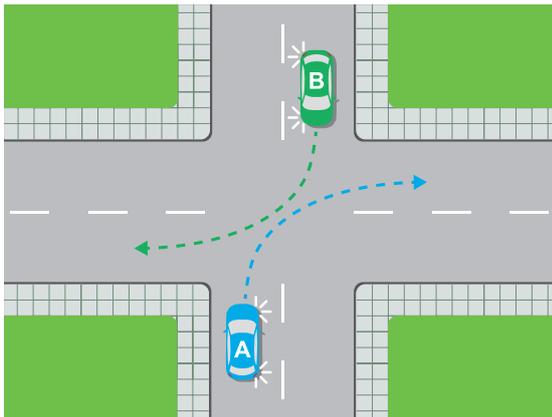


- indicate before making the turn, even when the lane has traffic arrows
- slow down or stop until it is safe to proceed, and

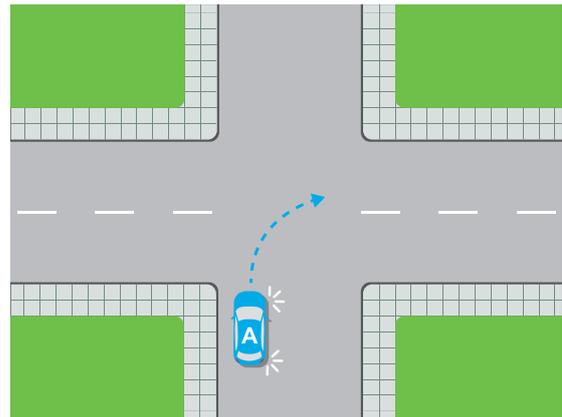


- give way to all pedestrians on the road you are turning into, and
- give way to any oncoming vehicles, and vehicles approaching from the left and right.

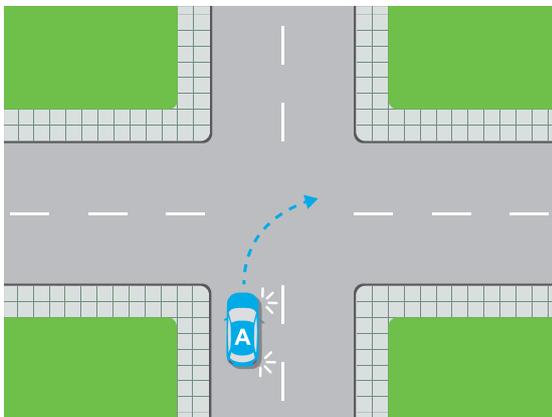
When turning right from a **two-way road**:



- do not cross the path of an oncoming vehicle that is also making a right turn



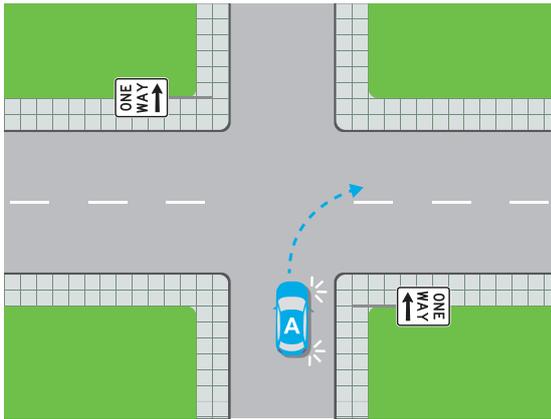
- if there is no centre line, start the turn from as close as you can to (but to the left of) the centre of the road



- if there is a centre line, start the turn from as close as you can to (but to the left of) the centre line.

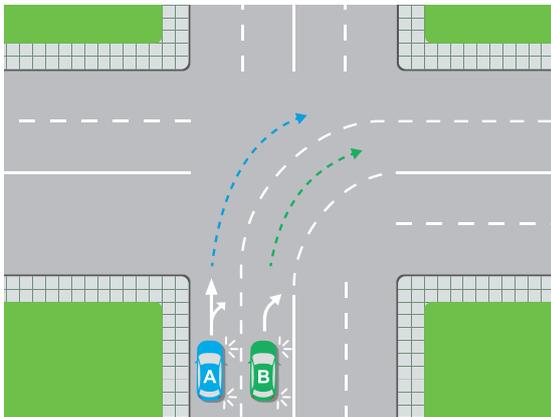
## 8. Making turns *continued*

When turning right from a **one-way road**:



- start the turn from as close as you can to the right of the road.

When turning right from a **multi-lane road**:



- always turn from the right-hand lane, unless traffic arrows allow you to turn right from another lane
- if there are line markings going around the corner (turn lines) you must make the turn as shown by the turn lines
- if there are no line markings, you can choose the lane you want to turn into (if it is safe).

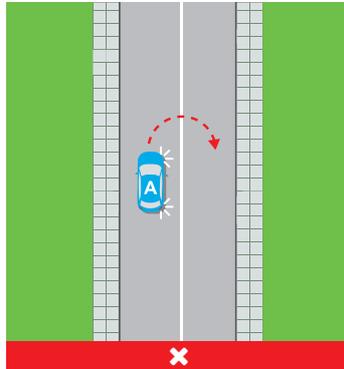
## U-turns

A U-turn is a turn to go in the opposite direction from which you are travelling (other than turning at a roundabout). You must always use your indicators when you perform a U-turn.

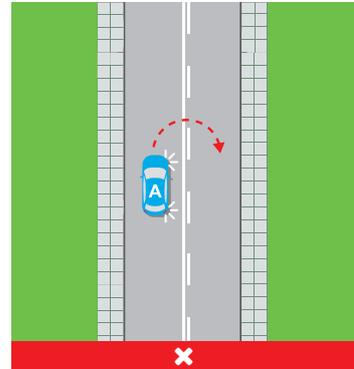
You **must not** perform a U-turn:



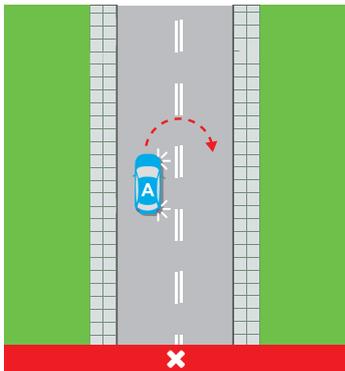
- anywhere there is a **No U-turn** sign



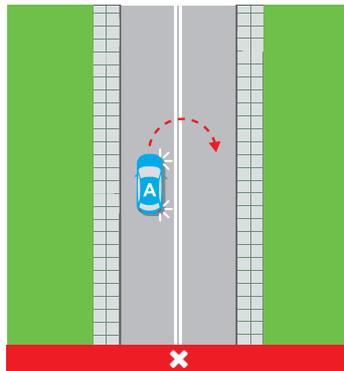
- across a single continuous line



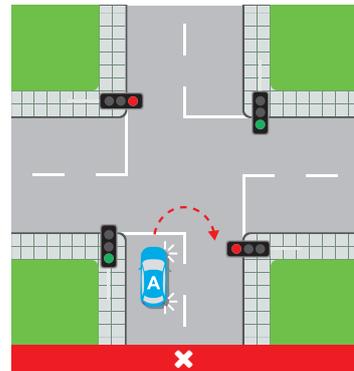
- across a single continuous line (on your side of a single broken line)



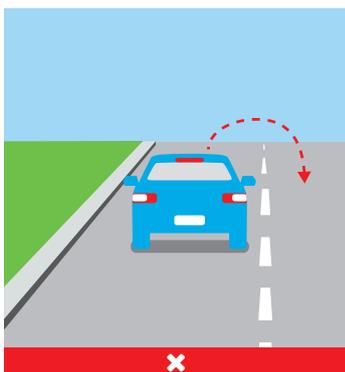
- across double broken lines



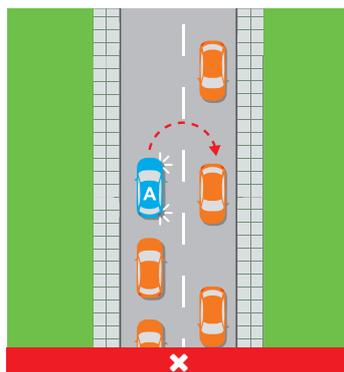
- across double continuous lines



- at an intersection with traffic lights (unless there is a **U-turn permitted** sign)



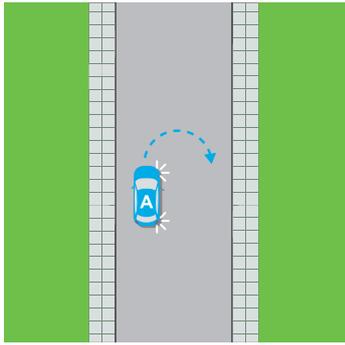
- if you do not have a clear view of any approaching traffic



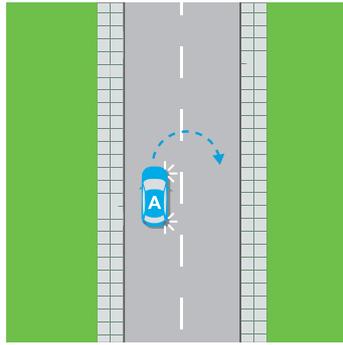
- if you will unreasonably obstruct the free movement of traffic.

## 8. Making turns *continued*

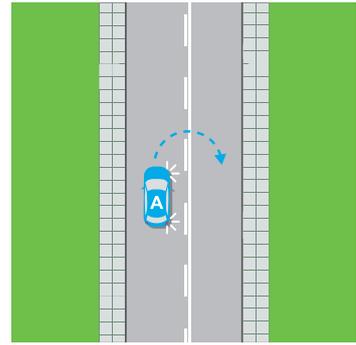
You may only perform a U-turn if it is safe to do so, and:



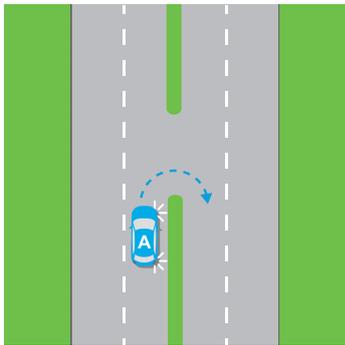
- where there are no marked lanes



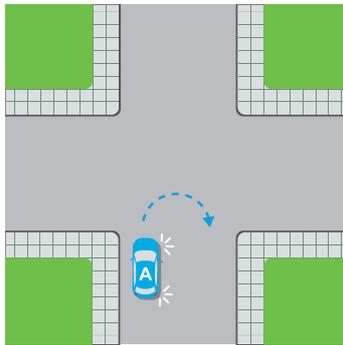
- where there is a single broken line



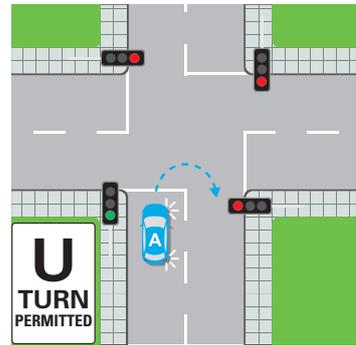
- where there is a broken line, left of a single continuous line



- at a break in the median strip (unless there is a **No U-turn** sign)

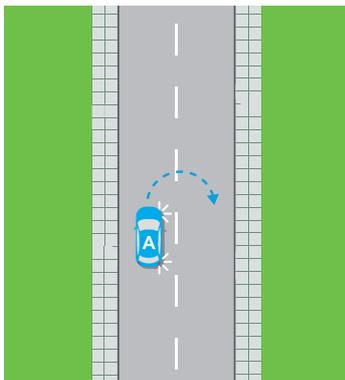


- at an intersection without traffic lights (unless there is a **No U-turn** sign)

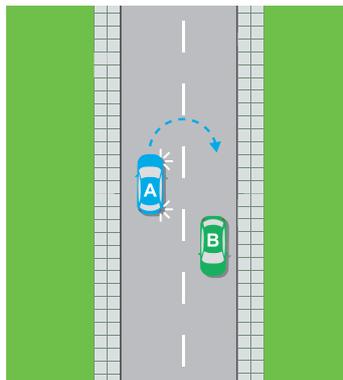


- at an intersection with traffic lights **only** if there is a **U-turn permitted** sign.

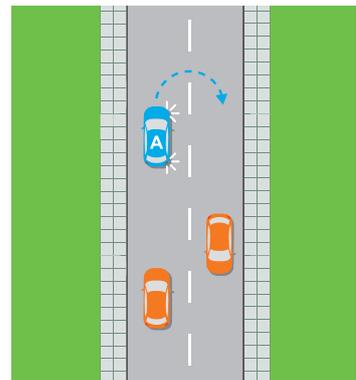
Before you perform a U-turn, make sure you indicate, and:



- have a clear view of any approaching traffic



- give way to all traffic and pedestrians



- will not block the flow of traffic.

# 9. Indicators

## Indicators

You must use your indicators every time you plan to change direction on the roads – such as between lanes, to leave the road, or to turn at intersections. Indicating communicates your intended move to other road users, and allows them time to respond accordingly.

Indicating is not optional in Tasmania.

Using indicators correctly helps to reduce the chance of crashes and enables everyone to share the roads safely.

You must always indicate to let others know that you plan to:

- change direction
- turn left or right
- change lanes
- enter or leave a driveway.

You must indicate for:

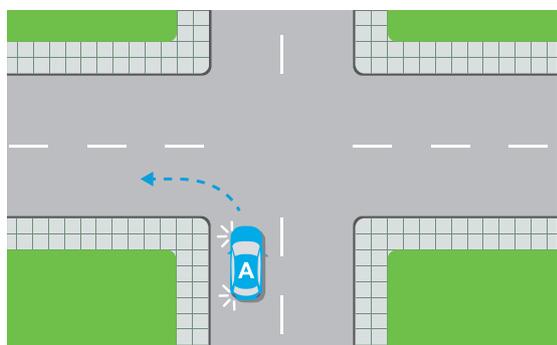
- at least **5 seconds** before pulling out from the side of the road or a median strip parking area, and
- long enough to warn other drivers, riders and pedestrians that you are changing direction.

You should also indicate when reversing.

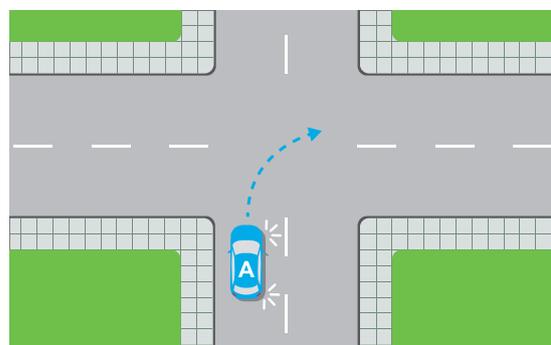
Turn off your indicator when you have finished turning or changing direction.

## Change of direction

To change direction, use your vehicle's:



- left indicator when turning or changing direction to the left

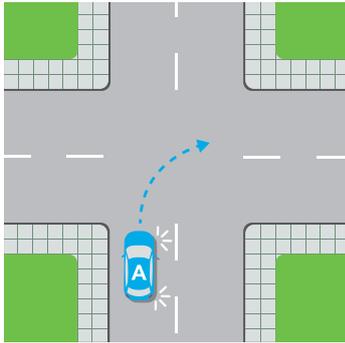


- right indicator when turning or changing direction to the right.

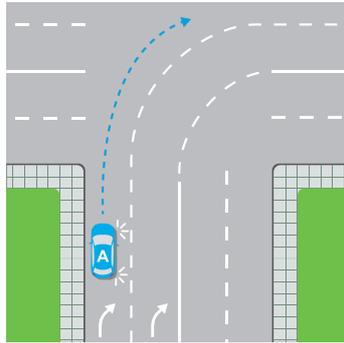
## 9. Indicators *continued*

### When to indicate

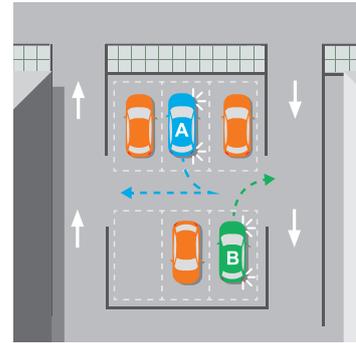
Indicate before you:



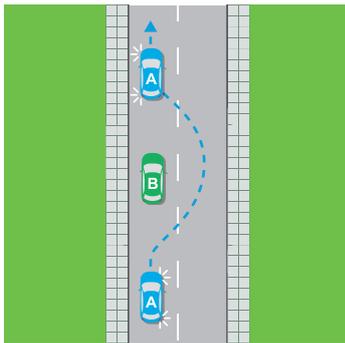
- turn at an intersection
- turn into or out of a side road
- turn into or out of an area like a carpark or driveway



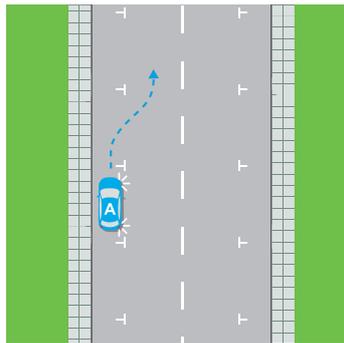
- turn at an intersection with turn lines
- turn at an intersection with traffic lane arrows, even if you have no other option but to turn as directed by the arrows



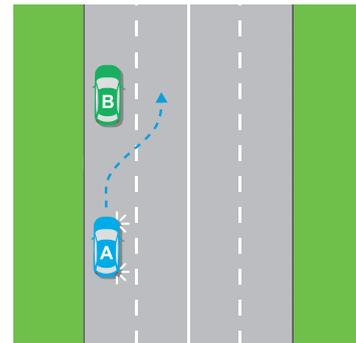
- pull into or out of a parking place, including when reversing



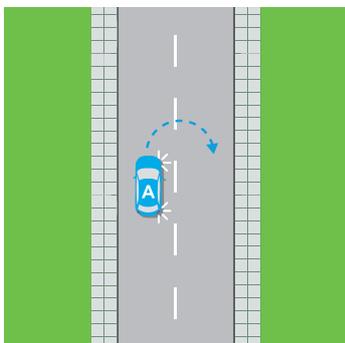
- overtake – before you begin and as you are pulling back in



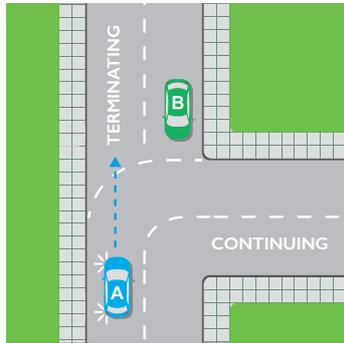
- move off from the side of the road or pull over to the side of the road



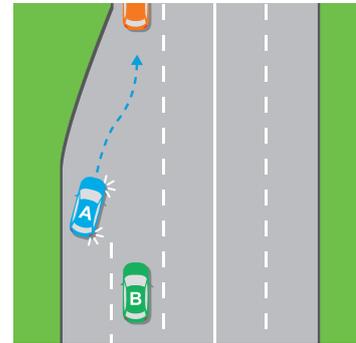
- change lanes



- perform a U-turn



- leave the continuing road at a T-intersection, where the continuing road curves



- merge.



**Remember – the indicator rule applies when you are driving forward and when you are reversing.**

## What to do when your indicators or brake lights are not working

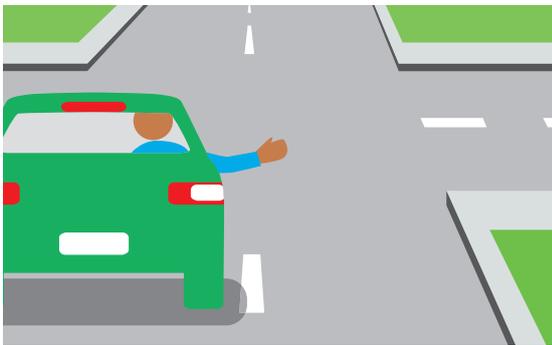
If your vehicle's indicators or brake lights are not working, then the vehicle is considered by law to be unroadworthy.

 **It is illegal to drive an unroadworthy car.**

If your indicators do not work or are unable to be seen, you must have them repaired as soon as possible and before driving again.

### Indicators

However, you may be in a position where you must move your vehicle to a safe space while the indicators or brake lights are not working. If your vehicle's indicators are not working or are unable to be seen clearly, you must give a hand signal when turning or changing lanes.



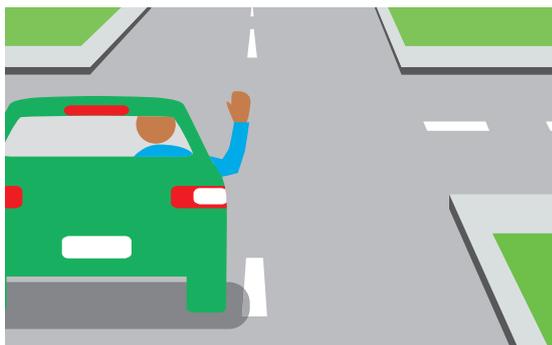
When turning right, signal with your right arm.

### Stop signal

Brake lights are a warning to other road users that you are stopping or suddenly slowing.

When you use the foot brake, the brake lights will turn on. You must provide enough warning to other road users that you are about to slow down or stop.

If your brake lights do not work or are unable to be seen clearly, give a hand signal. Motorcyclists can use their left hand.



When slowing or stopping, signal with your right arm.

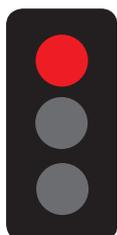
## 10. Traffic lights

Traffic lights reduce the risk of crashes by controlling the flow of road users through an intersection. Traffic lights are an important part of safe road design because intersections are high-risk places for crashes.

Yellow traffic lights are especially important as they give you enough warning to stop before the light turns red.

As you approach an intersection with traffic lights, note the traffic light colour. If you see that the light has been green for some time as you approach, be prepared that it might change to yellow. If the light has changed to yellow and you are still a safe distance from the intersection and are able to stop safely, you **must not** drive through the yellow light.

Always be aware of pedestrians crossing at pedestrian lights.



### Red traffic lights

A red traffic light means **stop**.

You must stop before and as close as possible to the solid white stop line marked on the road. Where there is no stop line, you must stop before the intersection.



### Twin red lights

Twin red lights are generally found at bridges, ambulance stations, fire stations or level crossings.

The rules for twin red lights are the same as for single red traffic lights.

You must stop before and as close as possible to the solid white stop line marked on the road. Where there is no stop line, you must stop before the lights.

Do not go until after the twin red lights have stopped showing.



### Yellow traffic lights

A yellow traffic light means **stop**.

It does not mean speed up to try and get through the intersection. The yellow light is the beginning of the red light phase, not the end of the green light phase.

You should only travel through an intersection showing a yellow light when it is not safe to stop before reaching the stop line or traffic lights.

If you drive through a yellow light you are at risk of causing a crash, or becoming stuck in the intersection and blocking oncoming traffic, which is illegal in the Road Rules.

This can cause serious delays and frustration for other road users, compromises your safety and the safety of pedestrians and other road users, and rarely provides you with any significant time advantage.

There is a penalty for failing to stop at a yellow light when you could have stopped safely.

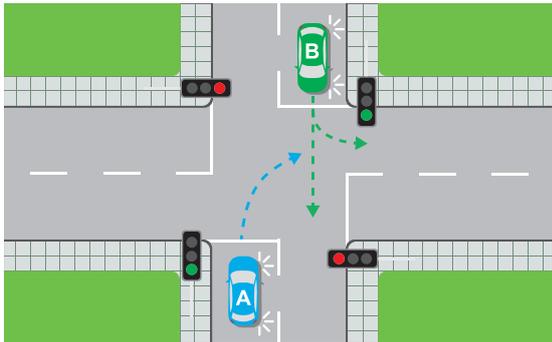


### Green traffic lights

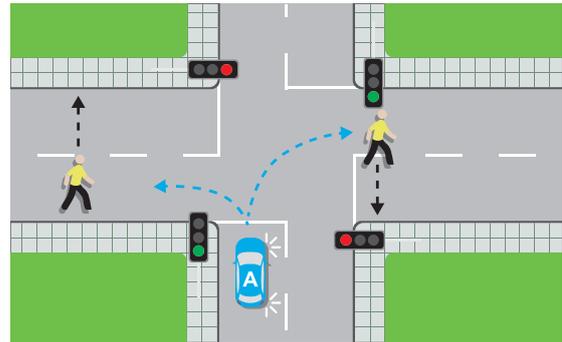
A green traffic light means you can go straight ahead, turn left or turn right at the intersection, but you must give way to pedestrians and other traffic as required by law. Before driving on the green light, make sure that all other traffic has stopped.

## Giving way at traffic lights

When turning at an intersection with traffic lights, give way to:



- any oncoming vehicle that is going straight ahead or turning left at the intersection (except a vehicle turning left using a slip lane)

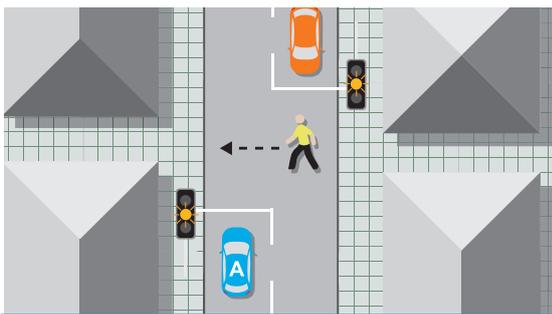


- any pedestrians on the road you are entering.

## Flashing yellow traffic lights

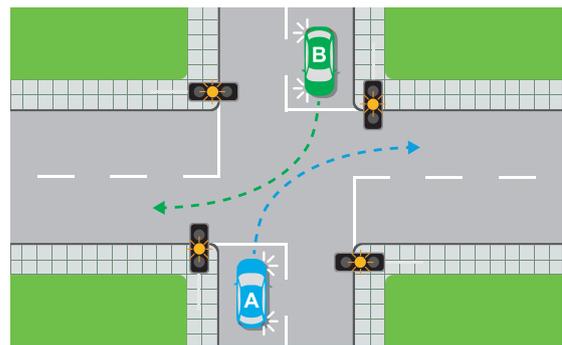
Flashing yellow lights mean **slow down and proceed with caution**. There may be flashing yellow lights at:

- pedestrian crossings



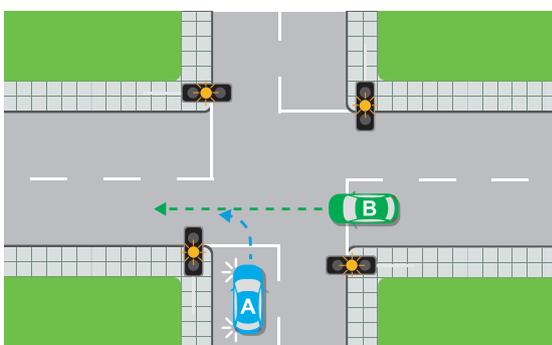
When all pedestrians have finished crossing, **Car A** may proceed.

- intersections.

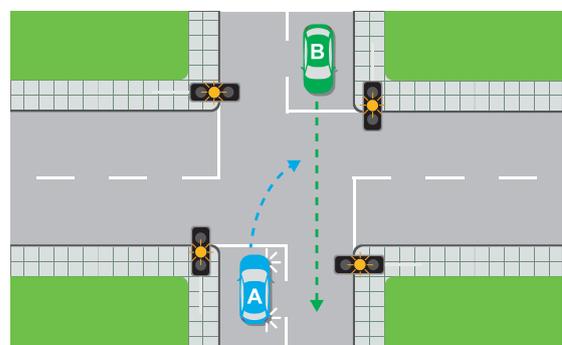


Turning vehicles pass in front of each other.

Sometimes all the traffic lights at an intersection will be flashing yellow, this means the rules for uncontrolled intersections apply. You should give way to the right and when turning across a vehicle's path. Also give way to pedestrians who may also be trying to cross the road.



**Car A** must give way to **Car B**.



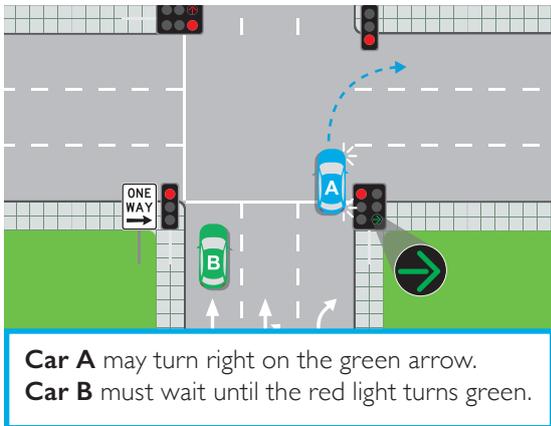
**Car A** must give way to **Car B**.

## 10. Traffic lights *continued*

### Traffic arrows

#### Right-turn arrows

A right-turn arrow at traffic lights only applies to traffic that is turning right.



When the arrow is green, you may turn right (give way to pedestrians if necessary).

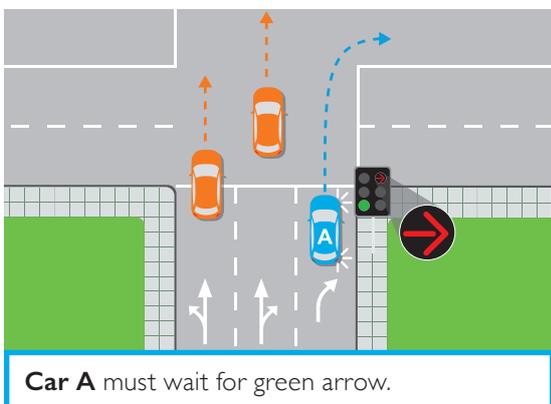


When the arrow is yellow, stop before the solid line (unless it is unsafe to stop).

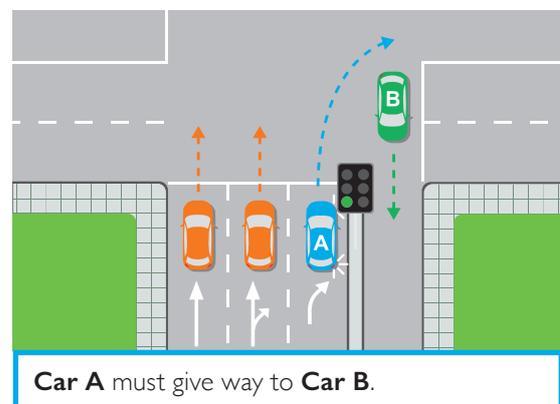


When the arrow is red, stop before and as close as possible to the solid white stop line marked on the road. Where there is no stop line, stop before the intersection.

When there is a red arrow, you **must not** turn right, even if there is a green traffic light.

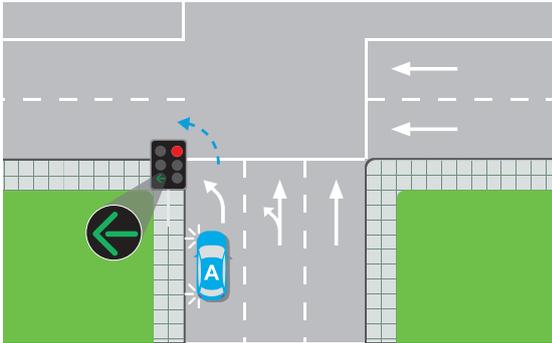


When there is a green traffic light, but no arrow, you can turn right after you have given way to oncoming traffic and pedestrians.



## Left-turn arrows

A left-turn arrow at traffic lights only applies to traffic that is turning left.



When the arrow is green, you may turn left after you give way to pedestrians.

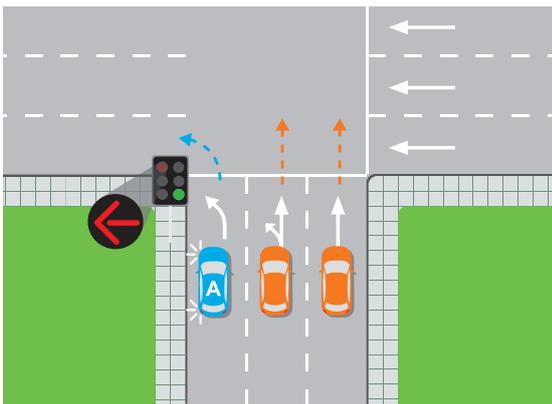


When the arrow is yellow, stop before the solid line unless it is unsafe to stop.



When the arrow is red, stop before and as close as possible to the solid white stop line marked on the road. Where there is no stop line, stop before the intersection.

When there is a red arrow, you **must not** turn left, even if there is a green traffic light.



When there is a green traffic light, but no arrow, you can turn left after you have given way to pedestrians.



## 10. Traffic lights *continued*

### Flashing yellow arrows

If there is a flashing yellow arrow at a slip lane, you may turn after giving way to:

- traffic travelling on the road you are entering, and
- pedestrians on the road you are entering.



### Police signals

Sometimes a police officer or another authorised person controls an intersection.

For example, if the traffic lights are not working properly, at a crash scene, or during random breath testing.

Signals given by a police officer or authorised person must be obeyed, even if it means disobeying another rule.

## 11. Intersections

The rules for giving way at intersections are among the most misunderstood.

Tasmanian intersections are controlled by:



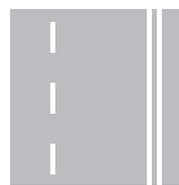
**Stop** signs



**Give way** signs



traffic lights



line markings.

These controls make the roads safer and reduce the likelihood of crashes.

For instance, some intersections are busy, and traffic lights are needed to manage the traffic flow.

Some intersections have poor sight lines, so slowing down and coming to a complete stop is important to safely use the intersection.

Remember, when giving way at intersections, you must give way to all road users, including bicycle riders, pedestrians and motorcyclists, not just other motor vehicles.

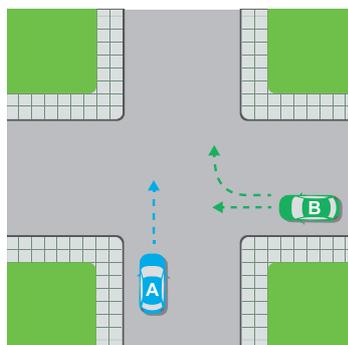
### Uncontrolled intersections

Uncontrolled intersections have no traffic lights, **Stop** signs, **Give way** signs, stop lines, or give way lines.

At uncontrolled intersections, you must give way to all traffic coming from the right.



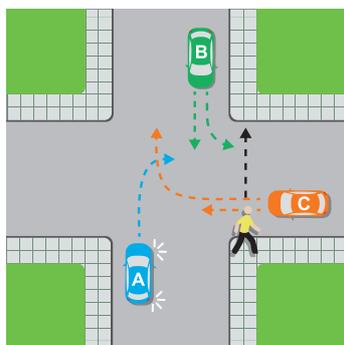
**Even if someone should give way to you, drive carefully and courteously to avoid a crash.**



**Car A** must give way to **Car B** to its right.

Before travelling **straight ahead**, give way to:

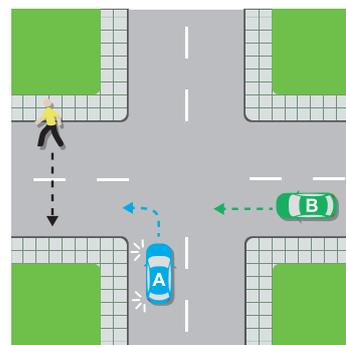
- traffic coming from the right that is going straight ahead or turning right.



**Car A** must give way to **Car C**, **Car B** and the **pedestrian**

Before turning **right**, give way to:

- traffic coming from the right, that is going straight ahead or turning right
- oncoming traffic that is going straight ahead or turning left, and
- pedestrians on the road that you are entering.



**Car A** must give way to **Car B**, and the **pedestrian**.

Before turning **left**, give way to:

- traffic coming from your right that is going straight ahead, and
- pedestrians on the road that you are entering.

## 11. Intersections *continued*

### Controlled intersections

A controlled intersection has one or more:

- traffic lights
- **Stop** signs
- solid white stop lines
- **Give way** signs
- broken white give way lines.



### Stop signs and stop lines



A **Stop** sign means stop. It does not matter whether there is other traffic nearby or approaching.



**Stopping at a Stop sign and line is the law.**

#### **Stop sign**

**Stop** signs make intersections safer. They are at intersections where there are reduced lines of sight for drivers.

Slowing down and stopping provides time to look carefully and assess when it is safe to enter or move through the intersection.

You must slow safely and come to a stop at the **Stop** line. You must remain stationary and give way to a vehicle which is in, entering, or approaching the intersection.

You must give way to other motor vehicles, pedestrians, bicycle riders and motorcyclists.

You must also give way to pedestrians crossing the road into which you are turning.

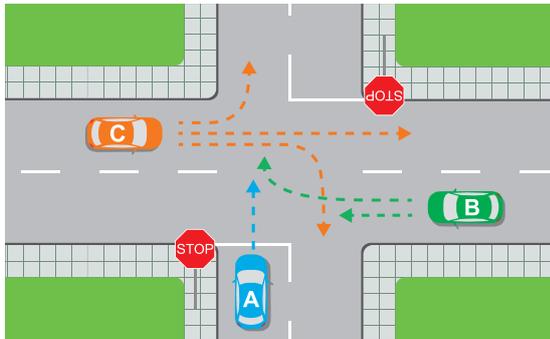
Move only when it is safe to do so.

This rule applies wherever there is a **Stop** sign, including slip lanes, children's crossings, carpark exits, level crossings and T-intersections.

At intersections with a **Stop** sign or stop line (and no traffic lights), you must stop as near as practical, but before the stop line. Then:

Before travelling **straight ahead**, you must give way to:

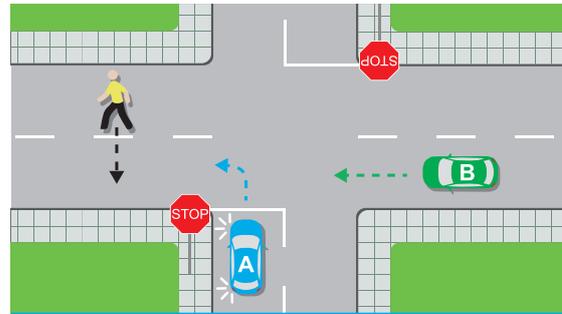
- traffic coming from the left which is going straight ahead or turning left or right, and
- traffic coming from the right which is going straight ahead or turning right.



**Car A** must give way to **Car B** and **Car C**.

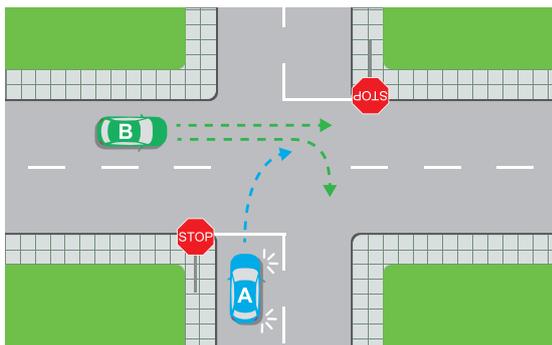
Before turning **left**, you must give way to:

- traffic coming from the right, that is going straight ahead, and
- pedestrians on the road you are entering.

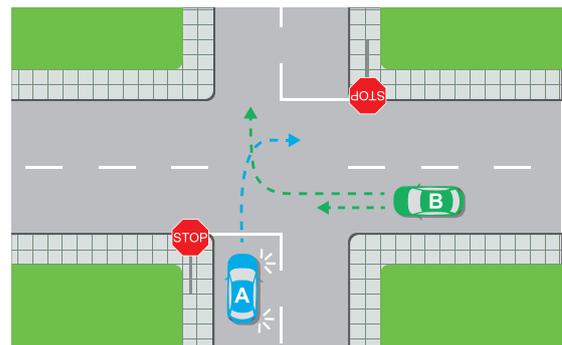


**Car A** must give way to **Car B** and the pedestrian.

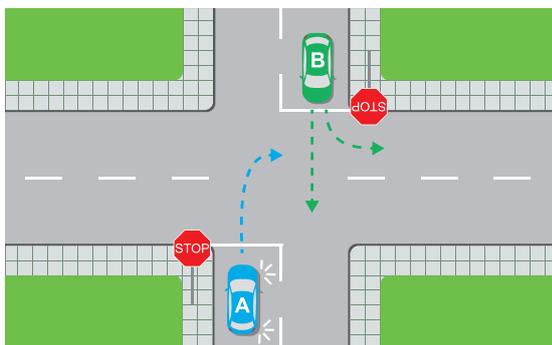
Before turning **right**, you must give way to:



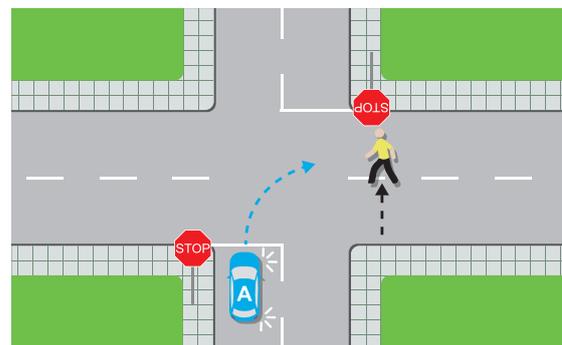
- traffic coming from the left, which is going straight ahead or turning right



- traffic coming from the right, that is going straight ahead or turning right



- oncoming traffic going straight ahead or turning left



- pedestrians on the road you are entering.



**You are not required by law to give way to traffic that is turning left at a slip lane. However, it is always your responsibility to drive safely to avoid a crash.**

## 11. Intersections *continued*

### Give way signs or give way lines



At **Give way** signs you must slow down and be prepared to give way to other traffic entering or approaching the intersection.

You must give way to other motor vehicles, pedestrians, bicycle riders and motorcyclists.

You must give way to any pedestrians crossing the road you are entering.

**Give way** signs are at intersections and other places where other vehicles have priority.

Slowing down gives you time to check if it is safe to enter or move through the intersection.

At an intersection with a **Give way** sign or give way lines, travel towards the intersection slowly and stop before the give way line if necessary.



Before going straight ahead:

- give way to traffic coming from the left that is going straight ahead or turning left or right, and
- give way to traffic coming from the right that is going straight ahead or turning right.



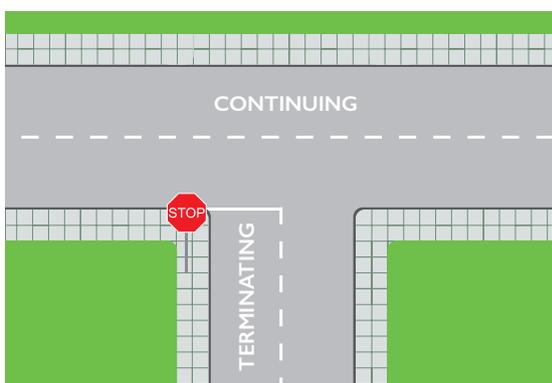
Before turning left or right:

- give way to traffic coming from the right that is going straight ahead
- give way to traffic coming from the left that is turning right or going straight ahead, and
- give way to pedestrians on the road you are entering.

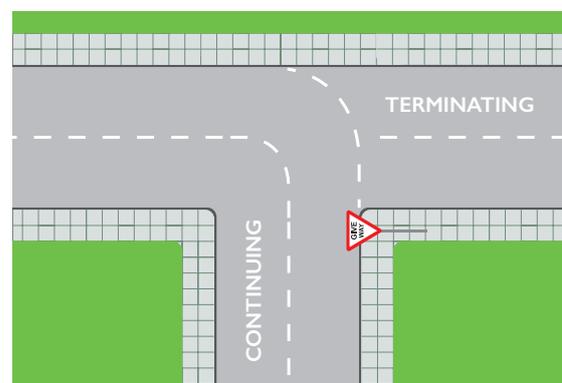
### T-intersections

A T-intersection has a continuing road and a terminating road. A terminating road is the road that ends (such as a side street meeting a main road).

At T-intersections, if you are travelling on the terminating road, you must give way to pedestrians crossing or vehicles travelling on the continuing road, unless there is a road sign giving a different instruction.



On most T-intersections, the continuing road travels straight.

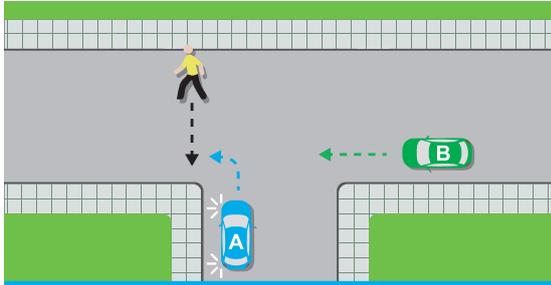


On some T-intersections, the continuing road curves around. There will be road markings and signage to show that the curved road is the continuing road.

## Uncontrolled T-intersections

Uncontrolled T-intersections **do not** have traffic lights, road signs or lines.

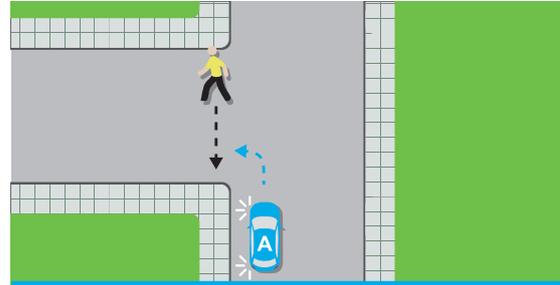
Before turning left from the terminating road you must give way to:



**Car A** must give way to **Car B** and the **pedestrian**.

- traffic coming from the right on the continuing road (except a vehicle making a U-turn on the continuing road at the T-intersection), and
- pedestrians on the continuing road crossing at or near the intersection.

Before turning left from the continuing road you must give way to:

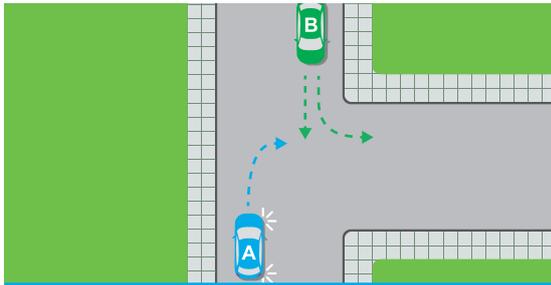


**Car A** must give way to the **pedestrian**.

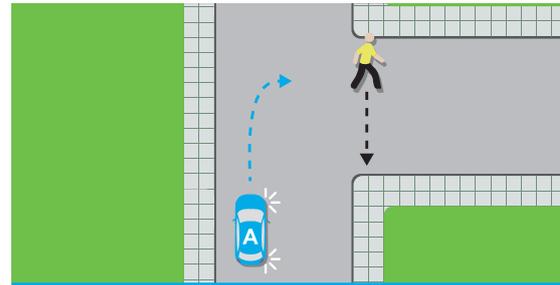
- pedestrians on the terminating road crossing at or near the intersection.

When turning right from the continuing road, you must give way to:

- traffic on the continuing road turning left or going straight ahead



**Car A** must give way to **Car B**.



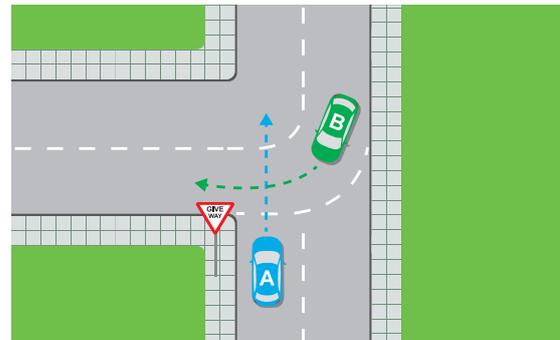
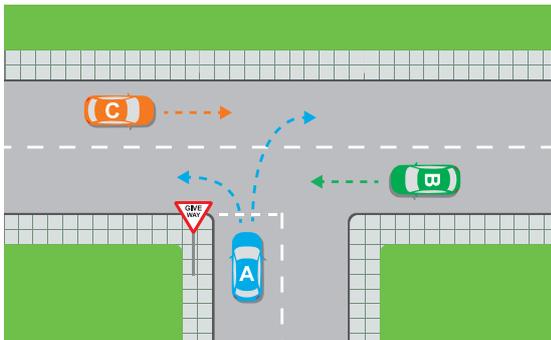
**Car A** must give way to the **pedestrian**.

- pedestrians on the terminating road crossing at or near the intersection.

## Controlled T-intersections

At controlled T-intersections, you must obey the road signs, road markings or traffic lights.

When travelling on a terminating road with a **Give way** sign or give way line, give way to all traffic on the continuing road.



## 11. Intersections *continued*

### Slip lanes

A slip lane is an area of road for vehicles turning left, which is separated from the rest of the intersection by a painted island or traffic island.

Slip lanes are used to improve safety and traffic flow for vehicles turning left.

If you are using a slip lane, you must give way to any vehicle coming from the right or turning right at the intersection into the road you are entering.

You must also give way to pedestrians on the slip lane (unless traffic directions instruct otherwise).

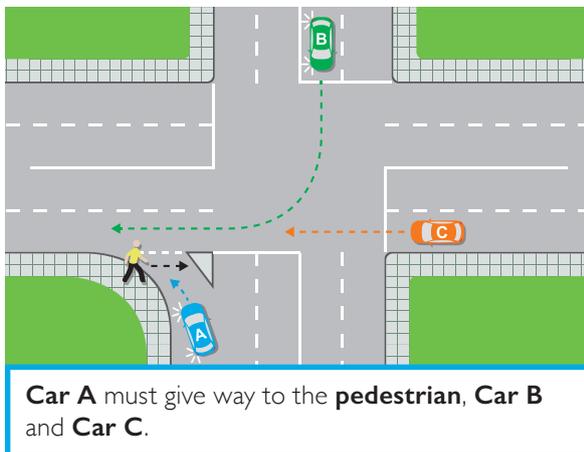
You **must not** stop in the slip lane unless signs say parking is allowed.

You must use a slip lane where one is provided.

### Giving way at a slip lane

Before turning left using a slip lane, you must give way to:

- traffic on the road that you are entering
- oncoming traffic turning right at the intersection into the road that you are entering, and
- other traffic or pedestrians in the slip lane.

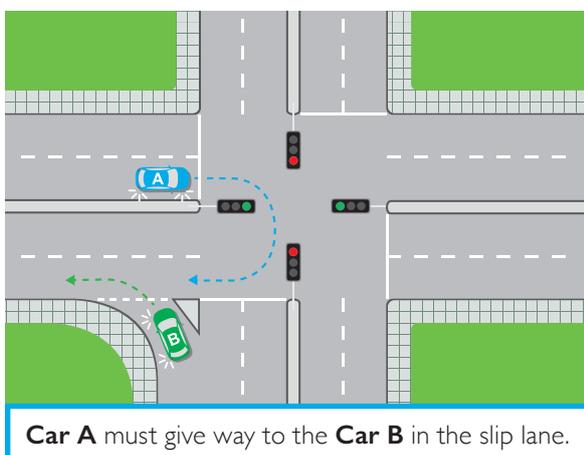


### Giving way to vehicles in a slip lane

You must give way to any vehicles in the slip lane when you are making a U-turn at an intersection.

You **are not** required to give way to vehicles in a slip lane when:

- driving straight ahead at an intersection (either controlled or uncontrolled), and
- turning right at an intersection (either controlled or uncontrolled).



## Roundabouts

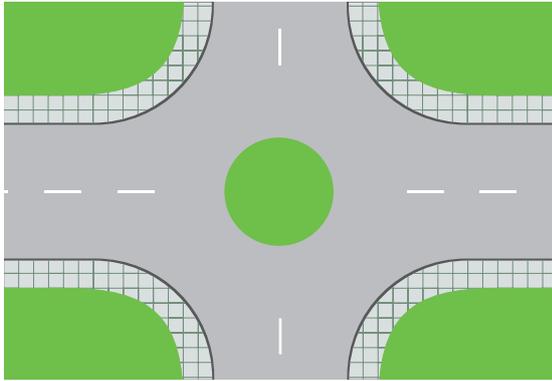
### What is a roundabout?

A roundabout is an intersection with a traffic island at its centre.

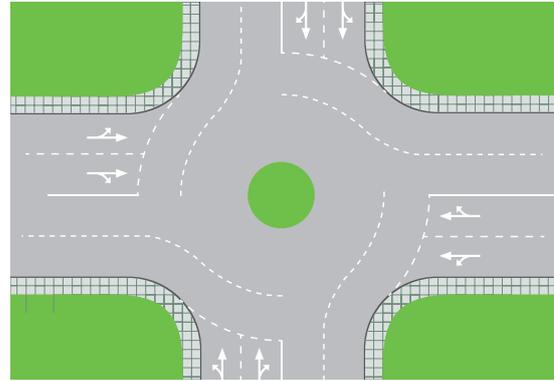
Traffic moves clockwise around the roundabout, keeping to the left of the island.

Roundabouts may have more than one traffic lane.

Examples of roundabouts:



Single-lane roundabout



Multi-lane roundabout.

### Why do we have roundabouts?

Roundabouts significantly increase road safety as they make you slow down, which minimises potential crash impact. Roundabouts also improve traffic flow.

Head-on or T-bone crashes (which may also happen at other types of intersections) are not as likely, because roundabouts change the angles at which vehicles approach each other at the intersection.

### Giving way correctly

Roundabouts are designed to improve the flow of traffic at an intersection by directing drivers to fluidly move around a central traffic island. Ideally, there is minimal “stop” and “start” at a roundabout.

**When entering a roundabout, you must give way to any vehicle that is already in the roundabout.**

There is no requirement for you to give way to vehicles on your right that have not yet entered the roundabout.

If you were to stop and wait for a vehicle on your right to approach, enter and proceed through the roundabout, people could start to queue behind you. This is not the intention of a roundabout.

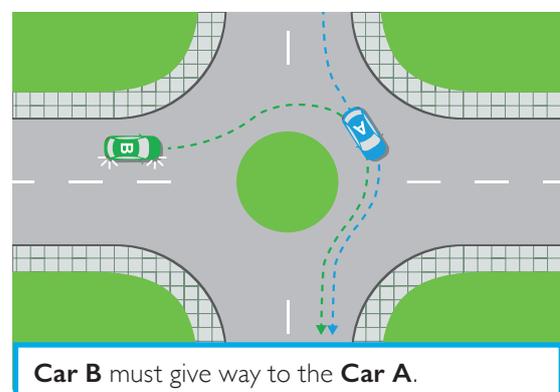
You should always drive safely to avoid a crash.

### Approaching, entering and leaving a roundabout

When approaching a roundabout, you should slow down so you can stop safely if you need to. Before entering, make sure you give way to any vehicle already in the roundabout, regardless of the direction the vehicle on the roundabout is heading.

When entering a roundabout you must:

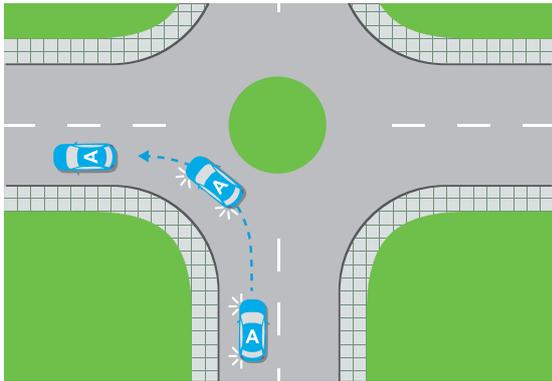
- follow any arrows indicating the direction to travel
- use your indicator if you intend to turn left, right or make a U-turn, and
- indicate left when exiting the roundabout, where practical.



## II. Intersections *continued*

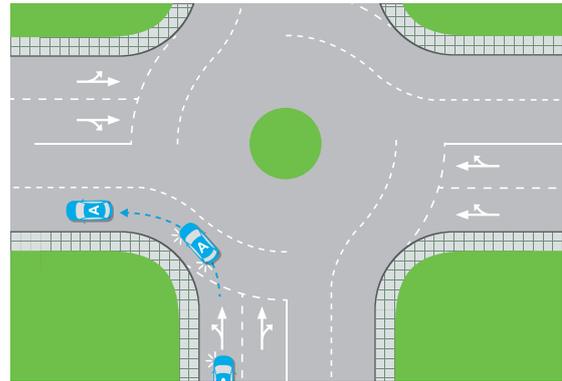
### Turning left

When leaving the roundabout **less than half-way around**:



On a single-lane roundabout:

- you must indicate left while approaching, entering and leaving the roundabout.

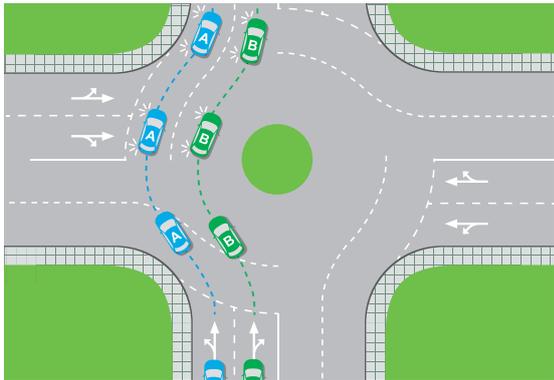


On a multi-lane roundabout:

- you must enter and leave the roundabout from the left lane, or a lane that has a left arrow, and
- remember to stop indicating as soon as you have left the roundabout.

**Note** - *Half-way around the roundabout* means taking the road that is straight ahead (or close to being straight ahead) from the road on which you entered.

### Going straight ahead



When travelling **straight ahead** at a roundabout:

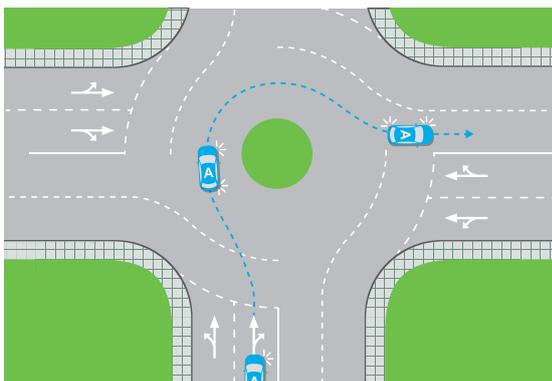
- you must indicate left when leaving the roundabout, where practical, and
- remember to stop indicating as soon as you have left the roundabout.

On a multi-lane roundabout,

- you can enter and leave the roundabout from any lane with a straight-ahead arrow
- if there are no arrows marked in the lanes, you can enter and leave the roundabout from any lane.

When travelling straight ahead on a small single-lane roundabout, it may be impractical to indicate left when exiting.

### Turning right



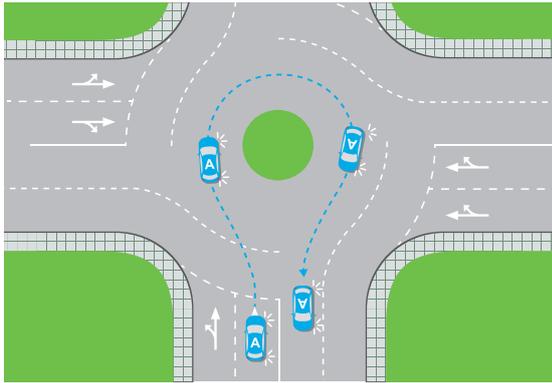
When travelling **more than half-way around** a roundabout:

- indicate right while approaching and entering the roundabout
- indicate left as you leave the roundabout, where practical, and
- remember to stop indicating as soon as you have left the roundabout.

On a **multi-lane roundabout**:

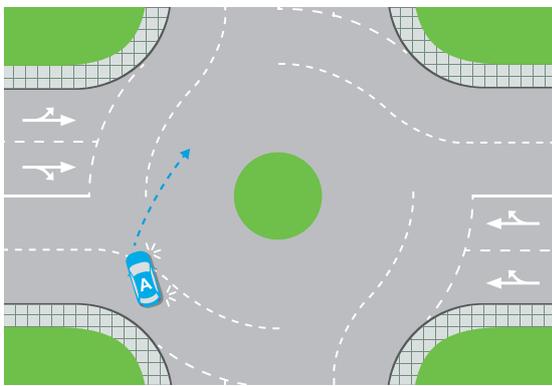
- enter from the right lane or a lane with a right arrow.

## Making a U-turn



When using a roundabout to make a U-turn, you must approach in the right lane and indicate right, and then left when exiting (where practical).

## Changing lanes in a roundabout



You can change lanes in a multi-lane roundabout, when it is safe to do so.

You must indicate before changing lanes, in addition to indicating when entering and leaving the roundabout.

## Level crossings

A level crossing is the intersection where a road and railway line meet at the same level.

You should drive towards level crossings slowly and look both ways for trains.

When there is a **Stop** sign and line, you must **stop and give way** to any train approaching or entering the crossing.

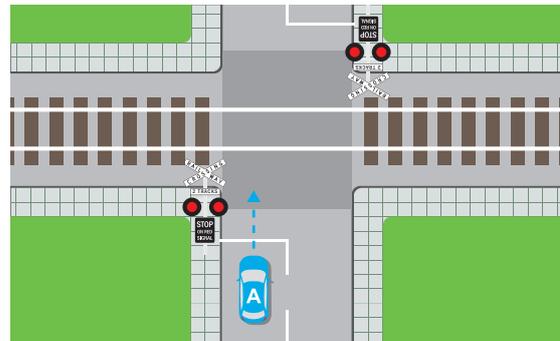
If there is a **Give way** sign and line, you must **slow down and give way** to any train approaching or entering the crossing.

Do not enter a level crossing if:

- a train is on or entering or approaching the crossing
- you can see or hear a train
- the crossing or the road on the other side is blocked
- warning lights are flashing
- warning bells are ringing, and
- a gate or barrier at the crossing is closed, closing or opening.

You must wait for the warning lights to stop flashing before driving on, even if the train has passed as there might be a second train.

Enter and leave the level crossing only when you can do so safely.



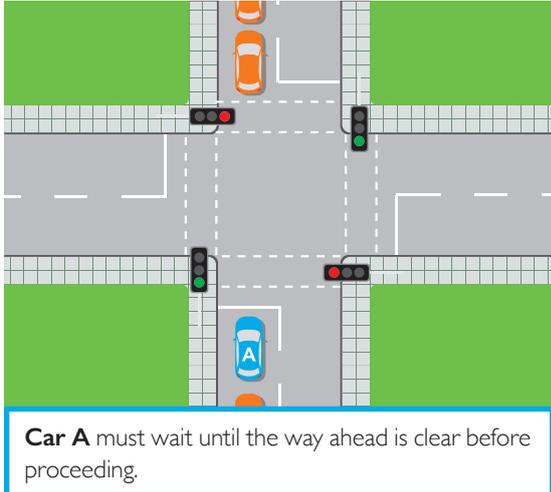
## 11. Intersections *continued*

### Keeping intersections and crossings clear

You **must not** enter an intersection or crossing when a queue of traffic prevents you from fully exiting on the other side.

Stop before you enter the intersection or crossing, so that you do not block traffic or the path of pedestrians crossing at the intersection.

You **must not** enter a pedestrian crossing if you are unable to drive through the crossing or if the road beyond it is blocked.



If you are in an intersection, and the traffic lights change to yellow or red, you must leave the intersection as soon as you can to do so safely.

## 12. Overtaking

Overtaking is passing another vehicle that is travelling in the same direction as you.

It can be dangerous, and requires skill and judgement to overtake safely.

You must only overtake when it is safe.

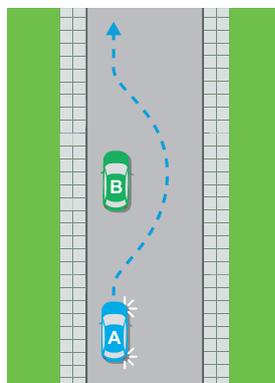
When overtaking, you should always:

- have a clear view of the road ahead to make sure there is no oncoming traffic
- check your blind spot and mirrors, then signal your intention to overtake
- allow enough room and distance to overtake safely, and
- keep to the speed limit (you **must not** exceed the speed limit to overtake).

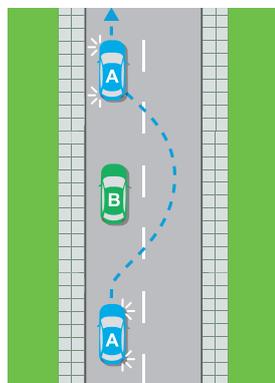
Do not cross continuous dividing lines to overtake, unless you are passing a cyclist.

### Overtaking on the right

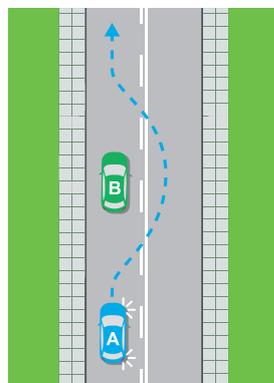
You can overtake a vehicle on its right when:



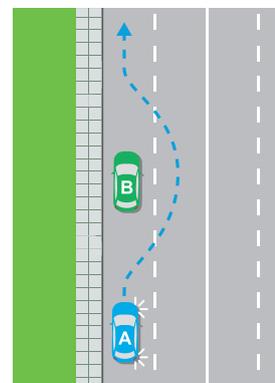
- there are no marked lanes on a two-way road



- there is a single broken dividing line



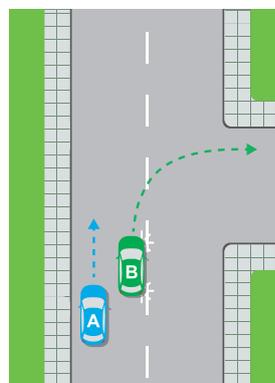
- there is a broken line on your side of a solid line



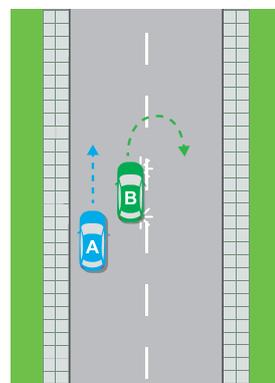
- there are two or more lanes of traffic going the same direction and the vehicle can be safely overtaken in a marked lane on the right.

### Overtaking on the left

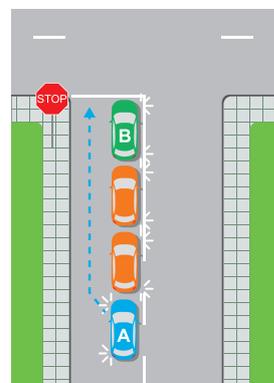
You may overtake a vehicle on its left when it is safe to do so, and:



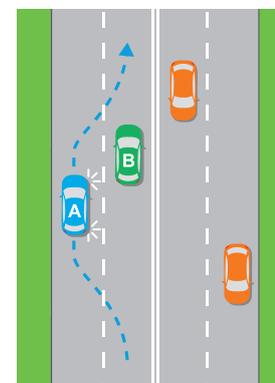
- it is turning right from the centre of the road



- it is performing a U-turn from the centre of the road



- it is stationary

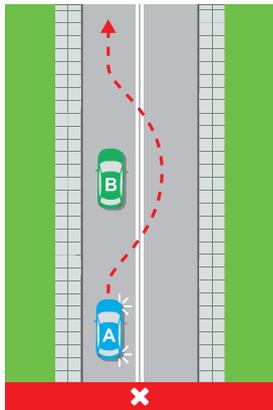


- there are two or more lanes of traffic travelling in the same direction, and the vehicle can be safely overtaken in a marked lane on the left.

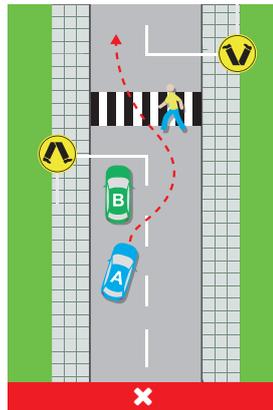
## 12. Overtaking *continued*

### When not to overtake

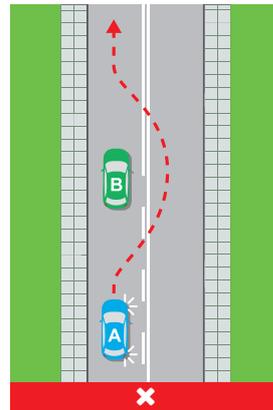
You **must not** overtake a vehicle when:



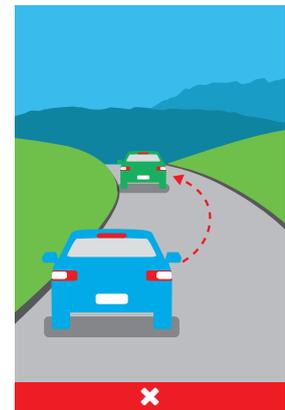
- the dividing lines do not allow overtaking (such as single or double continuous lines)



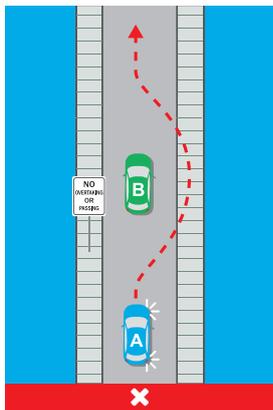
- the vehicle is giving way, such as at a pedestrian crossing



- you are coming to dividing lines that do not allow overtaking



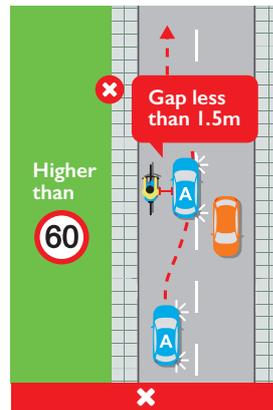
- you do not have a clear view of the road ahead, such as at a blind corner or on a hill



- there is a **No overtaking or passing** sign (for example, on a single lane bridge or length of road)

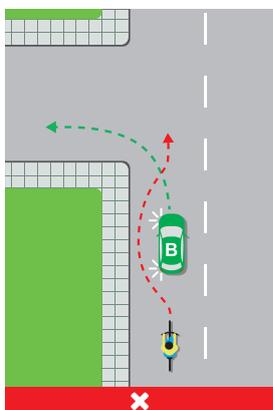


- there is less than 1 metre between you and a bicycle rider on roads with a speed limit of 60 km/h or less

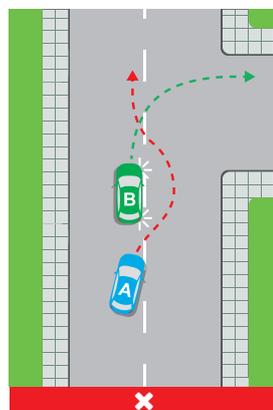


- there is less than 1.5 metres between you and a bicycle rider on roads with a speed limit greater than 60 km/h.

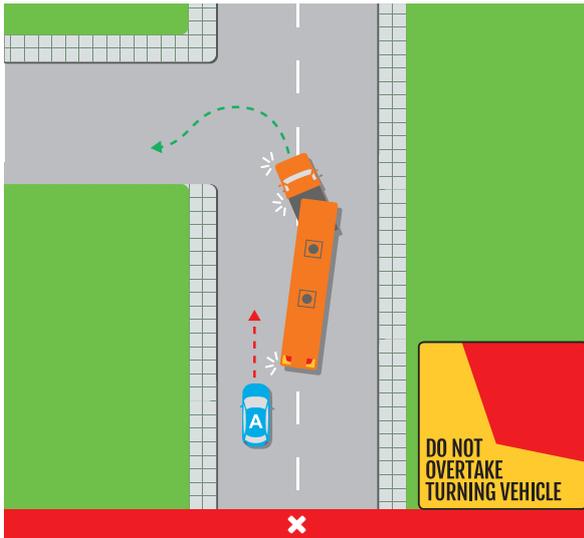
Other examples of when not to overtake:



A bicycle rider **must not** overtake to the left of a vehicle that is turning left



You **must not** overtake on the right-hand side of a vehicle that is turning right.



Long vehicles have restricted turning circles and may require multiple lanes to turn left or right safely.

When a turning long vehicle has a **Do not overtake turning vehicle** sign:

- you **must not** drive past it on the left if it is turning left or indicating to turn
- you **must not** drive past it on the right if it is turning right or indicating to turn.

Only overtake a long vehicle that is turning if you are on a multi-lane road and the vehicle can be safely overtaken.

## Being overtaken

If someone is overtaking you, you **must not**:

- increase your vehicle's speed while you are being overtaken
- drive in a way that prevents a vehicle from overtaking you.

## Passing bicycle riders

Bicycle riders are vulnerable road users. They take up less space on the road, travel at lower speeds, and have less protection than people travelling in motor vehicles.

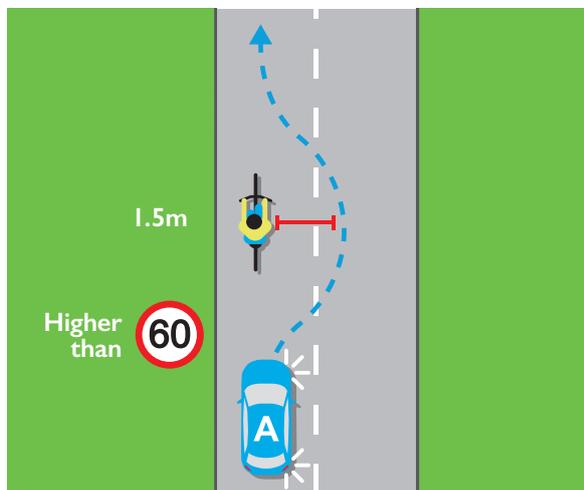
Bicycle riders have a right to use the road safely. For example, bicycle riders are allowed to:

- use a whole traffic lane
- ride on footpaths, and
- cross at pedestrian crossings.

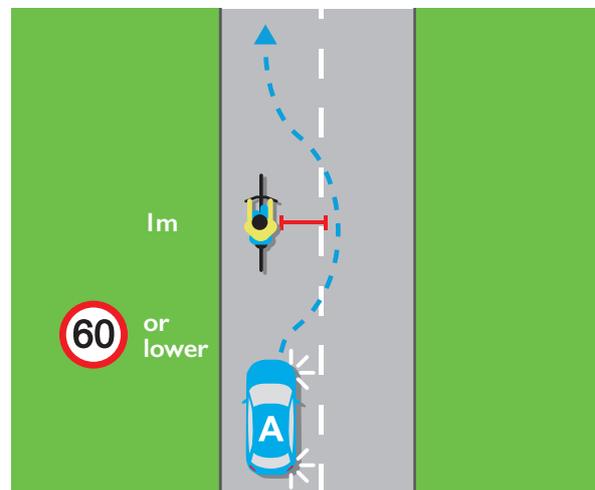
To improve the safety of bicycle riders, you must provide a **minimum passing distance** when overtaking the bicycle rider, allowing a comfortable amount of space between your vehicles.

This minimum passing distance keeps bicycle riders safe and is the **smallest** distance you must provide when overtaking a bicycle rider. The distance is measured from the furthest point on the left of your vehicle and the furthest point to the right of the bicycle.

When passing a bicycle rider, you must provide the following minimum passing distances:



- **1.5 metres** in speed zones higher than 60 km/h



- **1 metre** in speed zones of 60 km/h or lower.

## 12. Overtaking *continued*

This rule applies to all roads, even where there are bicycle lanes. You may cross the centre line to overtake safely.

Before passing a bicycle rider, you must:

- check that the road ahead is clear
- check mirrors and blind spots
- indicate
- pull out to pass, leaving plenty of room between your vehicle and the bicycle rider, and
- check that you can see the bicycle rider in your mirror after passing before moving back into your lane.

If it is not safe to pass the bicycle rider then you must slow down and wait until road conditions change before passing safely (for example, where the road is too narrow or the view ahead is not clear).

When passing bicycle riders who are riding two abreast, you must provide a minimum safe passing distance (either 1 or 1.5 metres) between your vehicle and the bicycle rider closest to the vehicle.



**Remember – frustration or being in a rush is never an excuse to intimidate or put another road user in danger.**

### Motorcycles and bicycles two abreast

Motorcycle and bicycle riders are allowed to ride two abreast (side by side) within a single lane, heading in the same direction.

Riders **must not** ride more than two abreast (unless one rider is overtaking other riders).

If you are riding two abreast on a road that is not multi-lane, you must ride with a maximum of 1.5 metres between yourself and the other rider.

Always take care when passing bicycle riders. If you travel too close to a rider, they could come off their bicycle. If both you and the rider are travelling at a fast speed, then the rider could be seriously injured or killed.

### Lane filtering

Lane filtering is a motorcyclist moving between stationary or slow-moving vehicles that are travelling in the same direction as the rider.

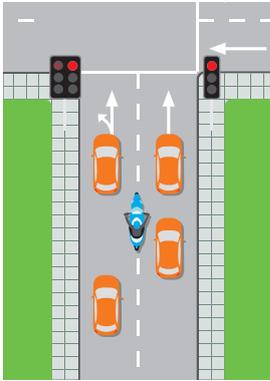
Only motorcyclists who hold a full motorcycle licence are allowed to lane filter. It is illegal for learner and provisional motorcyclists to lane filter, including interstate learner and provisional motorcyclists.

Motorcyclists **must not** lane filter:

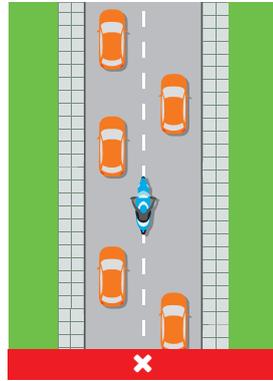
- at speeds greater than 30 km/h
- in a school zone during school zone hours
- between the edge of the road and other vehicles
- next to parked cars
- when a **No filtering** sign applies to the length of road
- if the rider does not have a full motorcycle licence, or
- if it is not safe.

When lane filtering, take care, and in particular:

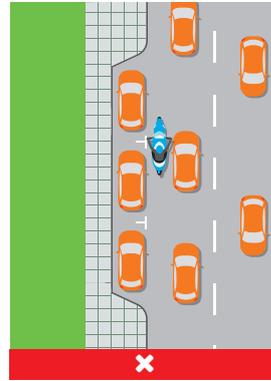
- look out for vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians and bicycle riders
- leave enough space between your motorcycle and other vehicles to avoid a crash, and
- avoid lane filtering near heavy vehicles or buses.



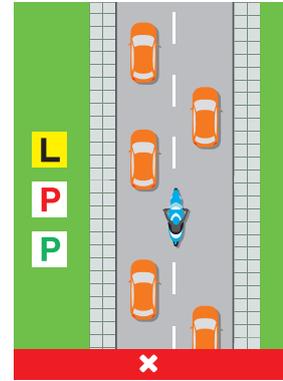
Only lane filter at speeds less than 30km/h, for example, approaching traffic lights.



Do not lane filter above 30km/h, for example, on a highway.



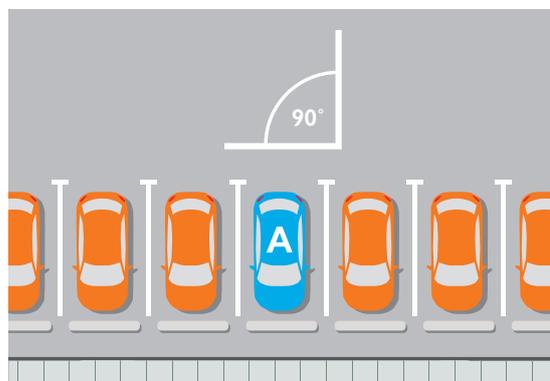
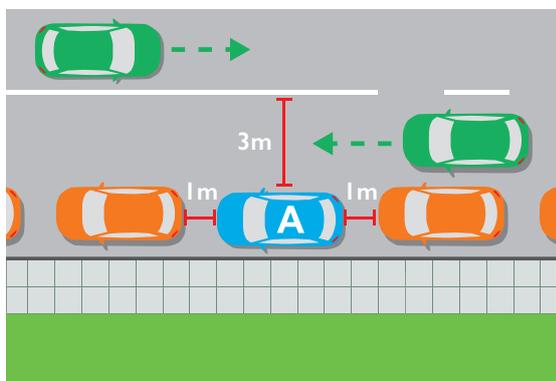
Do not lane filter next to parked cars.



Do not lane filter if you hold a learner or provisional motorcycle licence.

## 13. Stopping and parking

There are places where stopping a vehicle can be dangerous to you and your passengers, or to other vehicles or pedestrians. It is important that you are aware of where you can and cannot park.



### What is stopping?

To 'stop' a vehicle means to come to a complete stop and remain stationary. A vehicle is still considered to be stopped:

- even if the engine is still running
- if you are present, or
- have left the vehicle, even for a short period of time

Stopping and parking regulations apply even if you have stopped or parked your car and have your hazard warning lights on.

If it is illegal for you to stop or park at a place, having your hazard warning lights on will not change this.

### What is parking?

To 'park' means to allow the vehicle to remain stationary whether the vehicle is attended or not, except for the purpose of:

- avoiding conflict with other traffic
- complying with another law, or
- picking up or setting down passengers or goods (for a maximum of **2 minutes**).

Before you park your vehicle, ask yourself:

- Is it safe to park here?
- Is it legal to park here?
- Will it cause trouble to other road users if I park here?

### Where to park

Where there are not any parking signs or lines you must:

- park parallel as close as you can to the kerb or side of the road
- face the same direction as vehicles travelling along that side of the road
- leave a gap of at least 1 metre between your vehicle and other vehicles in front or behind (where there are no parking bays)
- leave a gap of at least 3 metres between the side of your car and double continuous dividing lines, a single continuous dividing line or a median strip, and
- leave at least 3 metres of the road next to your car clear, so traffic can pass when there is a broken dividing line or no dividing line or strip.

Usually, signs or road markings will show you:

- if you must park at an angle, and
- the angle to park.

Sometimes signs tell you where you are allowed to park and where you **must not** park, and the time limits for parking.



### No parking signs

You **must not** park in the area covered by a **No parking** sign.

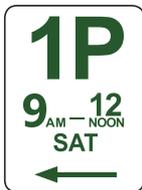
You can stop for up to **2 minutes** when dropping off or picking up passengers or goods, provided you do not leave your vehicle.

If your car has a parking permit for people with disabilities, you can stop for up to **5 minutes**.

### No Parking sign

### Permissive parking signs

These signs tell you where you are allowed to park.



Parking sign

There will be a number before the 'P' on the sign that will tell you how many hours you can park in the area covered by the sign.



Parking sign

There will be a number after the 'P' on the sign that will tell you how many minutes you can park for in the area covered by the sign.

If you have, or you are traveling with someone who has a parking permit for people with disabilities, you may park for twice as long as shown on the sign, except in a parking area for people with disabilities where the time limit outlined on the parking sign applies.

### Double parking

You **must not** park between a vehicle that is parked on the side of the road and the centre of the road (unless you are permitted to park in a median strip parking area).

### Parking rules

If you leave your car, you must apply the parking brake effectively or, if weather conditions (for example, snow) would prevent the effective operation of the parking brake, effectively restrain the motor vehicle's movement in another way.

If you will be more than 3 metres away from the closest part of the vehicle, you must switch off the vehicle's engine before leaving. You must also make sure the key is removed from the ignition (unless a person aged 16 years or over remains in the vehicle).

If you will be more than 3 metres from the closest part of your vehicle and there is no-one left in the vehicle, you must make sure:

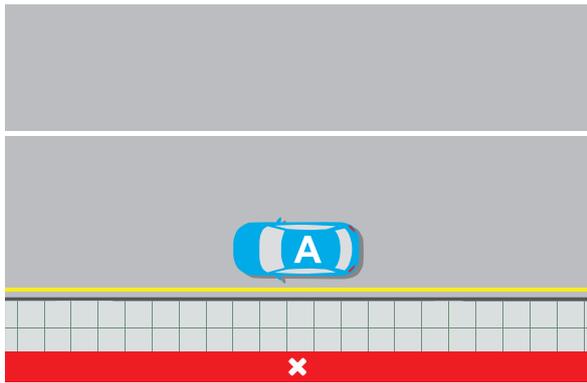
- the doors are locked, and
- the windows are secured (a window is 'secure' even if it is open by up to 2 centimetres).

You should also:

- avoid using car doors on the traffic side where possible, and
- check before opening your car door for traffic and bicycle riders.

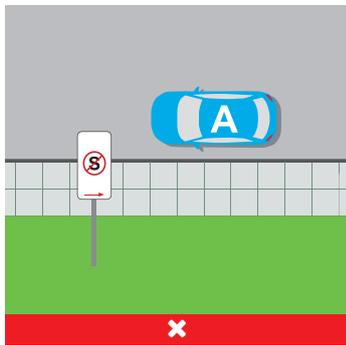
# 13. Stopping and parking *continued*

## Stopping restrictions

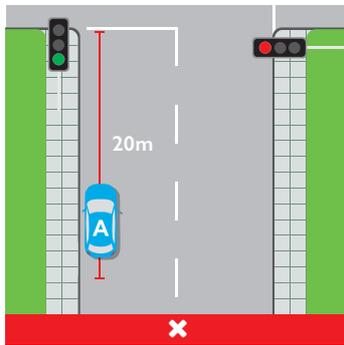


You **must not** stop or park at a yellow line along the side of a road.

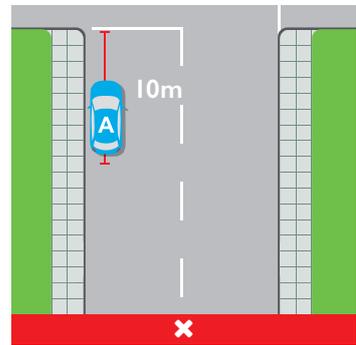
You **must not** stop or park in the following circumstances (unless a sign says you are allowed to):



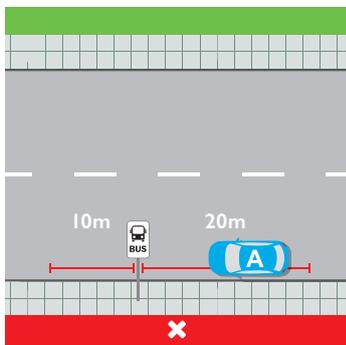
- in an area covered by a **No stopping** sign



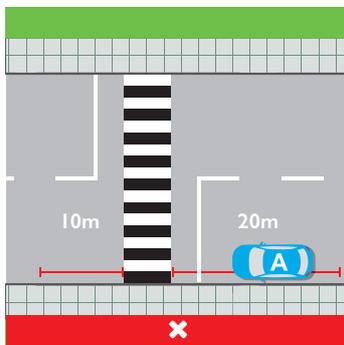
- within 20 metres of an intersection with traffic lights



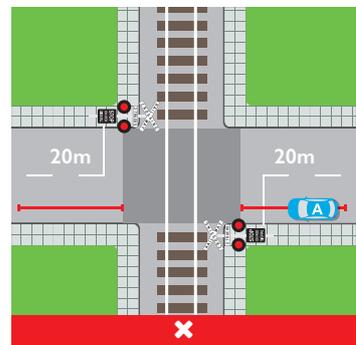
- within 10 metres of an intersection without traffic lights



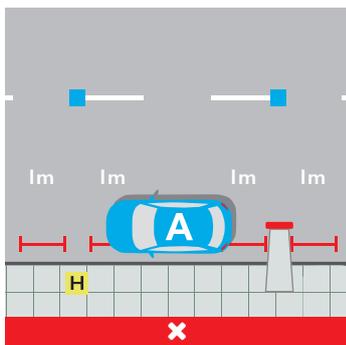
- within 20 metres before and 10 metres after a bus stop



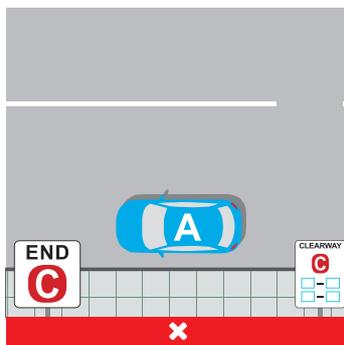
- within 20 metres before and 10 metres after a pedestrian or children's crossing



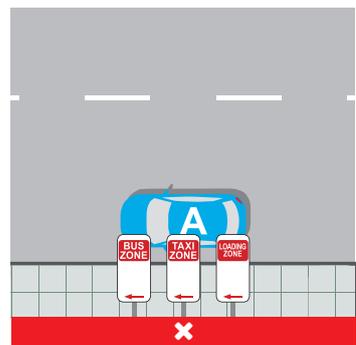
- within 20 metres before and 20 metres after a level crossing



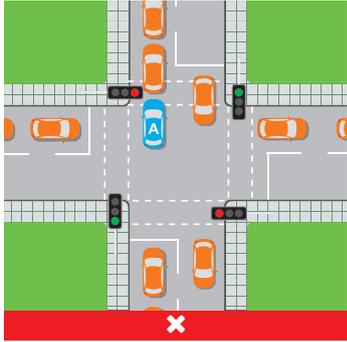
- within 1 metre of a fire hydrant, fire hydrant indicator or fireplug indicator



- on a clearway during the times and days displayed on the sign



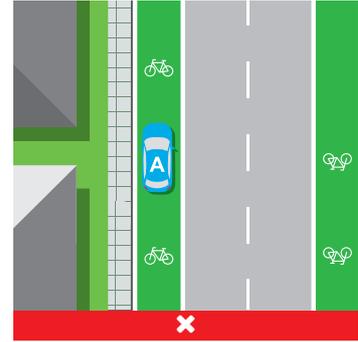
- in an area covered by a **loading zone**, **taxi zone** or **bus zone** sign (unless you have a vehicle that can legally stop there)



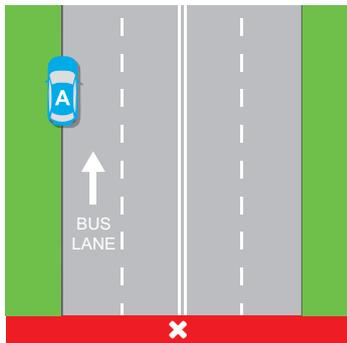
- in an intersection, pedestrian crossing or children's crossing



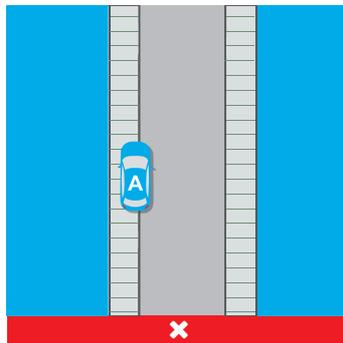
- in a parking area for people with disabilities (unless you have a current parking permit for disability parking zones)



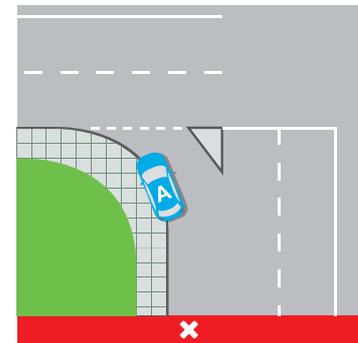
- on a bicycle path, footpath, shared path, dividing strip, painted island or nature strip (except your own nature strip)



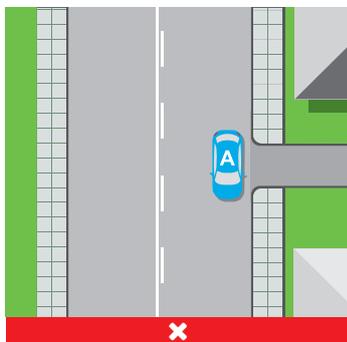
- in a special purpose lane, such as a bicycle or bus lane



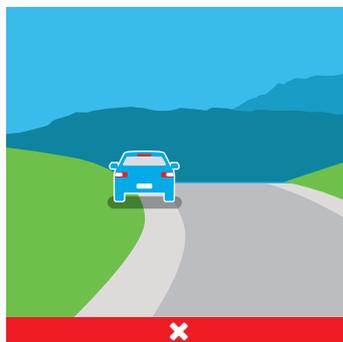
- on a bridge, causeway or ramp



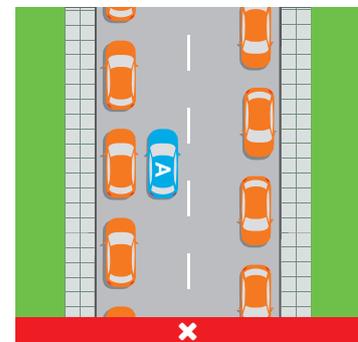
- in a slip lane



- on or across a driveway, even your own (unless you are picking up or dropping off passengers or goods, but for no more than **2 minutes**)



- outside built-up areas on the crest of a hill or on a curve (unless your vehicle can be seen by drivers in both directions from 100 metres away).



- between a vehicle that is parked on the side of the road and the centre of the road.

## Exceptions to the stopping and parking rules

The stopping and parking rules do not apply in the following situations:

- to avoid a collision
- if your vehicle is disabled
- due to the condition of driver or passenger, in the interests of safety
- to deal with a medical emergency
- to obey the directions of a police officer, or
- to comply with another law.

In each case, you **must not** park or stop for any longer than you need to in the situation. You should move your vehicle as soon as you can.

# 14. Traffic signs

## Regulatory signs

Regulatory signs are used to control traffic. They **must** be obeyed.

Some examples of regulatory signs are below.

Sign	Visual	Meaning
<b>Speed limit</b>		The fastest legal speed for a road.
<b>No entry</b>		Do not go past the sign.
<b>Stop</b>		Stop at the white stop line and give way to traffic and pedestrians.
<b>Give way</b>		Slow down and be prepared to stop at the give way line and give way to traffic and pedestrians.
<b>One way</b>		Traffic can only travel in the direction shown by the arrow.
<b>No left turn</b>		Do not turn left at a street or entrance with this sign.
<b>No right turn</b>		Do not turn right or make a U-turn at a street or entrance with this sign.

Sign	Visual	Meaning
<b>No U-turn</b>		U-turns are not permitted past this sign.
<b>No stopping</b>		Do not stop in the area covered by the sign for any reason.
<b>No parking</b>		Do not park (unless you are stopping for <b>2 minutes</b> or less to pick up or drop off goods or passengers, and you are not leaving the vehicle unattended).
<b>No overtaking or passing</b>		Do not overtake another vehicle past this sign.
<b>No overtaking on bridge</b>		Do not overtake another vehicle past the sign.
<b>Left turn only</b>		Must turn left at the intersection.
<b>Right turn only</b>		Must turn right at the intersection.
<b>No turns</b>		Do not turn left or right or make a U-turn at the intersection.

## 14. Traffic signs *continued*

Sign	Visual	Meaning
<i>Left lane must turn left</i>	 A rectangular sign with a black border containing the text "LEFT LANE MUST TURN LEFT" in black capital letters.	Turn left if you are in the left lane at an intersection.
<i>Right lane must turn right</i>	 A rectangular sign with a black border containing the text "RIGHT LANE MUST TURN RIGHT" in black capital letters.	Turn right if you are in the right lane at an intersection.
<i>Keep Left</i>	 A rectangular sign with a black border containing the text "KEEP LEFT" in black capital letters and a black arrow pointing down and to the left.	Drive to the left of the sign.
<i>Keep Right</i>	 A rectangular sign with a black border containing the text "KEEP RIGHT" in black capital letters and a black arrow pointing down and to the right.	Drive to the right of the sign.
<i>Two-way</i>	 A rectangular sign with a black border containing two black arrows, one pointing up and one pointing down, with the text "TWO WAY" in black capital letters below them.	Traffic travels in both directions.

## Warning signs

Warning signs alert you to approaching hazards. They are always black on yellow background.

Some examples of warning signs:



*Hairpin bend ahead*



*Sharp bend ahead*



*Winding road ahead*



*Divided road ahead*



*Stop sign ahead*



*Give way sign ahead*



*Slippery surface ahead*



*T-intersection ahead*



*Crossroad intersection ahead*



*Wildlife ahead*



*Corner ahead*

Sometimes a warning sign will also have an advisory speed sign. These signs show you the speed at which the stretch of road (such as a curve or bend) can be safely driven in good conditions. Advisory speed limit sign shown as an example on right.

In poor conditions, such as when the roads are icy or wet, you should consider driving slower than the advisory speed.



*Curve to the right ahead with an advisory speed of 45 km/h.*

## Temporary warning signs

Temporary warning signs are mostly used at road works to warn road users that people are working close to the roadside ahead, or of temporary hazards or detours.

Some examples of temporary signs:



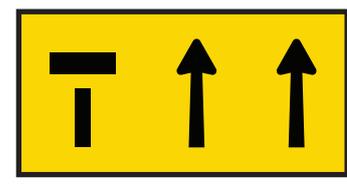
*Workers ahead*



*Prepare to stop*



*Roadwork ahead*



*Lane designation sign*

This sign means the left lane is closed, and the two right lanes are open.

# 15. Headlights, hazard lights and warning devices

## Headlights

Headlights and tail lights are very important visual aids when driving.

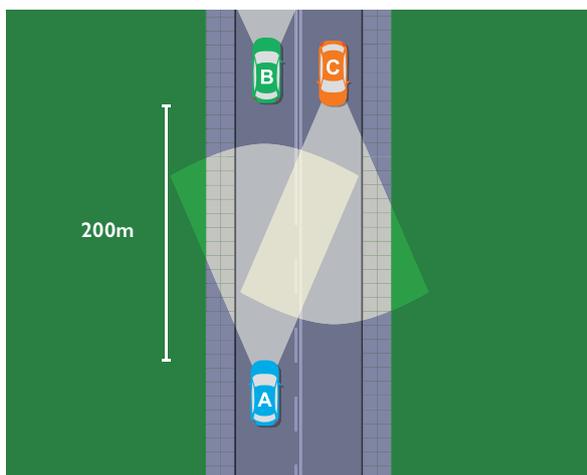
As a driver, headlights illuminate the way in dark or poor weather conditions. Headlights also inform other drivers and road users that you are moving on the road. You can use high-beam headlights to further illuminate your path, if necessary.

Tail lights are illuminated when your headlights are on. They show vehicles travelling behind you that you are ahead. When you brake, your brake lights illuminate in addition to your tail lights. Your brake lights indicate to drivers behind you that you are slowing or stopping.

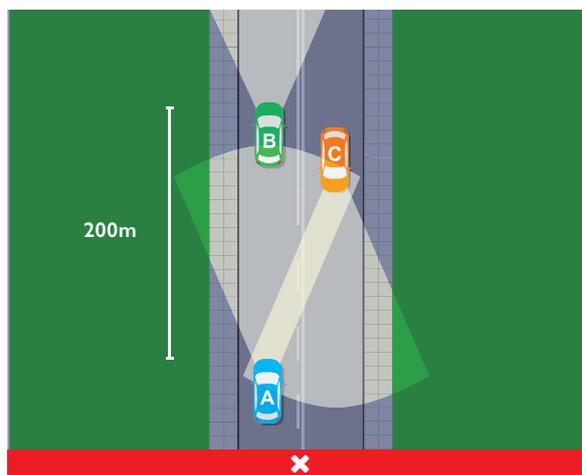
To be considered roadworthy, your car must always have:

- two working headlights
- two working tail lights
- two working brake lights, and
- a working number plate light.

Only use your headlights on high beam when you are:



- more than 200 metres behind another vehicle



- more than 200 metres from any oncoming vehicle.



**Never use your lights to dazzle another road user.**

## Hazard lights

Only use your vehicle's hazard warning lights when the vehicle:

- is stopped and could obstruct other vehicles or pedestrians
- is being driven slowly (and could cause an obstruction)
- is being towed
- is stopped in an emergency stopping lane, or
- is in dangerous weather conditions (like fog or smoke).

Stopping and parking regulations apply even if you have stopped or parked your car and have your hazard warning lights on.

If it is illegal for you to stop or park at a place, having your hazard warning lights on will not change this.

## Horns

Only use your horn in an emergency to warn other road users or animals of the approach or position of your vehicle, or as an anti-theft device.

## Radar detectors

It is illegal to use anything that:

- detects a speed-measuring device (like a speed camera or radar), or
- prevents a speed-measuring device from being used effectively.

If you are found to have one of these devices, even if it is not operating or in working order, you will be fined.

## 16. Rules for pedestrians



### No pedestrians signs



As a pedestrian, you **must not** travel past a **No pedestrians** sign.

### Crossing the road

You must cross the road by the shortest safe route and not stay on the road longer than you need to cross the road safely.

If you are within 20 metres of a pedestrian crossing, you must use that crossing to cross the road.

### Using pedestrian crossings with lights

When crossing at a pedestrian crossing with lights:

- the red person or signal means *Do not walk* – you must wait
- the green person or signal means you can cross with care
- the flashing red person or signal, or count-down timer means you must **not start** to cross, but you are allowed to finish crossing the road.



### Crossing a road at traffic lights

Although it is very rare, some traffic lights do not have pedestrian lights.

Pedestrians can start to cross the road at these types of intersections if the traffic lights:

- change to green or flashing yellow, and
- there is no red traffic light showing.

You **must not** cross the road if:

- the traffic lights are red or yellow, or
- there is a **No pedestrians** sign.

When crossing the road, you **must not** stay on the road longer than you need to cross safely.

## Crossing a level crossing

A level crossing is an intersection where a road and railway line meet at the same level.

You **must not** attempt to cross at a level crossing unless there is:

- a pedestrian facility at the intersection, such as pedestrian lights, or a pedestrian pathway, or
- there is no pedestrian facility within 20 metres of the level crossing.

You **must not** commence crossing if:

- there is a red pedestrian light or count-down timer
- a train is on or entering or moving towards the crossing
- you can see or hear a train
- warning lights are flashing
- warning bells are ringing, or
- a gate or barrier at the crossing is closed, closing or opening.

After you have started crossing, if any lights, bells or noise indicates that there is an oncoming train, you must finish crossing quickly and safely.

## Pedestrians not causing traffic hazards

There are some rules for pedestrians that help with sharing the roads safely with others. This includes that pedestrians **must not** cause a traffic hazard by moving into the path of a vehicle.

Further, it is illegal for a pedestrian to stand on or move onto a road to:

- seek employment or business from a driver
- display an advertisement
- sell or offer items for sale, or
- wash or clean the windscreen of a vehicle.

Pedestrians **must not** get on, or into, a moving vehicle.

## Where there are no footpaths

You **must not** walk on the road when there is an available footpath or nature strip.

You should only walk on the road when it is impractical to use the footpath or nature strip.

If walking on the road, you must:

- keep as close to the edge of the road as possible, and
- walk on the side of the road to face oncoming traffic (this usually means walking on the right-hand side of the road).

## Pedestrians and bicycle paths



**Bicycle path sign**

You **must not** use a bicycle path unless you are:

- crossing the path by the shortest and quickest route
- in or pushing a wheelchair
- on rollerblades, rollerskates or similar wheeled recreational device
- travelling in or on a personal mobility device, or
- allowed to because of signs on the bicycle path.

When crossing a bicycle path you must keep out of the way of those who are allowed to use the path.

## 17. Rules for bicycle riders

### Bicycle riders not causing a traffic hazard

Bicycle riders **must not** cause a traffic hazard by moving into the path of a driver or a pedestrian.

### Wearing a bicycle helmet

Bicycle riders and passengers must always wear an approved, correctly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet.

### Equipment on a bicycle

Bicycles must:

- have at least one working brake, and
- have a bell, horn or similar warning device in working order.

When riding at night, or in weather conditions with reduced visibility, you must display on your bicycle or on yourself:

- a flashing or steady white light on the front of the bicycle that can be seen for at least 200 metres
- a flashing or steady red light on the rear of the bicycle that can be seen for at least 200 metres, and
- a red reflector on the rear of the bicycle that can be seen for at least 50 metres, when a vehicle's headlights shine on it.

### Bicycle lanes

You must ride in a bike lane if one is available, unless it is impracticable or unsafe to do so.

### Bicycle crossing lights

The general principle of bicycle crossing lights is the same as traffic lights.

If the bicycle crossing light is yellow or red, then you **must not** start to cross the road, and may only start to cross if the lights change to green. If you come across a bicycle traffic light, you must obey the signals.

Take care when crossing the road and make sure the way is safe.

Vehicles **must not** stop within **10 metres** before, or 3 metres after, bicycle traffic lights unless there is a parking sign advising otherwise. This helps to improve the visibility of bicycle riders to approaching traffic.

### Riding on the footpath

You are allowed to ride on the footpath, unless there is a **No bicycles** sign. Children under the age of 12 can ride on any footpath.

You must give way to pedestrians and ride in a manner that does not inconvenience or endanger others.

You are allowed to cross at pedestrian crossings but you must stop as near as practical to the crossing. Then you should ride across slowly and safely, giving way to pedestrians.



**Bicycle lane sign**

### Overtaking on the left

You are allowed to overtake slow-moving or stationary vehicles on the left.

You **must not** overtake on the left if the other vehicle is indicating to turn left.

### Riding two abreast

You are allowed to ride alongside another bicycle rider at not more than 1.5 metres apart. Do not ride more than two abreast.

### Carrying people on a bicycle

You **must not** carry passengers on your bicycle unless the bicycle is designed to carry more than one person or has a specially mounted seat for the passenger to sit on.

For example, a single-seat bicycle with a child's seat attached is designed to carry two people – one on the bicycle seat and one in the child's seat.

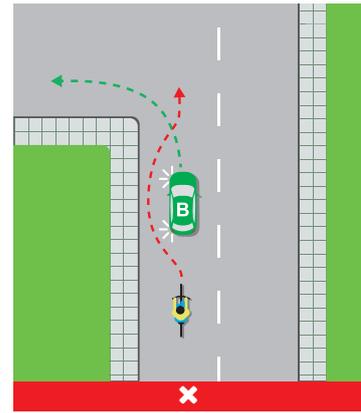
Only riders who are 16 years or older may tow a bicycle trailer. Passengers in the trailer must be 10 years old or younger. Passengers in the trailer must wear an approved bicycle helmet.

### Bicycles being towed

You **must not** ride on a bicycle that is being towed by another vehicle, or hold on to another vehicle while the vehicle is moving.

### Riding too close to the rear of a motor vehicle

You **must not** ride a bicycle within 2 metres of the rear of a moving vehicle for more than 200 metres continuously.



A bicycle rider **must not** pass a vehicle on their left if the vehicle is turning left.

## 18. Car crashes

If you are involved in a car crash that causes property damage, injury or death, you must:

- stop immediately and stay at the scene of the crash (unless you require medical help), and
- give assistance to any injured person.

You should also:

- switch off the ignition of any crashed vehicles to help prevent the risk of fire
- turn on hazard lights, and
- use hazard warning triangles, if available, to warn other traffic.

### Providing details after a crash

If you are in any crash as a driver, you must provide information about yourself to others involved.

The information you must share is:

- your name and address
- the name and address of the vehicle's owner (if you are not the owner)
- the vehicle's registration number, and
- any other information necessary to identify the vehicle.

You must give these details within 24 hours to:

- other drivers involved in the crash
- anyone else involved in the crash who is injured, and
- the owner of any property damaged in the crash.

You must also give these details to a police officer within 24 hours if:

- anyone is injured or killed in the crash
- you did not provide your details to any other driver involved in the crash at the time of the crash, or
- a vehicle involved in the crash has to be towed away.

## 19. Towing

You are allowed to tow another vehicle or trailer only if:

- you can control the movement of your car and the vehicle being towed
- it is safe to do so
- the brakes and steering wheel of the towed vehicle are in working order, and
- a licensed driver is sitting in the driver's seat of the towed vehicle controlling the brakes and steering wheel.

### Towing vehicles and motorcycles

You **must not** tow a vehicle at night or in hazardous conditions, unless the tail-lights of the vehicle being towed are clearly visible.

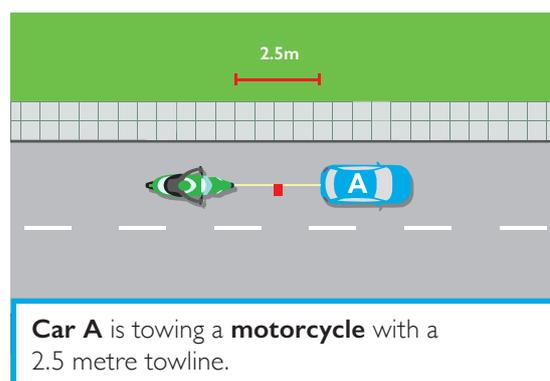
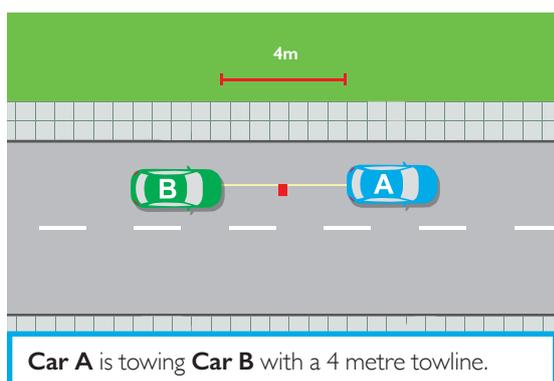
When towing another **car** with a towline, there must be no more than 4 metres between the two vehicles.

When towing a **motorcycle** with a towline, there must be no more than 2.5 metres between the two vehicles.

If the distance between the two vehicles is more than 2 metres, attach a flag halfway along the towline to warn other road users. The flag must be at least 30 cm square and visible for at least 100 metres.



**Novice learner drivers (L1 and L2) are not permitted to tow another vehicle, including a trailer.**



### Towing caravans and trailers

You are allowed to tow only one caravan or trailer at a time.

It must be securely attached to the towing vehicle by a mechanical coupling and a safety chain.

Check the mechanical coupling to make sure it is properly adjusted.

All caravans and trailers must have:

- indicator lights
- rear reflectors close to the corners
- tail lights and brake lights, and
- a number plate light.

A caravan or trailer and its load **must not** be more than 2.5 metres wide, 4.3 metres high and 19 metres long. This measurement includes the towing vehicle.

There are legal limits on the mass of a trailer or caravan that can be towed. Call 1300 135 513 for more information.



**Never tow a trailer with someone in it.**

## 20. Enforcing the Road Rules

### Offences

If you do something, or allow another person to do something, that breaks a road rule or traffic law, you are committing an offence.

If you commit an offence, you may receive a traffic infringement notice or a summons to go to court.

If you believe that you did not commit an offence, you should seek legal advice.

### Penalties

Different offences have different penalties. These can include:

- fines
- demerit points
- suspension or cancellation of your driver licence
- a conviction or a sentence.

Please visit [www.transport.tas.gov.au/licensing/offences](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/licensing/offences) for more information on how our Road Rules are enforced and how the penalty and fines system works.

### Alcohol and drugs

It is an offence to drive a vehicle when under the influence of alcohol or drugs, whether you are on a public road or private property.

It is illegal to drive a motor vehicle with illicit drugs in your system. It is also illegal to drive if you are taking prescribed medication that affects your ability to have proper control of the vehicle, then this too is an offence.

You are breaking the law if you drive a vehicle when you have a blood-alcohol level over 0.05%.

You **must not** drive with any alcohol in your body if you are in any of the following categories:

- provisional or learner driver
- driving a vehicle with a gross mass exceeding 4.5 tonnes
- driving a vehicle designed and constructed to carry 13 or more adult passengers, including the driver
- driving a public passenger vehicle.

Tasmania Police officers are equipped and authorised to stop and test anyone they suspect of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. They have the power to arrest you without warrant and impound your vehicle.

If a test proves positive for the presence of a drug you may be charged and fined.

## 21. Other information

Please visit the following websites for more information on the topics below:

Drivers or motorcycle licences	<a href="http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/licensing">www.transport.tas.gov.au/licensing</a>
Vehicle registration	<a href="http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/online/vehicles">www.transport.tas.gov.au/online/vehicles</a>
Towing and vehicle loads	<a href="http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/vehicles_and_vehicle_inspections/Vehicle_information_bulletins">www.transport.tas.gov.au/vehicles_and_vehicle_inspections/ Vehicle_information_bulletins</a>
The Road Safety Advisory Council (RSAC) and <i>Towards Zero – Tasmania's Road Safety Strategy 2017–2026</i>	<a href="http://www.rsac.tas.gov.au">www.rsac.tas.gov.au</a>
Guide for child restraints	<a href="http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/road_safety_and_rules/road_rules/child_restraints_-_a_guide_to_car_seats">www.transport.tas.gov.au/road_safety_and_rules/road_rules/ child_restraints_-_a_guide_to_car_seats</a>
Seatbelt exemptions	<a href="http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/licensing/exemptions/seatbelt_exemptions">www.transport.tas.gov.au/licensing/exemptions/seatbelt_ exemptions</a>
Driving heavy vehicles in Tasmania	<a href="http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/vehicles_and_vehicle_inspections/heavy_vehicles">www.transport.tas.gov.au/vehicles_and_vehicle_inspections/ heavy_vehicles</a>
Learn-to-drive videos	<a href="http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/licensing/getting_your_car_licence">www.transport.tas.gov.au/licensing/getting_your_car_licence</a>



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