

SECTION 7. *Laws and Rules of the Road*

TRAFFIC CONTROL

When at or approaching traffic signals or signs, yield to pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nearby vehicles that may have the right-of-way. See Right of Way Rules: Who Goes First, in this section.

Traffic Signals

Solid Red Light

A red traffic signal light means STOP. You can turn right at a red light, if:

- There is not a NO TURN ON RED sign posted.
- You stop at the stop or limit line, yield for pedestrians, and turn when it is safe.



Red Arrow

A red arrow means STOP. Do not turn at a red arrow. Remain stopped until a green traffic signal light or green arrow appears.



Flashing Red Light

A flashing red signal light means STOP. After stopping, you may go when it is safe.



Solid Yellow Light

A yellow traffic signal light means CAUTION. The light is about to turn red. When you see a yellow traffic signal light, stop, if you can do so safely. If you cannot stop safely, cautiously cross the intersection.



Yellow Arrow

A yellow arrow means the protected turning time is ending. The signal will change soon. If you cannot stop safely or you are already in the intersection, cautiously complete your turn. Pay attention to the next signal. It could be a:

- Green or red traffic signal light.
- Red arrow.



Flashing Yellow Light

A flashing yellow traffic signal light is a warning to PROCEED WITH CAUTION. Slow down and be alert. You do not need to stop.



Flashing Yellow Arrow

You can turn, but your turn is not protected from other traffic. Proceed to turn left after yielding to oncoming traffic and proceed with caution.



Solid Green Light

A green traffic signal light means GO. You should still stop for any vehicle, bicyclist, or pedestrian in the intersection. Only proceed if you have enough space without creating a danger to any oncoming vehicle, bicyclist, or pedestrian. Do not enter the intersection if you cannot get completely across before the traffic signal light turns red.



Green Arrow

A green arrow means GO in the direction the arrow is pointing. The green arrow allows you to make a protected turn. Oncoming vehicles are stopped by a red traffic signal light.



Traffic Light Not Working

When a traffic light is not working, stop as if the intersection is controlled by STOP signs in all directions. Then proceed cautiously when it is safe to do so.

Pedestrian Signals or Signs

WALK or Walking Person

You may cross the street.



DON'T WALK or Raised Hand

You may not cross the street.



Flashing DON'T WALK or Flashing Raised Hand

Do not start crossing the street. The traffic signal light is about to change. Drivers must yield to pedestrians, even if the DON'T WALK light is flashing.

Numbers

The numbers count down the seconds left for crossing the street.

Diagonal Crossing

These are crisscross and diagonal crosswalks that allow pedestrians to cross the intersection in any direction at the same time. Cross only when the WALK signal allows it.



Sounds

Sounds such as beeping, chirping, or verbal messages help blind or visually impaired pedestrians cross the street.

Pedestrian Push Button

This is used to activate the WALK or Walking Person signal.

No Pedestrian Signals

If there are no pedestrian signals, obey the vehicle traffic signals.

Signs

Obey all warning signs regardless of their shape or color.

STOP Sign

Make a full stop before entering the crosswalk or at the limit line. If there is no limit line or crosswalk, stop before entering the intersection. Check traffic in all directions before proceeding.



Red YIELD Sign

Slow down and be ready to stop to let any vehicle, bicyclist, or pedestrian pass before you proceed.



Red and White Regulatory Signs



No U-Turn



No Left Turn



No Right Turn

White Regulatory Signs



Highway Construction and Maintenance Signs



Guide Signs



Hazardous Loads Placards



Slow Moving Vehicle



Warning Signs



Slippery
When Wet



Merging
Traffic



Divided
Highway



Two Way
Traffic



Lane Ends



End Divided
Highway



Traffic Signal
Ahead



Pedestrian
Crossing



Added Lane



Crossroad



Stop Ahead



Yield Ahead



Directional
Arrow



Curve



T
Intersection



Winding Road

*For more information, visit
dot.ca.gov.*

Red and White Regulatory Sign

Follow the sign's instruction. For example, DO NOT ENTER means do not enter the road or ramp where the sign is posted.



WRONG WAY Sign

If you enter a roadway against traffic, DO NOT ENTER and WRONG WAY signs may be posted. When it is safe, back out or turn around. If you are driving at night, you will know you are going the wrong way if the road reflectors shine red in your headlights.



Red Circle with a Red Line Through It

The picture inside the circle shows what you **cannot** do and may be shown with words.



Yellow and Black Circular Sign or X-shaped Sign

You are approaching a railroad crossing. Look, listen, slow down, and prepare to stop. Let any trains pass before you proceed.



Many railroad crossings also have a blue and white sign to tell you what to do if there is an emergency on or near the tracks, or if your vehicle has stalled on the tracks.



5-sided Sign

You are near a school. Drive slowly and stop for children in the crosswalk.



Diamond-shaped Sign

Warns you of specific road conditions and dangers ahead.

White Rectangular Sign

Communicates many important rules you must obey.

Warning Signs

Warns of conditions related to pedestrians, bicyclists, schools, playgrounds, school buses, and school passenger loading zones.

For more information about signs, visit dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs/sign-charts.