



Crosswalk Safety

Whether you are a pedestrian or a driver, knowing the Oregon laws about crosswalks can prevent serious or fatal injuries.

What do the laws say about crosswalk safety? What rules must drivers and pedestrians follow?

Remember: under Oregon Law, there is a crosswalk at EVERY intersection – painted or not.

Laws for Pedestrians:

Pedestrians are required to follow all traffic signals and road rules. Pedestrians are also highly advised to follow safe practices: looking both ways before crossing the street and making eye contact or using hand signals to communicate with drivers about who has the right of way.

Over half of the pedestrians hit by a vehicle are in a crosswalk. Pedestrians are vulnerable and unprotected, so must ensure their own safety by being vigilant while crossing the street!

Laws for Drivers:

- **STOP and REMAIN STOPPED:**

- When turning at a traffic signal: until pedestrians have cleared the lane into which the vehicle is turning and have cleared at least 6 FEET of the next lane;
- At any other crosswalk: until pedestrians have cleared the lane of travel AND the next lane;
- For students as directed by a crossing guard; and
- For blind pedestrians using white canes or guide dogs until they have completely crossed the roadway.

Other Safety Tips:

- Do not block crosswalks at intersections as pedestrians may be forced to go around the vehicle, possibly placing them in a dangerous situation.
- When backing up, look for pedestrians, especially children and pets!
- Be patient and aware: older adults may take extra time to cross a street, and children may be unpredictable and suddenly dart into your path!
- Never pass a vehicle that is stopped at a crosswalk. A stopped car may indicate that a pedestrian is in the crosswalk.

Additional information on crosswalk safety and the Oregon Laws can be found on the [ODOT website](#).

