

A GUIDE TO OREGON CROSSWALK LAWS

Your RESPONSIBILITY AS A DRIVER

Oregon's crosswalk laws are designed to give pedestrians time and space to get safely across the street. They help us all get where we're going safely.

Know the crosswalk laws

- In Oregon, every intersection is a crosswalk³ – whether it's marked or not.
- Crosswalks may also exist between intersections (mid-block), but only when marked with painted white lines.
- By law, a pedestrian is in a crosswalk when any part of the pedestrian moves into the roadway, at a crosswalk, with the intent to proceed.⁴
- That includes not only the pedestrian's body, but also a wheelchair, cane, crutch, bicycle or any other extension of the person.
- A driver may be cited and fined more than \$250 for failing to stop for a pedestrian.

Additional tips for drivers

- Slow Down – Expect that you may encounter pedestrians and slow down ahead of time. Be prepared to stop when approaching crosswalks.
- Drive at slower speeds in rainy weather and poorly lit areas.
- Always have an eye out for pedestrians, **especially during dark hours or times of low visibility such as when it is raining.**

Make sure you stop and remain stopped:

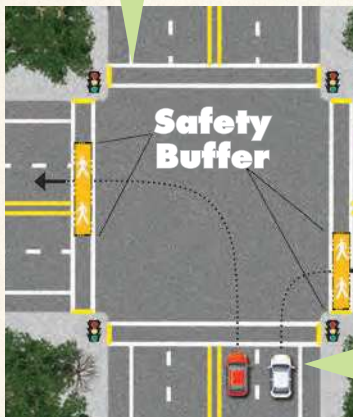
At any crosswalk – marked or unmarked – until people walking have cleared your lane, plus the lane next to you.

When turning at a traffic signal, until people crossing have cleared the lane you are turning into and at least six feet of the next lane.

In school zones, as directed by crossing guards.

For people who are blind (using a white cane or a guide dog), until they are completely across the roadway.

Marked Crosswalks



Mid-block Crosswalk



Unmarked Crosswalks



When turning at a traffic signal: stop and remain stopped until pedestrians have cleared the lane you're turning into, and plus at least 6 feet of the next lane.

³ ORS 801.220
⁴ ORS Chapter 811

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YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS A DRIVER AND PEDESTRIAN



Share the road. The Way to Go.
Transportation Safety – ODOT

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Your RESPONSIBILITIES AS A PEDESTRIAN

Know the pedestrian laws

In Oregon, if you suddenly leave a curb or place of safety and step into oncoming traffic creating an immediate hazard, you may be held responsible.¹ Also, if you cross the roadway at any point other than a marked crosswalk or intersection, and you fail to yield the right of way to a vehicle, you may be cited.² A pedestrian does not always have the right of way and can be cited and fined \$120 or more.

Obey the Signals

Every intersection is considered a pedestrian crosswalk, whether it's marked or not. If you cross a street outside a crosswalk, you must yield to motor vehicle traffic. Obey all pedestrian signals at the intersection:



- **White walk signal or green light = It's your turn to go, but you should still check for traffic**



- **A flashing hand = It's too late to start but fine to continue if you've begun crossing**



- **A solid red hand = you must wait to cross**



1 ORS 814.020

2 ORS 814.040



Cross with Caution

Just because you have a walk signal does not mean that people driving are stopped or will stop. Only start crossing after you have looked for traffic in all directions.

- Always be on the lookout for drivers. When crossing a street, always look left-right-left.
- Continue to watch for traffic as you cross the street—especially for turning vehicles.
- Walk— don't run — across the street.
- Be extra alert when walking across driveways, alleys and through parking lots.

When crossing multiple lanes of traffic, don't assume all lanes of traffic will stop, even if you are at a crosswalk with traffic lights. As you are crossing each lane, check to make sure the driver is stopped.

Be Clear to Drivers

- Be predictable. Try to make eye contact or signal your intention to cross to people driving.
- Before stepping out, signal your intent to cross by putting out a foot, arm or cane.
- Before you cross, establish eye contact with drivers. If you are not sure the driver sees you, let the vehicle go first.
- If you don't want to cross, step back from the edge of the roadway.



Stay Alert

There is a lot happening on Oregon's roads, so paying attention is important.

- Avoid distractions like texting, talking on your phone or listening to headphones.
- Don't step out from between parked cars, and make sure to look for signs that a parked car is about to move — rear lights, engine sound or wheels turning.
- Watch for cars entering or exiting driveways or backing up in parking lots. Pay special attention to hybrids, which can be nearly silent.

Go Against the Flow

Use the sidewalk whenever there is one, make sure you walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic.

- If there is no sidewalk, walk on the shoulder, facing oncoming traffic. Stay as far to the left as possible.
- Don't step out into moving traffic, even if you think you have the right of way. It's always safer to wait for all vehicles to stop before crossing.
- Keep in mind drivers may not see you so BE PREDICTABLE.

