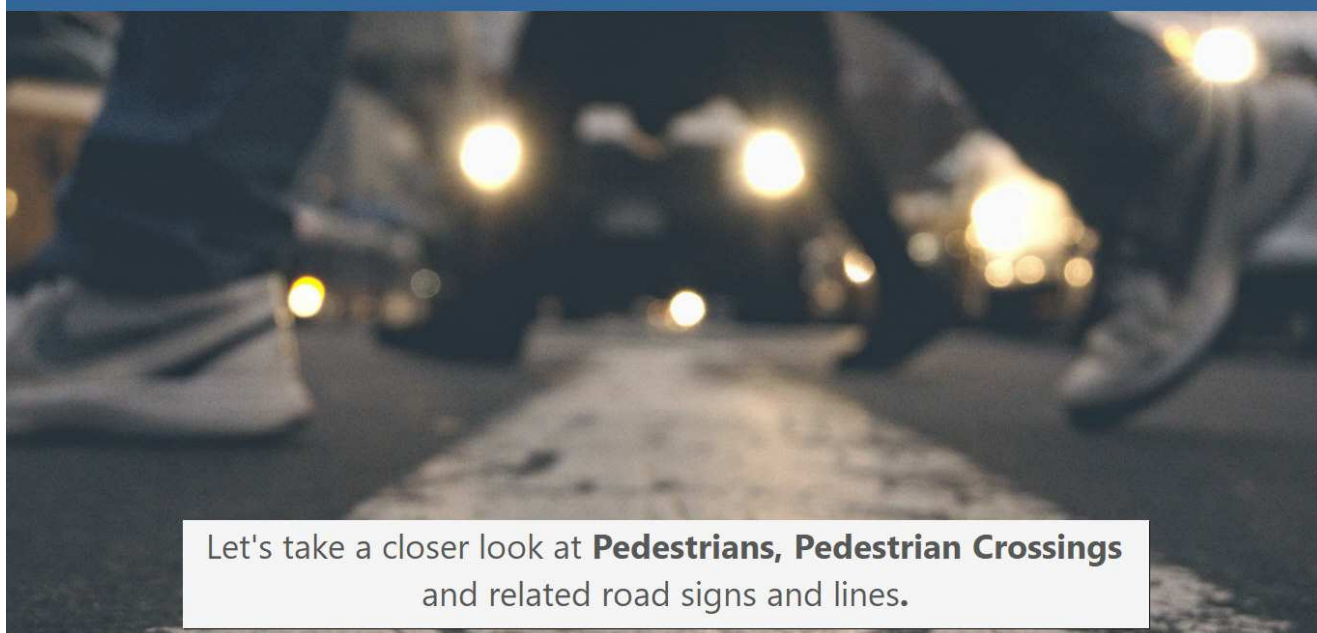


Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

Welcome to this **Perfect Driver** course. Throughout this course, we are going to look at the law, skills, techniques, and ideas to help you become a better, and safer driver.

In this lesson, we'll look at **Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings**.

Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings



Let's take a closer look at **Pedestrians, Pedestrian Crossings** and related road signs and lines.

Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

Before we get started, let's have a look at a few facts about pedestrians from the **Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development** in Australia:

- Pedestrians aged 75 and older are overrepresented in both fatalities and hospitalised injuries.
- Male pedestrians are more than twice as likely as female pedestrians to be fatally injured in a road crash for all age groups except those aged 65 and older.
- While major cities have the highest number of fatal pedestrian crashes of any location, the rate per 100,000 people is the lowest.
- Over 60 per cent of fatal pedestrian crashes occur where the posted speed limit is 50 or 60km/h
- Crashes involving a pedestrian fatality peak between 6pm and 8:59pm on weekdays, and between 12am and 2:59am on weekends.



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

According to the **World Health Organisation** in 2013:

- Approximately 270,000 pedestrians worldwide are killed on roads each year - 22 per cent of all road traffic deaths.
- Since 2012, this figure has steadily been falling.

There is more good news, again from **Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development**:

- In the same period, annual pedestrian fatalities decreased by 61.8 per cent.

However:

- More than 50% of pedestrian deaths occur in darkness / dusk.
- In 2014, 150 pedestrians were killed on Australian roads.

150 is 150 too many. There is still work to be done.



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

Before we look at **Pedestrian Crossings** in more detail, there is no more important fact we can get across than this:

Anyone using a **Pedestrian Crossing** is *untouchable*. **You must give way to pedestrians at all times.** There are no exceptions. **Pedestrian Crossings** are designed for the safety of pedestrians.

You must be careful around **Pedestrian Crossings**, pay extra attention, look both ways, and proceed slowly and only when safe, if a pedestrian crossing is nearby.



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

So, let's look first at **Pedestrian Crossings**.

Pedestrian Crossings, or **Zebra Crossings**, are areas on the road designated for pedestrians to cross.

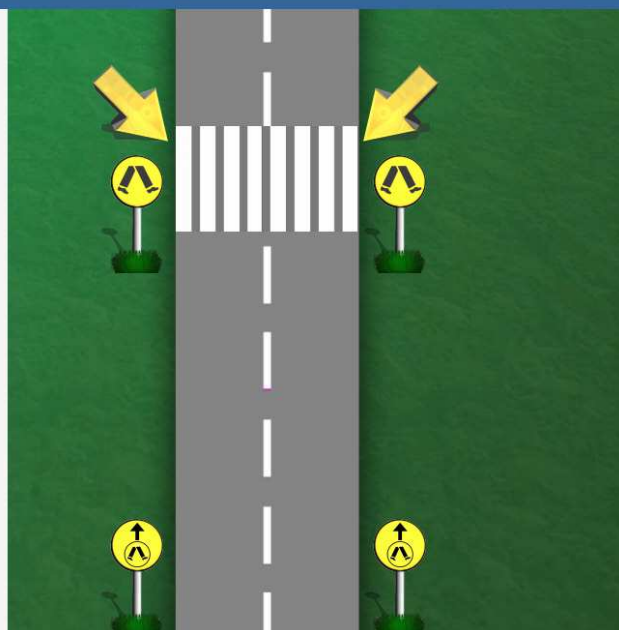
You must **always give way** to pedestrians on a pedestrian crossing. Whenever a pedestrian crossing is approaching or nearby, slow down and take care. Look on both sides of the road for any pedestrians on, or about to enter, a pedestrian crossing.



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

Here is what a **Pedestrian Crossing** looks like from above.

We've included the signs you may see at or before a pedestrian crossing, and these are explained more shortly.



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

Here is the view you might see heading towards a **Pedestrian Crossing**.

They may look slightly different to this, but will always feature large white stripes covering the road.



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

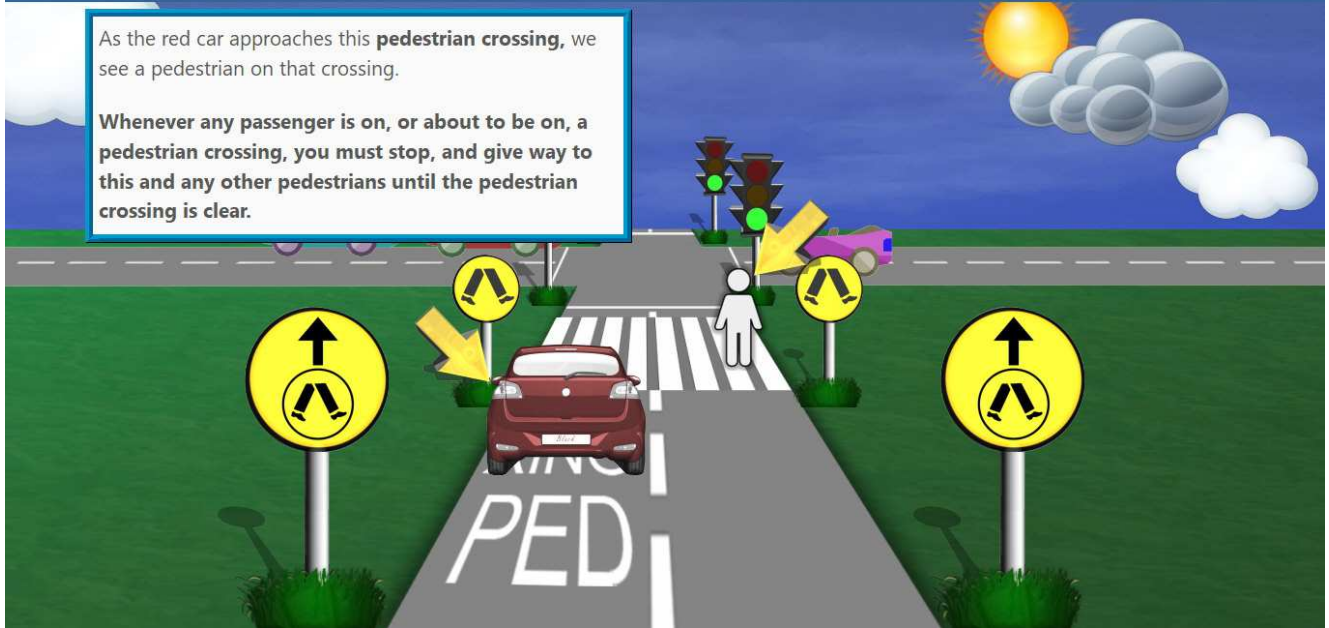


Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

As the red car approaches this **pedestrian crossing**, we see a pedestrian on that crossing.

Whenever any passenger is on, or about to be on, a **pedestrian crossing**, you must stop, and give way to this and any other pedestrians until the pedestrian crossing is clear.



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

Only when the pedestrian(s) have completely crossed the pedestrian crossing, and there are no other pedestrians on or about to enter the pedestrian crossing, can you drive through carefully.

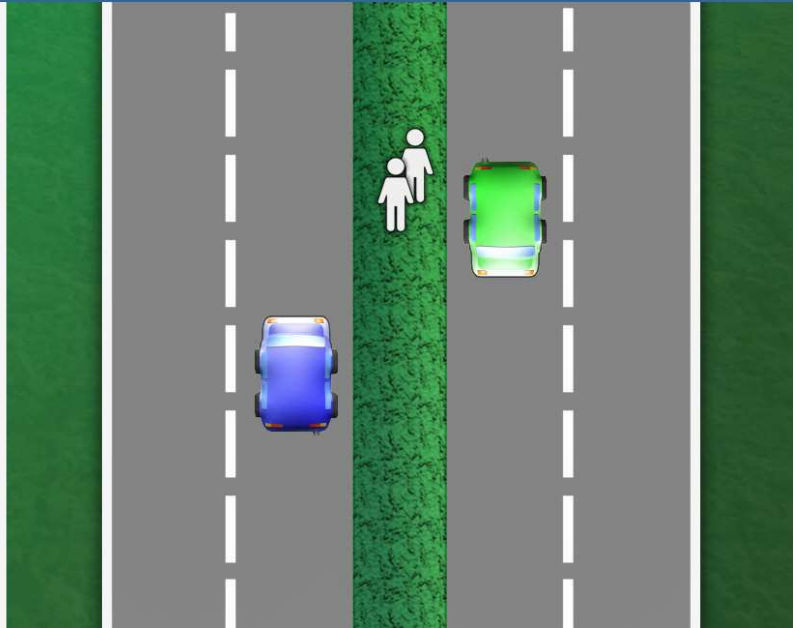


Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

In the middle of many roads, particularly multi lane and busy roads, you may see a pedestrian island.

This solves the dual purpose of keeping oncoming traffic separate from each other, and also a refuge for pedestrians crossing the road. It allows them to do so in two, safer, steps.

For you, the driver, it means extra vigilance when pedestrians are spotted on the side of the road. You can never tell if they are going to race across the road unannounced - especially if they are children.

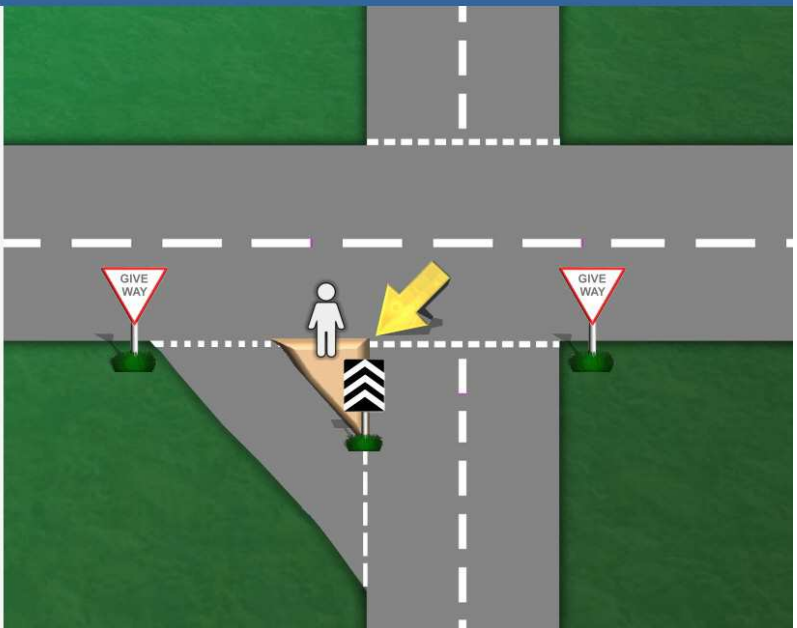


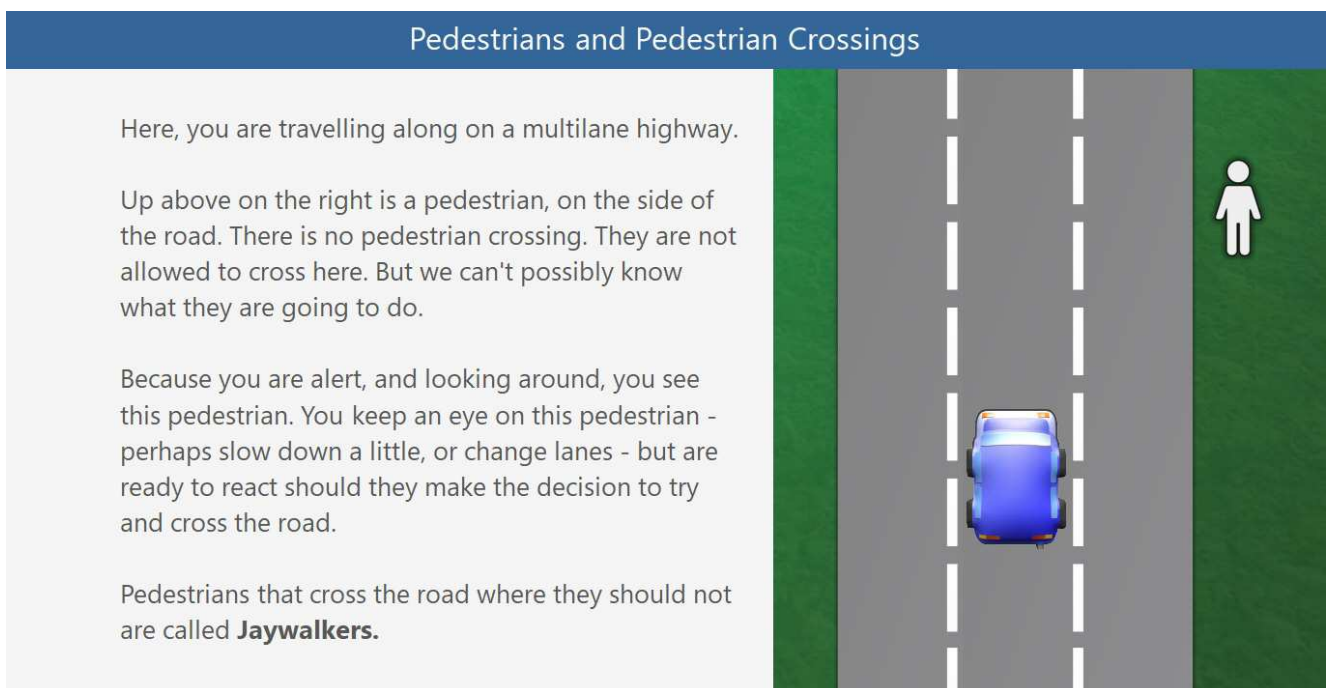
Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

Pedestrian islands come in different shapes and sizes, depending on where they appear.

All you need to know is that pedestrians can stand in these islands, but you cannot drive your car on or over these islands.

The black and white sign you can see here on the pedestrian island is to warn cars not to drive over these lines. This sign is much like a universal **no entry** sign.

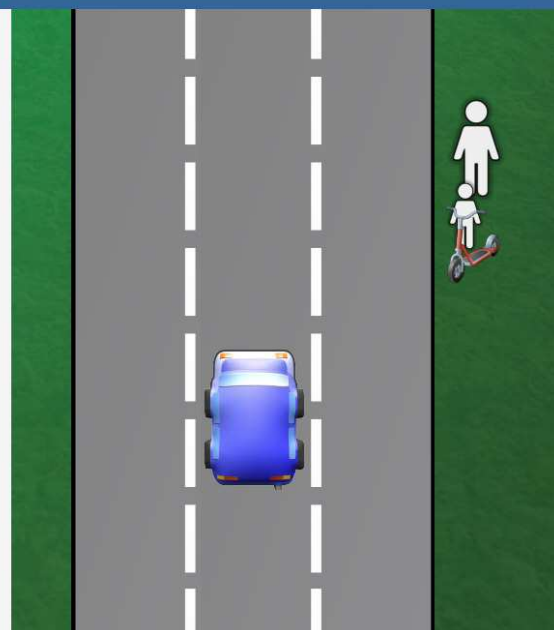




Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

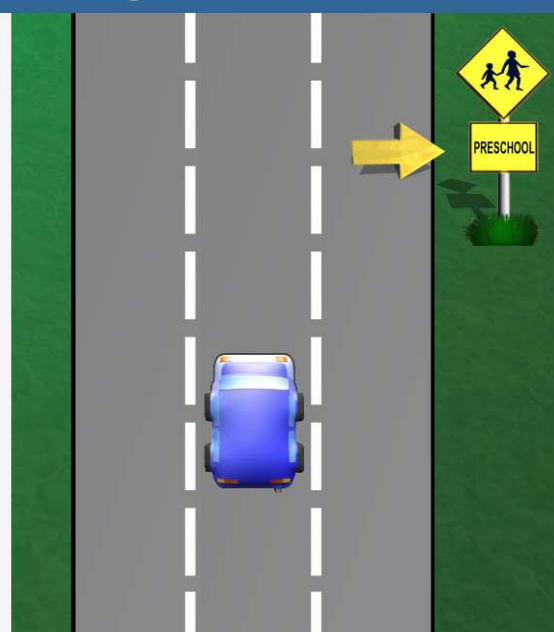
If the pedestrians on the side of the road are young kids, then you must be especially careful. Slow down.

Kids can have very little road sense, and can cross the road with no warning and without looking. They can instinctively chase a ball onto the road, or ride a scooter, bike, or skateboard blindly.



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

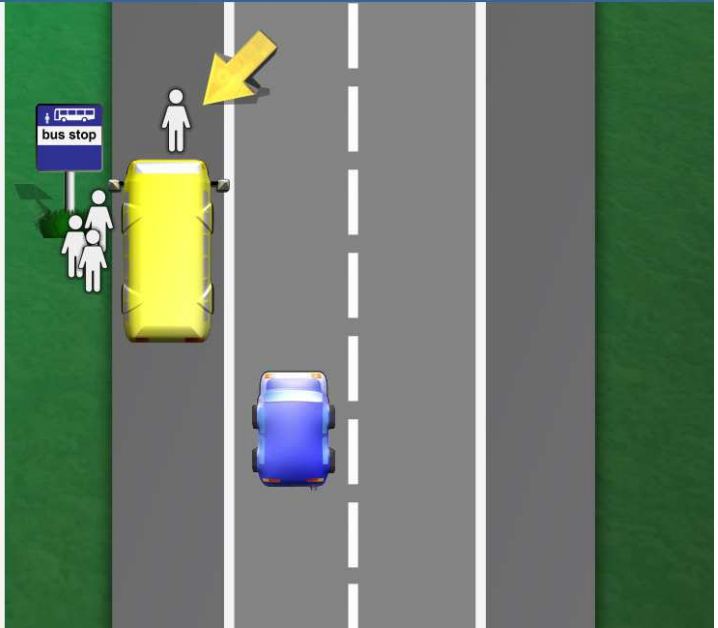
Many schools and preschools have signs like the one you can see here. Pay attention when you see a sign like this, and don't assume you know when children are in or out of class.



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

If you are driving towards a bus stop, or where parked cars are on the side of the road, pay extra attention for pedestrians. It is harder to see people when a bus covers them, for example. And they can't see you either.

Here, we've highlighted a pedestrian who has just left the bus, and eager to get home. They are about to run across the road. At the moment, you can't see them, and they can't see you. Which is exactly the reason you need to take extra care, and slow down around buses, parked cars, and schools.



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings



Although it is something you should always do at intersections, you may see a sign that will say something like **Watch For Pedestrians**.

It may be that a pedestrian crossing is here or nearby, or these lights are near a school, shop, offices or a bus stop.

Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

Pedestrian Walk / Don't Walk Signs. When a pedestrian crossing appears at an intersection or at traffic lights, the pedestrian will see a sign something like one below, on the right. The control on the left is used by the pedestrian when they reach the crossing.

When the green **WALK** character is flashing, the pedestrian may cross the road. If the red **DON'T WALK** character is flashing, the pedestrian may complete crossing, but other pedestrians cannot begin crossing if they have not already done so. When the red **DON'T WALK** character is highlighted, all pedestrians must be off the road.



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings



Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

SUMMARY

In this lesson, **Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings**, we discussed:

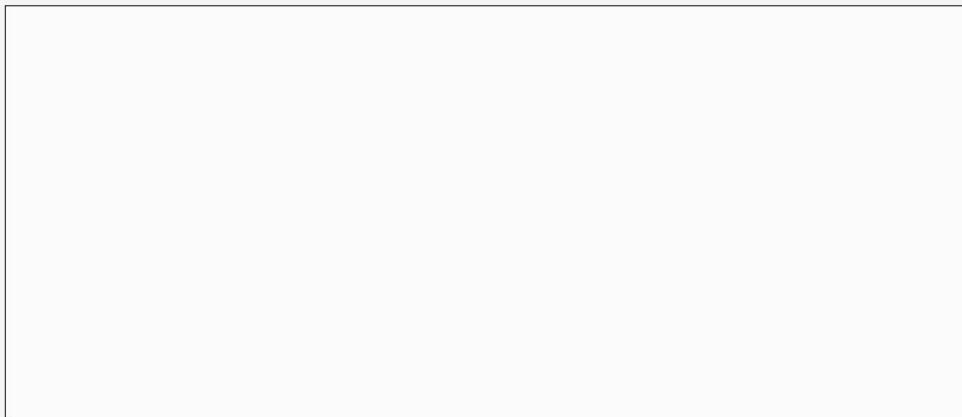
When approaching a **Pedestrian Crossing**, you must:

- Slow down.
- Look in all directions, and give way to all and pedestrians.
- Proceed through the **Pedestrian Crossing** slowly only when it is safe to do so, and when there are no pedestrians crossing.

[FINISH LESSON](#)

Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

Signature. It is very important that you use the mouse, or touch, to *sign* the form below. This helps us record your progress accurately.



SUBMIT SIGNATURE

CLEAR SIGNATURE

Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings

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In this lesson, we discussed **Pedestrians and Pedestrian Crossings**.



