



Signs, Signals, and Markings

Traffic Control Device

Traffic control devices provide information about laws, hazards, and the road ahead.

They include:

- pavement markings
- signal lights
- traffic signs

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 information they can provide including traffic rules, special hazards, where you are, 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 toward the intersection. Go when it is safe.
- You must come to a stop before the stop line, if there is one. If not, you must stop before you enter the crosswalk.
- If there is no 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:

- Come to a full stop, yield the right-of-way to vehicles and pedestrians in or heading toward the intersection. Go when it is safe.
- You must come to a stop before the stop line, if there is one. If not, you must stop before you enter the crosswalk.
- If there is no 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

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 advised.

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 in an intersection.
- According to state law, 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 pavement markings do?

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



Yellow Pavement Markings

Marking Type	Meaning
Yellow lines	Used to separate traffic traveling in opposite directions and to indicate the left edge of multiple-lane divided highways
Yellow centerlines	May be single, double, solid or dashed (broken)
A single broken yellow lane line or a broken yellow lane line to the right of a solid-yellow lane line	Means that a driver can pass, if it is safe to do so
A solid yellow lane line to the right of a broken yellow lane line	Means that passing is prohibited
A double solid-yellow lane line	Means that passing is prohibited in both directions
Reversible lanes	Marked with double-dashed yellow lines, reversible lanes can improve the flow of traffic by changing the direction of travel within lanes. Reversible lane signals can also be used to ease traffic flow in tunnels and on bridges.

Pavement Markings

Marking Type	Meaning
Dashed white lines	Separate two lanes traveling in the same direction
Solid white lines along the path of travel	Used to mark the right edge of highways. Solid white lines also are used between lanes to indicate areas where lane changes are discouraged or unlawful due to increased danger associated with such movements
Solid white lines running perpendicular across traffic lanes	Identify stopping points and pedestrians crosswalks

Pavement Markings



Pavement Markings



**Broken yellow -
Passing is allowed.**

Pavement Markings



Pavement Markings



Yellow dots are lane guide markers. Keep to the right.

Pavement Markings



White lines separate lanes of traffic moving in what direction?

Pavement Markings



Pavement Markings



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

Pavement Markings



Solid white lane lines are barriers.
No crossing is allowed.

Pavement Markings



Pavement Markings



Pavement Markings



These mark where
you may cross a bike lane.

Pavement Markings



Stop Line -
Legal stop location is
before this line.

Pavement Markings



**Yield Line (shark tooth) -
Legal yield location is
before this line.**

Pavement Markings Activity



One way or two way?

Pavement Markings Activity



Pavement Markings Activity



One way or two way?
How many lanes?

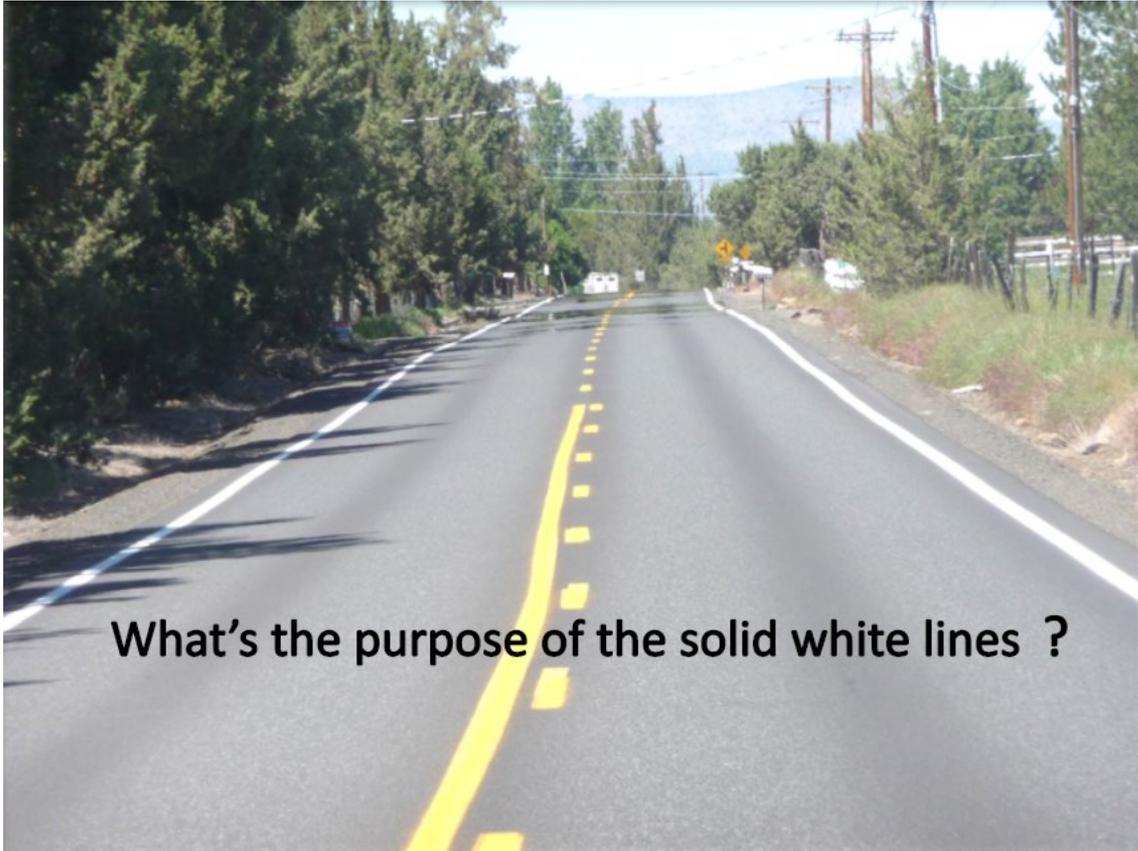
Pavement Markings Activity



Pavement Markings Activity



Pavement Markings Activity



What's the purpose of the solid white lines ?

Pavement Markings Activity



Who is allowed to pass?

Pavement Markings Activity



Pavement Markings Activity



Pavement Markings Activity



Pavement Markings Activity



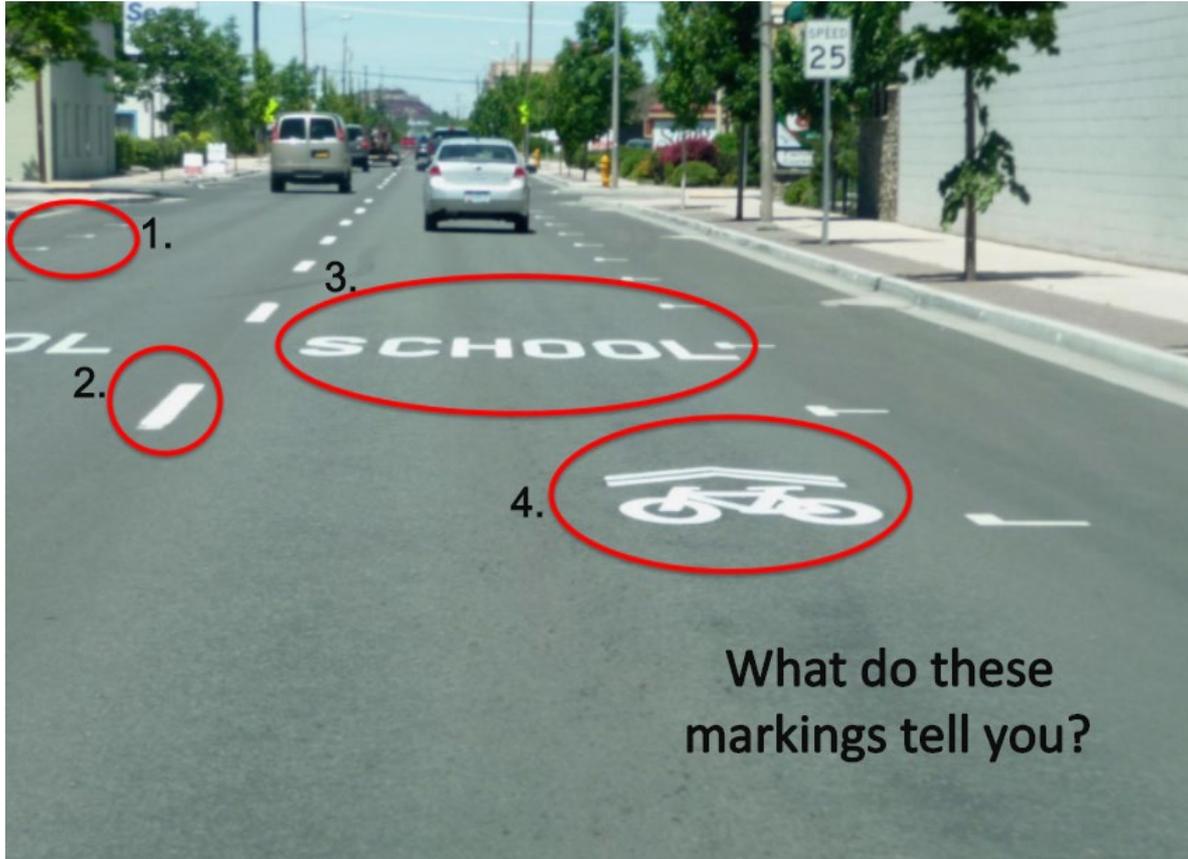
This is your view from the driver's seat.
You have two really big problems!
What are they?

Pavement Markings Activity

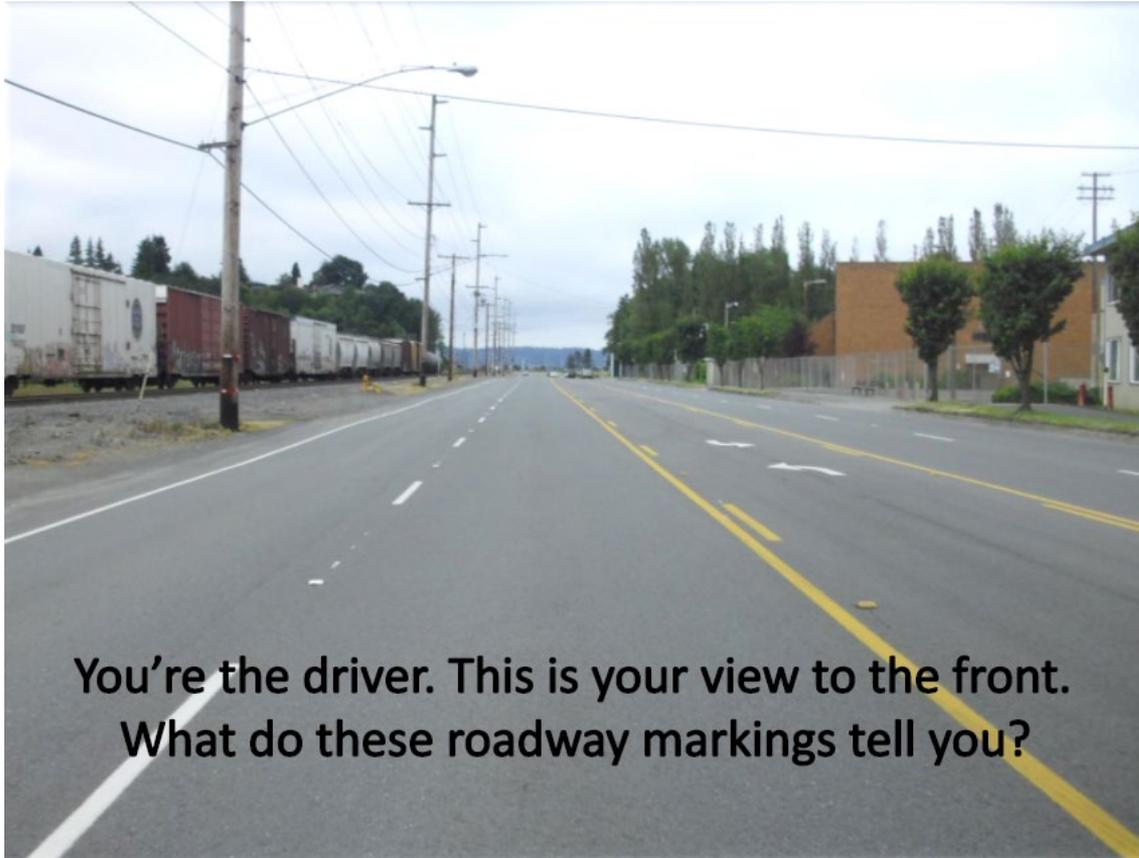


Where should you enter the turn lane?

Pavement Markings Activity



Pavement Markings Activity



You're the driver. This is your view to the front.
What do these roadway markings tell you?

Pavement Markings Activity



Are vehicles allowed to cross the solid white line or green box on the right?

Pavement Markings Activity



Pavement Markings Activity



Pavement Markings



Identify 10 roadway markings and explain their meanings.

Pavement Markings



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

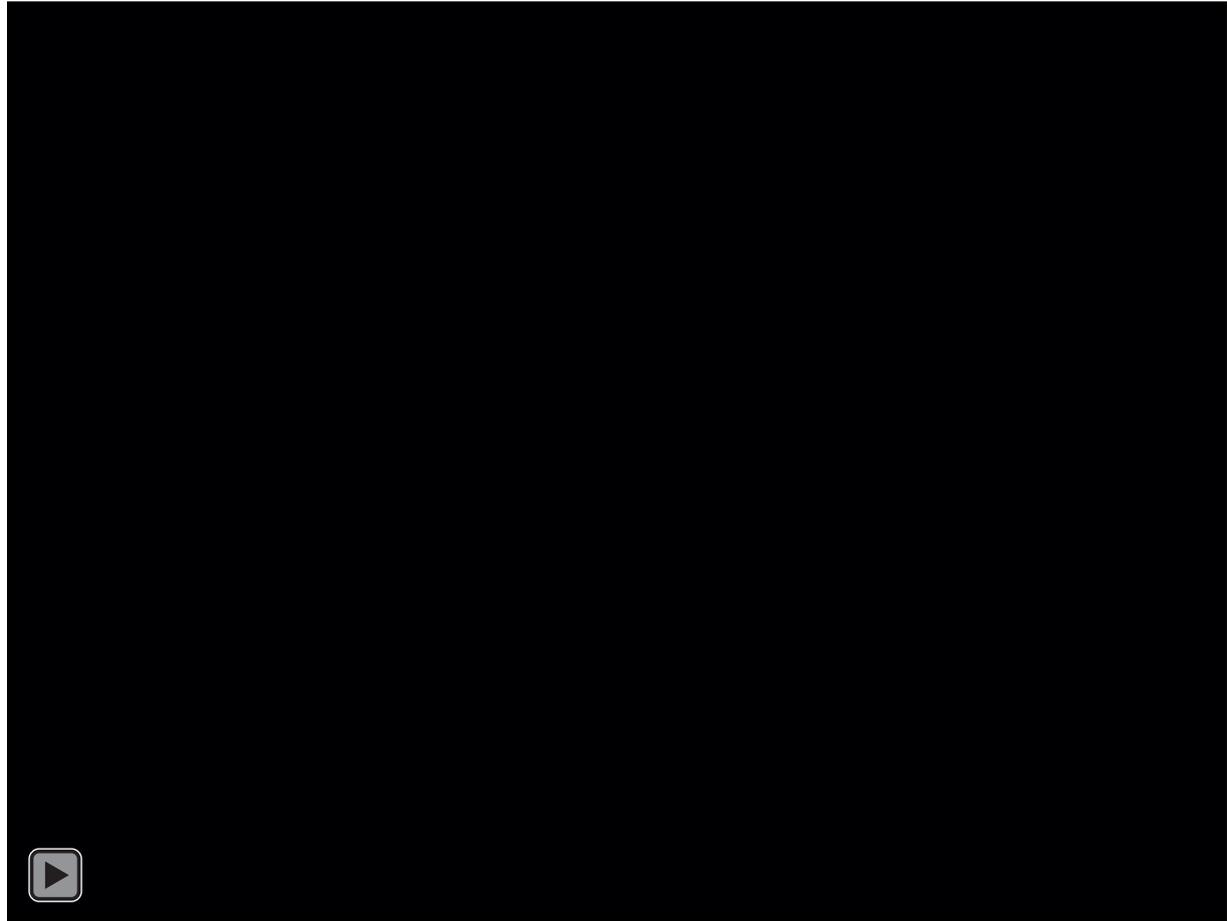
- A vehicle that enters a roadway from a driveway, alley, private road, or another place that is not a roadway, must stop and yield the right-of-way to traffic on the roadway and to pedestrians.
- Drivers must yield to pedestrians who legally use marked or unmarked crosswalks. This means you must slow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



Review

What shape does a regulation sign typically have?

Rectangular

What type of pavement marking show 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, police officer?

Police officer

Review

What do each of these lines indicate: one broken, one solid, double solid, solid and broken together?

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 can not 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

1. New York State Department of Motor Vehicles. New York State Driver's Manual. <https://dmv.ny.gov/brochure/mv21.pdf>
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3. California DMV (2007, August 2). *Rules of the Road #6 – Intersections* [VIDEO]. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4_TCvLmcoY