



# Signs, Signals, and Markings

# Session Goals

1. Understand what traffic control devices are and why they are important.
2. Understand the many factors that influence their ability to observe, recognize, understand and react to traffic control devices.
3. Understand why correct application of right of way rules is important.
4. Demonstrate the ability to observe, recognize, understand and react to the three types of traffic control devices: signs, signals, and markings behind the wheel.
5. Demonstrate the ability to implement proper right of way in different situations behind the wheel.

# Key Vocabulary and Topics

## Colors for Traffic Signs:

- Red
- Yellow
- White
- Black
- Green
- Brown
- Blue
- Orange
- Fluorescent Yellow
- Fluorescent Pink

## Shapes for Traffic Signs:

- Octagon
- Triangle
- Diamond
- Circular
- Pentagon
- Rectangle

# Key Vocabulary and Topics

## Types Traffic Signs:

- Regulatory
- Warning
- Construction
- Guide
- Incident
- Chevron

## Traffic Signals:

- Steady red/ yellow/green
- Flashing red /yellow
- Flashing yellow arrow
- Red “X” and arrow
- Yellow “X” and arrow
- Green arrow
- Pedestrian signals, countdown timers
- Multiple left turn lanes
- Multiple right turn lanes

# Key Vocabulary and Topics

## Pavement Markings:

- White lines (solid or broken)
- Yellow lines
- Double solid yellow lines
- Solid yellow line with a broken yellow line (on your side of center line)
- Solid yellow line with a broken yellow line (on far side of center)
- Blue curb or red curb
- Lane marker arrows
- Bicycle paths

## Special Vehicle Lights:

- Side markers
- Vehicle back- up lights
- License plate light
- Vehicle turn signals
- High mounted brake lights
- Parking lights

# Traffic Control Device

Traffic control devices provide information about the condition and shape of the road ahead, laws that govern the roads, and hazards ahead.

They include:

- Pavement markings
- Signal lights
- Traffic lights

They help to improve safety on the road by allowing for the organized and foreseeable movement of traffic.

# Recognizing Traffic Control Devices

Why are the below characteristics of traffic control devices important....

- Color?
- Shape?
- Words?
- Placement?

# Traffic Signs

The shape and color of traffic signs give indications of the information they can provide including traffic rules, special hazards, your location, how to get where you are going, and where services are available.

Sign Type	Description	Examples
Regulation	Typically white rectangles with black lettering or symbols; some are different shapes, can use red letters or symbols	Stop Sign, Yield Sign, Speed Limit Signs
Warning	Typically yellow diamonds with black letters or symbols	Deer Crossing Sign, Lane Added Sign
Destination	Green with white letters and symbols	Exit Sign, Mileage Marker
Service	Blue with white letters and symbols	Rest Area Signs



# Common Traffic Signs and Meanings

## Stop Sign (Regulation)

Color: Red with white letters

Meaning:

- Come to a full stop. Yield the right-of-way to vehicles and pedestrians in or heading towards the intersection. Go when it is safe.
- You must come to a full stop before the stop line if there is one. If not, you must stop before the crosswalk.
- If there isn't a stop line or crosswalk, you must stop before you enter the intersection, at the point nearest the intersection that gives you a view of traffic on the intersecting roadway.

# Common Traffic Signs and Meanings

## Yield Sign (Regulation)

**Color:** Red and white with red letters

**Meaning:**

- Decrease speed as you reach the intersection. Prepare to stop and yield the right-of-way to vehicles and pedestrians in or heading toward the intersection
- You must come to a full stop at YIELD sign IF traffic conditions require it. When you approach a YIELD sign, check carefully for traffic and be prepared to stop.

# Common Traffic Signs and Meanings

## Other Regulation Signs

**Color:** White, with black and/or red letters or symbols

**Meaning:**

- These signs give information about rules for traffic direction, lane use, turns, speed, parking, and other special requirements
- Some regulation signs have a red circle with a slash over a symbol. This indicates that an action, like a right turn, is not allowed or that some vehicles are restricted from the road. Rectangular white signs with black or red letters or symbols are indications to be alert for special rules.

# Common Traffic Signs and Meanings

## Warning Signs

**Color:** Yellow, with black letters or symbols

**Meaning:**

- You are approaching a hazardous location or a location where there is a special rule
- A warning sign can be accompanied by a yellow and black “recommended speed” sign, indicating reduced speed is advise.

# Common Traffic Signs and Meanings

## Work Area Signs

**Color:** Orange, with black letters or symbols

**Meaning:**

- People are at work on or near the roadway; traffic can be controlled by a flag person
- A work area speed limit as low as 25 can be posted. Even if no speed limit is provided, you must drive at a reduced speed through the work zone and you must always obey the flag persons.

# Common Traffic Signs and Meanings

## Service Signs

**Color:** Blue, with white letters or symbols

**Meaning:**

- Show the location of services like rest areas, gas stations, camping and medical facilities.

# Common Traffic Signs and Meanings

## Destination Signs

Color: Green, with white letters

## Meaning:

- Show the direction and distance to locations

# Traffic Lights

- Usually red, yellow, green from top to bottom or left to right
- Traffic signals indicate who has the right of way at an intersection
- If traffic lights are out of service or not operating correctly when you approach an intersection, you must come to a stop as you would for a stop sign. You must then continue according to the rules of right-of-way, unless you are told to continue by a traffic officer.



# Traffic Lights and What They Indicate

Traffic Light	Meaning
Steady Red	Stop. Do not go until light is green. If green arrow and red light are present, you can go only toward the arrow if the intersection is clear.
Flashing Red	Same as stop sign; stop, yield right of way, go when it is safe.
Red Arrow	Do not go in direction of arrow until red arrow light is off and green light or arrow is on.
Steady Yellow	Be prepared to stop; light is about to turn red.
Flashing Yellow	Drive with caution.
Yellow Arrow	Protection of green arrow will end. If you intend to turn in direction of arrow, be prepared to stop.
Steady Green	Go but yield right of way to other traffic in intersection as required by law.
Green Arrow	You can go in direction of arrow but must yield right of way as required by law.

# Pedestrian Signals

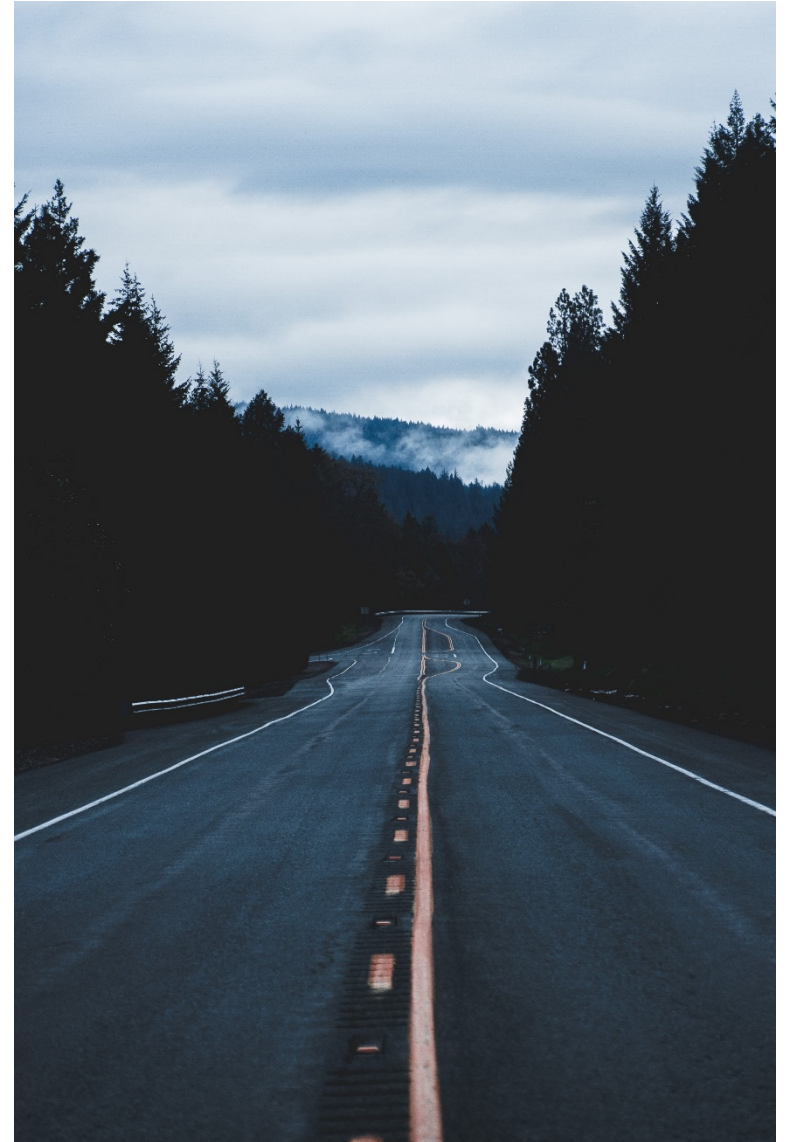
- Designed to allow pedestrians to cross streets safely
- Some signals are automatic, some must be activated by pushing a button
- Many have audible indications that corresponds with the countdown.

# Pavement Markings

What colors are used in pavement markings?

What do pavements markings do?

- Indicate when passing or lane changing is allowed
- Designate turn lanes
- Where to stop for traffic signs and signals
- Direction of traffic



# Edge and Lane Lines

Solid lines along the edge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Tells you where the edge is, where the travel lane ends and the shoulder begins</li><li>- Illegal to drive across</li><li>- Angled edge lines that move towards the center indicate the road is narrower ahead</li></ul>
White lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Driver will always drive on the left side of white lines</li><li>- Multiple white lines indicate multiple lanes of traffic going in same direction</li></ul>
Yellow lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Driver will always drive on the right side</li><li>- Oncoming traffic should be expected left of line</li></ul>
Solid White Lines that Run Across Lanes of Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Pedestrian crosswalks</li><li>- Stopping line</li></ul>

# White Pavement Markings

Solid White Line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tells you where the edge is, where the travel lane ends and the shoulder begins (also called the fog line)</li></ul>
Dashed White Line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You can pass</li><li>• Usually indicates multiple lanes of traffic</li></ul>
White Arrows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Indicates the direction drivers should move</li></ul>
Double White Line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Separate travel lanes</li><li>• Can not change lanes for any reason</li></ul>
White Words	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provides information for the driver</li></ul>

# Yellow Pavement Markings

Solid Single Yellow Line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If located on left edge, you are traveling on a divided highway or one-way street</li><li>• Marks the edge of a median or divider</li></ul>
Double Solid Yellow Line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Traffic is traveling in both directions</li><li>• You cannot pass on either side</li></ul>
Single Dashed Yellow Line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Traffic is traveling in both directions</li><li>• Both drivers can pass</li></ul>
Double line where one line is solid and the other is dashed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Traffic is traveling in both directions</li><li>• Vehicles directly to the right of dashed line can pass</li><li>• Vehicles directly to the right of the solid line cannot pass</li></ul>
Double Dashed Yellow Lanes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reversible traffic lanes</li></ul>

# Pavement Markings





# Pavement Markings





# Pavement Markings



Turning left across solid double yellow lines is allowed.

# Pavement Markings



# Pavement Markings



# Pavement Markings





# Pavement Markings



Narrow solid white lines mark the right edge of the roadway.

# Pavement Markings



Western Oregon University. Oregon Driver Risk Prevention Curriculum Playbook. Oregon Department of Transportation.

# Pavement Markings



# Pavement Markings



These wide broken white lines mark exit lanes. Crossing is allowed.



# Pavement Markings



Western Oregon University. Oregon Driver Risk Prevention Curriculum Playbook. Oregon Department of Transportation.

# Pavement Markings



Stop Line -  
Legal stop location is  
before this line.

# Pavement Markings



# Pavement Markings





# Pavement Markings

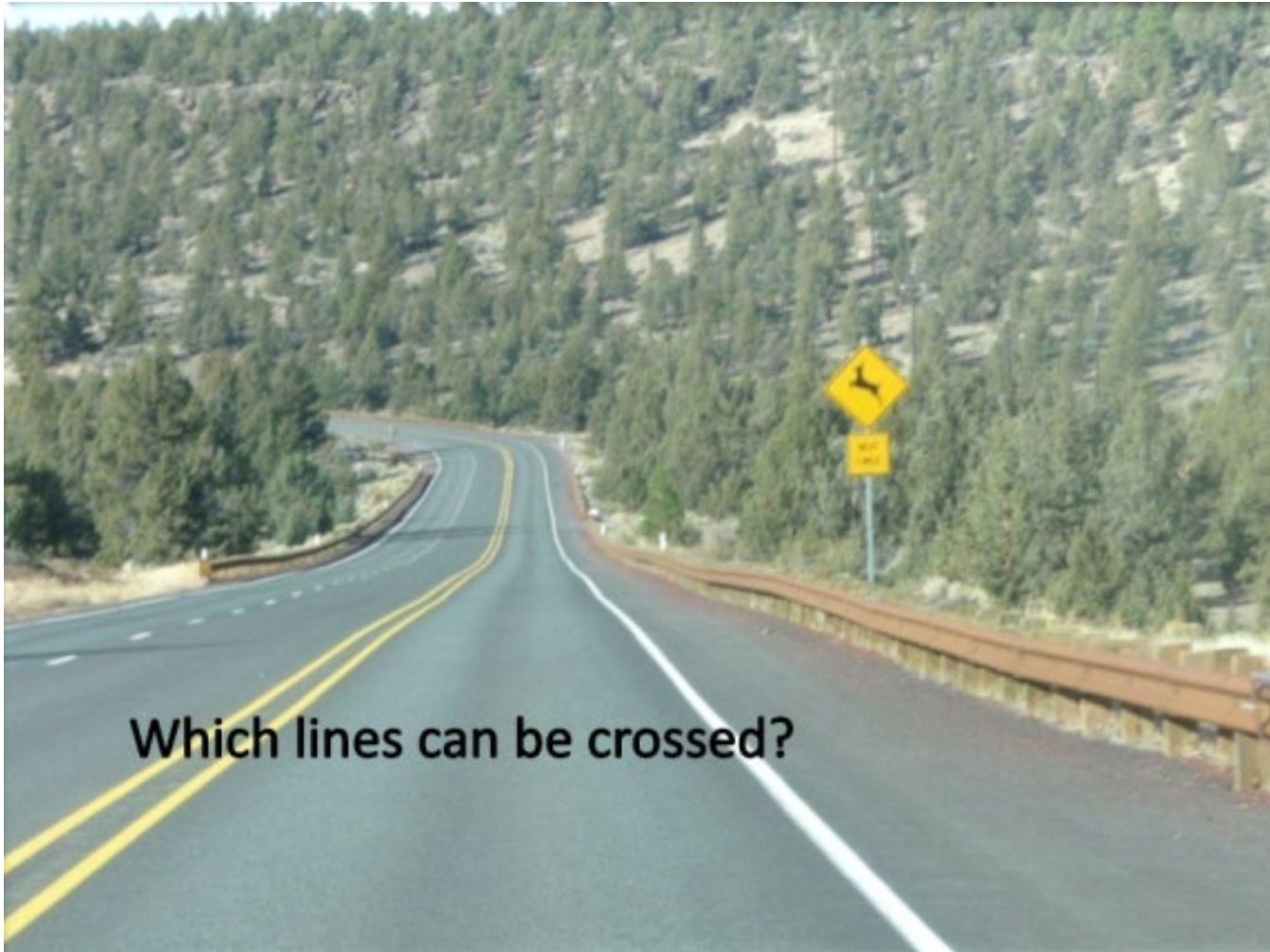


# Pavement Markings



One way or two way?  
How many lanes?

# Pavement Markings



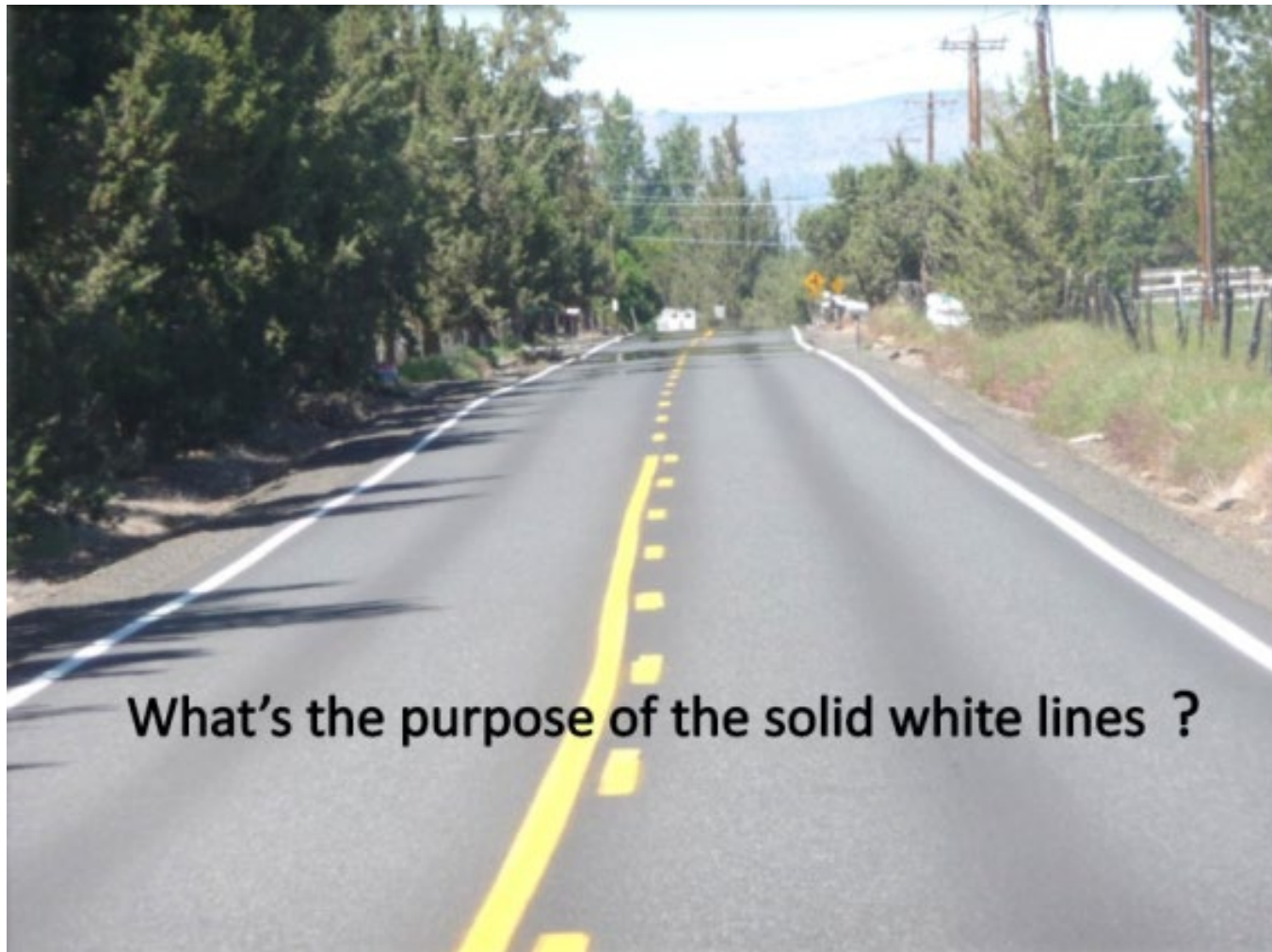


# Pavement Markings





# Pavement Markings



# Pavement Markings



Who is allowed to pass?

# Pavement Markings





# Pavement Markings



# Pavement Markings



Western Oregon University. Oregon Driver Risk Prevention Curriculum Playbook. Oregon Department of Transportation.

# Pavement Markings



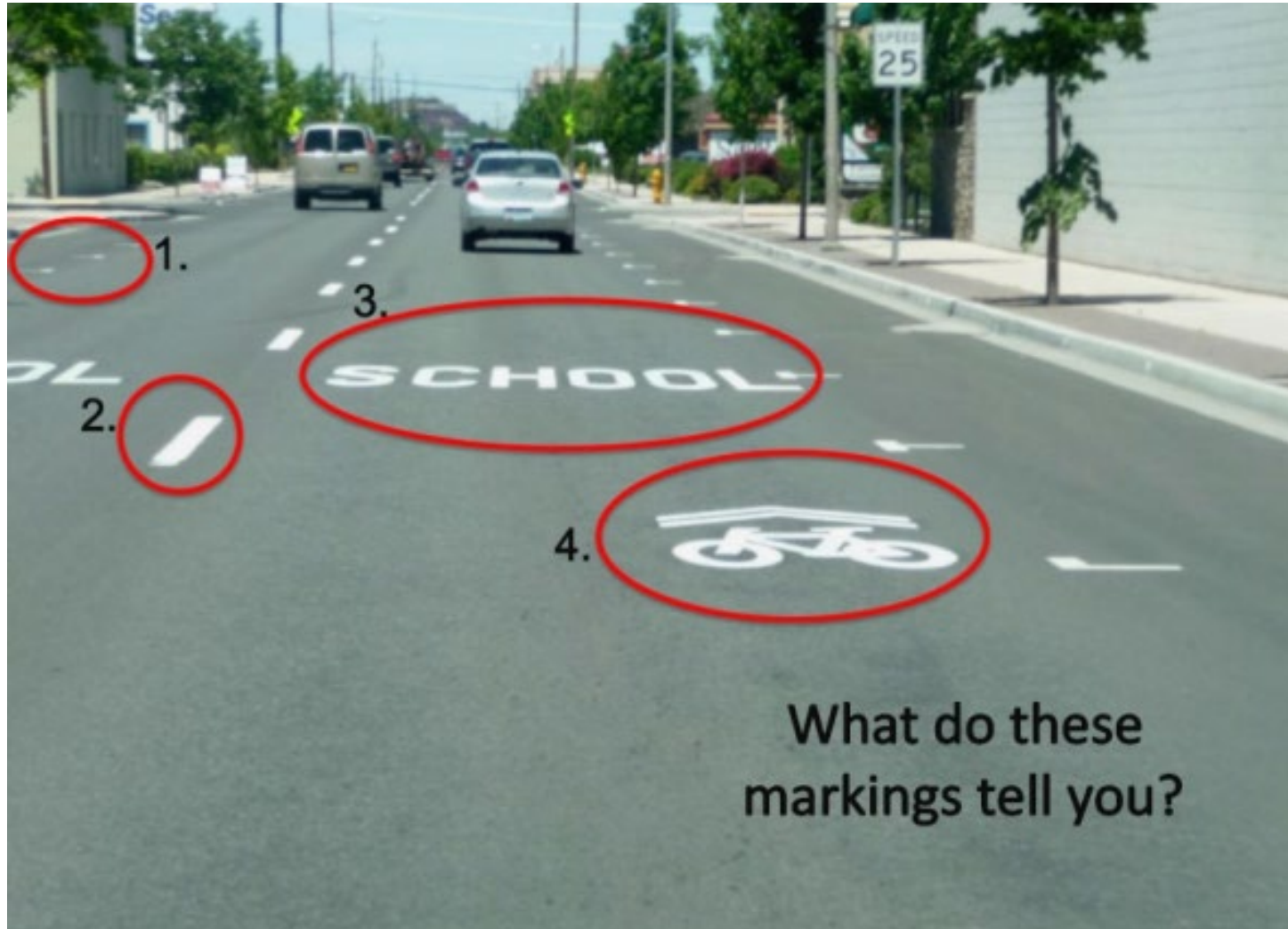
Western Oregon University. Oregon Driver Risk Prevention Curriculum Playbook. Oregon Department of Transportation.



# Pavement Markings



# Pavement Markings





# Pavement Markings



# Pavement Markings



Western Oregon University. Oregon Driver Risk Prevention Curriculum Playbook. Oregon Department of Transportation.

# Pavement Markings





# Pavement Markings



Is the red Jeep allowed to turn left at this intersection?

# Pavement Markings



Identify 10 roadway markings  
and explain their meanings.

# Pavement Markings



Western Oregon University. Oregon Driver Risk Prevention Curriculum Playbook. Oregon Department of Transportation.

# Right-of-Way

- Traffic signs, signals, and markings don't always resolve traffic conflicts
- Right-of-way rules help to address these conflicts. They tell you how traffic should proceed in different conditions.

# General Right-of-Way Rules

- A driver who approaches an intersection must yield the right-of-way to traffic that is in the intersection.
- If drivers approaching from opposite directions reach an intersection at about the same time, a driver that turns left must yield to traffic that moves straight or turns right.
- At intersections not controlled by signs or signals, or where two or more drivers stop at STOP signs at the same time and they are at right angles, the driver on the left must yield the right-of-way to the driver on the right.



# General Right-of-Way Rules

- A vehicle that enters a roadway from a driveway, alley, private road, or another place that is not a roadway, must stop and yield the right-of-way to traffic on the roadway and to pedestrians.
- Drivers must yield to pedestrians who legally use marked or unmarked crosswalks. This means you must slow down or stop if necessary.
- You cannot enter an intersection if traffic is backed up on the other side and you cannot get completely through the intersection. Wait until traffic ahead clears, so you do not block the intersection.

# General Right-of-Way Rules

- Be alert to cross-streets or offset intersections so that you don't cause gridlock by blocking another street.
- A driver who enters a traffic circle or rotary must yield the right-of-way to drivers already in the circle.

# Intersections

Watch the video “Intersections: Rules of the Road” by the California DMV

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QHFpGAmgct4>

# Review

- What shape does a regulation sign typically have?

Rectangular

- What type of pavement marking shows you which lane you must use for a turn?

Arrow

- Which of the following must you obey over the other three: Red light, flashing red light, stop sign, or police officer.

Police Officer

# Review

What do these lines indicate?

One broken: You can pass other vehicles or change lanes if you can do so safely without interfering with traffic.

One solid: You can pass other vehicles or change lanes, but you can only do so when obstructions in the road or traffic conditions make it necessary.

Double solid: You cannot pass or change lanes. You cannot go across the lines except to turn left to enter or leave the highway (e.g., to or from a driveway or to do a U-turn).

Solid and broken together: If you are on the side with the solid line, you cannot pass other vehicles or go across the line except to make a left turn into a driveway. If you are on the side with the broken line, you can pass if it is safe to and you will not interfere with traffic.

# Review

- You are at a green light, but traffic on the other side of the intersection does not allow you to pass all the way through the intersection. Can you enter the intersection?

No

- Does a vehicle prepared to enter a traffic circle have right-of-way over vehicles in the circle?

No



# References

- New York State Department of Motor Vehicles. New York State Driver's Manual.