

# Level crossing

A **level crossing** (also called a **grade crossing**, a **railway crossing**, or a **railroad crossing**) is a place where a [railway](#) line and a [road](#) meet each other on the same level. This means that the grades (the road and the track) are not separated by using a [bridge](#) or a [tunnel](#). Usually, there are signs indicating the crossing. There may also be barriers/gates that go down before a train passes.

Depending on how much traffic there is, there are different measures to make the crossing more secure:

- Signs or panels, indicating the crossing
- Blinking or steady lights
- Sounds (usually a warning bell)
- Gates/barriers that are lowered before a train passes

Since level crossings are dangerous (there are many accidents), they are usually reworked into [grade separated](#) crossings when there is more traffic, or [high speed trains](#).

## Images

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- [Unsecured crossing indicated by a sign. This local railway line is in rural Germany, in the Taunus mountains.](#)

Unsecured crossing indicated by a sign.  
This local railway line is in [rural Germany](#), in the [Taunus mountains](#).

- [Level crossing with blinking lights](#)  
Level crossing with blinking lights
- [Level crossing with steady lights](#)  
Level crossing with steady lights
- [Lights, and gates/ barriers](#)

Lights, and gates/  
barriers

- [Sometimes there are people for traffic control.](#)

Sometimes there are people for traffic control.

- [Level crossing with half-barriers, flashing lights, and a bell](#)

Level crossing with half-barriers, flashing lights, and a bell

- [A full barrier level crossing in St Bees, Cumbria, that is controlled by the adjacent signal box](#)

A full barrier level crossing in [St Bees, Cumbria](#), that is controlled by the adjacent signal box

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- [Billups Neon Crossing Signal](#)

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