



7 Steps for Safety

Highway-Rail Grade Crossings

1. Approach with care.

Warn others that you are slowing down. Turn on 4-way flashers. Use pull-out lane if available.

2. Prepare to stop.

Turn off fans and radio and roll down windows. Locate your cell phone for use in emergency.

Stop at least 15 feet, but not more than 50 feet, from nearest rail.

3. Look and listen both ways, carefully.

Bend forward to see around mirrors and A-pillars.

4. If it won't fit, don't commit.

Do not enter a crossing unless you can drive completely through without stopping!

And, remember, trains are wider than the track. Before you pull onto the track, make sure there is enough room on the other side for the back of your vehicle (and any overhanging cargo) to be at least 3 feet beyond the furthest rail.

5. Look again.

Before you move, look again in both directions.

6. Cross tracks with care.

Signal, watch for a safe gap, pull back onto the road if you used a pull-out lane. Use highest gear that will let you cross without shifting.

7. Keep going once you start, even if lights start to flash or gates come down.

www.fmcsa.dot.gov



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR VEHICLE STALLS OR HANGS UP ON THE TRACKS

1. GET OUT IMMEDIATELY.

Evacuate your vehicle. (Trains traveling at 60 mph may take a mile or more to stop.)

2. Move away.

Walk **toward the oncoming train, and away from the tracks** at a 45-degree angle. (If your vehicle is hit, debris will spread out from the tracks in the same direction the train is moving.)

3. Locate the emergency phone number.

When you are safely away from the tracks, find the railroad's emergency phone number and the DOT crossing identification number posted near the crossing. (See sample locations below.)

Railroad Identification, Emergency Phone Numbers, and DOT Number Locations.



4. Call for help!

Call the railroad's emergency phone number, the local police, or 911. **Tell them a vehicle is on the tracks.** Provide the location, crossing number (if posted), and the name of the road or highway.

Railroads' Emergency Phone Numbers

Amtrak: 1-800-331-0008

BNSF Railway: 1-800-832-5452

CSX: 1-800-232-0144

Canadian National: 1-800-465-9239

Canadian Pacific: 1-800-716-9132

Kansas City Southern: 1-877-527-9464 or 1-800-892-6295

Norfolk Southern: 1-800-453-2530

Union Pacific: 1-888-877-7267

Call the local police or 911 if you cannot locate the railroad emergency phone number at the site.

This Quiz Could Save Your Life.



Circle your answer for All 7 Questions

1 FLASHING RED LIGHTS AT HIGHWAY-RAIL GRADE CROSSINGS REQUIRE MOTORISTS TO:

- A** Toss a coin to decide whether to stop or go.
- B** Stop. Let the train pass.

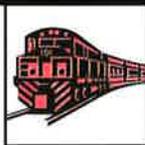
STOP and wait for the train. Flashing lights must be treated like a stop sign. Proceed only when it is safe to do so.



2 A TRAIN IS APPROACHING. ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE?

- A** The train is closer and faster than you think.
- B** A train striking a car is like your car crushing a soda can.

YES, both statements are true. If it's a tie at the crossing, you lose.



3 WHAT DOES THE ADVANCE WARNING SIGN NEAR A HIGHWAY-RAIL GRADE CROSSING MEAN?

- A** Slow down and prepare to stop if a train is coming.
- B** Restrooms and recreation are ahead.

SLOW DOWN. Look and listen for a





5 A TRAIN CAN BE EXPECTED ON ANY TRACK AT ANY TIME.

- A True
- B False

Definitely TRUE. Don't be fooled by your familiarity with a crossing. Trains run anytime, day or night.



6 IT'S NEVER SAFE TO DRIVE AROUND CROSSING GATES.

- A True
- B False

TRUE. NEVER drive around gates. You are violating the law and endangering your passengers. You must not proceed until gates go up and lights go off.



7 THESE SIGNS HAVE THE SAME EFFECT.

- A True
- B False



TRUE. Both signs require drivers to YIELD. At a highway-rail grade crossing you must yield to an approaching train.

¡Permanece Fuera, Permanece Alejado, Permanece Con Vida!

El caminar o jugar sobre las vías del ferrocarril o en cualquier parte dentro del derecho de vía es considerada como una actividad o entrada ilegal. Es ilegal y puede ser fatal.



BUSCA UN LUGAR SEGURO

Las vías del ferrocarril, patios y equipo son propiedad privada. Nunca camines o corras en ellos, tampoco realices actividades de cacería o pesca desde las vías del ferrocarril. Recuerda que puedes ser arrestado o multado si te encuentras en propiedad privada.



CRUZ DE SAN ANDRÉS

Esta señal indica que un tren pasa por este lugar. Cruza las vías solamente en la cruz de San Andrés, no lo hagas en cualquier parte de las vías.



SOLAMENTE UTILIZA CRUCES DESIGNADOS

El único lugar legal y seguro para cruzar las vías es un cruce público señalado con la cruz de San Andrés, luces rojas intermitentes y/o una barrera. Ten en cuenta que es ilegal cruzar en otro lugar.



SI UN TREN SE APROXIMA, ¡ESPERA!

Si ves las luces intermitentes y/o la barrera está descendiendo, significa que un tren puede estar acercándose. No continúes hasta que la barrera se levante por completo y las luces se apaguen. Es ilegal pasar alrededor de barreras cuando están abajo.

Por favor ayuda a tu familia y a tus amigos a tomar decisiones seguras cerca de las vías y los trenes.

SI VES UN PROBLEMA EN UN CRUCE

Si hay un vehículo detenido en las vías, una señal dañada, visibilidad obstruida o mal funcionamiento de señales, reporta el problema a la empresa ferroviaria inmediatamente. Llama al número de emergencia colocado en o cerca del cruce, o notifica a la autoridad local de seguridad.

PROGRAMA UNA PRESENTACIÓN

¡Es GRATIS! En todo el país, presentadores certificados de Operation Lifesaver están disponibles para hablar con estudiantes de manejo, conductores profesionales de camiones y autobuses, operadores de autobuses escolares, automovilistas, fuerzas de seguridad y tránsito, equipos de emergencia y grupos comunitarios.

¡SÉ UN VOLUNTARIO!

¿Te gustaría ayudar a llevar el mensaje de seguridad de Operation Lifesaver a tu comunidad? Averigua acerca de la capacitación para ser un presentador o socio de Operation Lifesaver.

VISÍTANOS

Visita www.oli.org o llama a Operation Lifesaver, Inc., al 1-800-537-6224 para contactar al coordinador de tu estado.

1420 King Street, Suite 401
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2750

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**OPERATION
LIFESAVER®**

¿Mitos o Realidades? Seguridad Peatonal cerca de los trenes y las vías del ferrocarril

EN BUSCA DE LA SEGURIDAD



PARA LOS PEATONES



**OPERATION
LIFESAVER®**

¿Cuánto sabes de seguridad?

Los trenes son parte de la vida diaria. No te confundas, no porque alguien te dice que las vías están oxidadas significa que están fuera de servicio ¡Las vías están hechas de acero y el acero se oxida! Vamos a ver si puedes distinguir los mitos viejos y oxidados de la realidad que es fuerte como el acero ¿Aceptas el desafío? Contesta estas preguntas con verdadero o falso:



1. El caminar sobre las vías del ferrocarril o el derecho de vía en cualquier lado de las vías es ilegal.

VERDADERO. Un tren promedio necesita 1.6 kilómetros (una milla) o más para detenerse. ¡Eso es el equivalente de 18 campos de fútbol! Recuerda que aunque el maquinista de la locomotora te pueda ver, él no puede desviar o detener el tren a tiempo para evitar un choque.



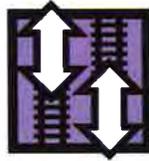
2. Estarás a salvo si no caminas entre las vías del ferrocarril.

FALSO. Los trenes sobresalen de las vías por lo menos 3 pies en ambas direcciones. Incluso, las tiras sueltas que cuelgan de los carros de carga pueden extenderse mucho más.



3. Es seguro cruzar las vías en cualquier parte siempre y cuando pueda ver 0.40 kilómetros (1/4 de milla) en cada dirección.

FALSO. El único lugar seguro para cruzar es en un cruce público desig-



4. Una locomotora no siempre está al frente del tren.

VERDADERO. A veces los trenes son empujados por locomotoras en lugar de ser tirados. Los trenes pueden moverse en cualquier dirección en cualquier momento, particularmente los trenes suburbanos y los trenes ligeros de pasajeros.



5. Es seguro cruzar las vías tan pronto como haya pasado el cruce el último vagón del tren.

FALSO. Tu vista de un segundo tren puede ser bloqueada por el primero. Espera hasta que pase el primer tren para que puedas ver claramente en ambas direcciones.



6. Como peatón, no es peligroso ignorar las luces rojas intermitentes en el cruce.

FALSO. Las luces rojas intermitentes señalan que se aproxima un tren. Nunca pases caminando las luces intermitentes o una barrera que está abajo en un cruce. Espera hasta que las luces dejen de destellar y la barrera se levante.



7. Los trenes hacen ruido. Tienes tiempo suficiente para salirte del camino cuando escuches que viene un tren.

FALSO. Los trenes modernos son más silenciosos que nunca, sin esos ruidos indicadores. Con una velocidad promedio de 88 pies por segundo, el tren se mueve más rápido de lo que aparenta.



8. Está prohibido jugar sobre el equipo ferroviario, las vías o los carros del ferrocarril.

VERDADERO. Si te encuentras en el patio de una empresa ferroviaria sin autorización, estás ingresando sin autorización a una propiedad privada y puedes ser arrestado y procesado por ello. Aún peor, puedes perder tu vida.



9. El cruzar las vías con un coche de bebé, en una silla de ruedas o sobre otras ruedas estrechas requiere cautela y atención extra.

VERDADERO. Las ruedas estrechas se pueden enganchar en los cruces. Si es posible, camina – no ruedes – al cruzar. Si estás en una silla de ruedas, trata de obtener ayuda. Siempre cruza en un ángulo de 90 grados.

¡ PERMANECE FUERA, PERMANECE ALEJADO, PERMANECE CON VIDA !

Stay Off, Stay Away, Stay Alive

Walking or playing on railroad tracks or the right-of-way on either side of the tracks is trespassing. It is illegal and can be deadly.



FIND A SAFER PLACE

Railroad tracks, trestles, yards and equipment are private property. Never walk, jog, fish or hunt from railroad tracks. If you are found on this property, you can be arrested or fined.



CROSSBUCK SIGN

This sign tells you trains run at this location. Cross tracks at the crossbuck sign only, not anywhere along the tracks.



USE ONLY DESIGNATED CROSSINGS

The only legal and safe place to cross railroad tracks is at a designated public crossing with a crossbuck, flashing red lights or a gate. Crossing at any other location is illegal.



IF YOU SEE A TRAIN COMING, WAIT!

If you see flashing lights or a lowering gate, it means a train is approaching. Do not proceed until the gates go completely up and the lights go off. It is illegal to go around lowered gates.

Please help your family and friends make safe decisions around tracks and trains.

IF YOU SEE A PROBLEM AT A CROSSING

Report any problem - stalled vehicle on the tracks, damaged sign, obstructed view, signal malfunction - to the railroad immediately. Call the emergency notification number posted on or near the crossing, or notify local law enforcement.

SCHEDULE A PRESENTATION

It's FREE! Across the nation, certified Operation Lifesaver Presenters are available to speak to student drivers, professional truck and bus drivers, school bus operators, general motorists, law enforcement, emergency responders and community groups.

VOLUNTEER!

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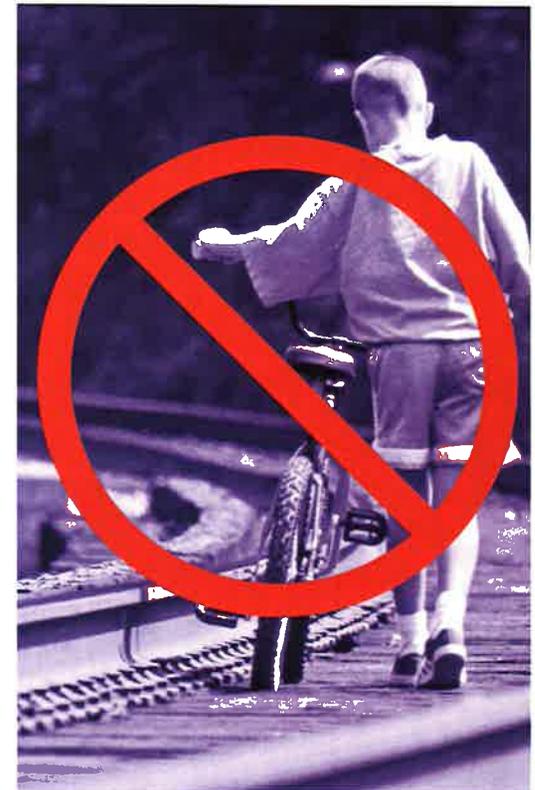
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Myths or Realities? Pedestrian Safety Around Tracks & Trains.

PROVIDED IN THE INTEREST OF SAFETY



FOR PEDESTRIANS



How Well Can You Score for Safety?

Trains are part of everyday life. Don't be confused by people who tell you that rust on the tracks means they're out-of-use. They're made of steel—it rusts! See if you can tell rusty myths from steely reality. Are you up to the challenge? Answer these questions, true or false:



- 1. Walking on railroad tracks, or the rights-of-way on either side of them, is illegal.**

TRUE. It can take a mile or more to stop a train. That's 18 football fields! Even if the locomotive engineer spots you ahead, he cannot swerve or stop the train in time to avoid a collision.



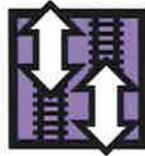
- 2. You will be safe if you do not walk between the rails.**

FALSE. Trains overhang the tracks by at least 3 feet in both directions. Loose straps hanging from freight cars may extend much further.



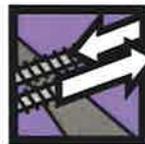
- 3. It is safe to cross the tracks anywhere as long as you can see 1/4 mile in each direction.**

FALSE. The only safe place to cross is at a designated public crossing with a crossbuck, flashing red lights or a



- 4. A locomotive is not always at the front of a train.**

TRUE. Trains are sometimes pushed by locomotives instead of being pulled. Trains can move in either direction at any time—particularly commuter and light rail passenger trains.



- 5. It is safe to cross the tracks just as soon as the last car of a train passes the crossing.**

FALSE. Your view of a second train might be blocked by the first. Wait after the first train passes until you can see clearly in both directions.



- 6. As a pedestrian, it is safe to ignore the flashing red lights at the crossing.**

FALSE. Flashing red lights signal the approach of a train. Never walk past flashing lights or around lowered gates at a crossing. Wait until the lights have stopped flashing and the gate is up.



- 7. Trains are noisy. You will have plenty of time to step out of the train's path when you hear a train coming.**

FALSE. Modern trains are quieter than ever, with no telltale "clickety-clack." An approaching train may be closer and moving faster than it appears.



- 8. Playing on rail equipment, tracks or railcars is forbidden.**

TRUE. If you are in the rail yard or on railroad property uninvited, you are trespassing and subject to arrest and prosecution. Worse, you could lose your life.



- 9. Crossing tracks with a baby stroller, in a wheelchair, or on other narrow wheels requires caution and extra attention.**

TRUE. Narrow wheels can get caught at crossings. If possible, walk - don't roll - across. If you are in a wheelchair, consider getting assistance. Always cross at a 90-degree angle.

What is Operation Lifesaver?

Operation Lifesaver is a non-profit, international public education program first established in 1972 to end collisions, deaths and injuries at highway-rail grade crossings and on railroad rights-of-way.

The program is supported by a wide variety of partners, including federal, state and local government agencies, highway safety organizations, law enforcement, the nation's railroads and their suppliers.

HOW DOES OPERATION LIFESAVER WORK?

Operation Lifesaver's certified volunteer speakers give free rail safety presentations to people of all professions and age groups. Learn about Operation Lifesaver's educational brochures and videos, materials for children and training information at www.oli.org.

IS THERE AN OPERATION LIFESAVER OFFICE IN MY STATE?

Operation Lifesaver state coordinators are located in 49 states and the District of Columbia.

HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPERATION LIFESAVER AND RAIL SAFETY?

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Key Safety Tips at Highway-Rail Grade Crossings

PROVIDED IN THE INTEREST OF SAFETY



FOR ALL DRIVERS



Warning Signs & Devices

Do you know the signs? Warning signs and devices tell drivers and pedestrians that the road crosses train tracks ahead. Watch for a train!



ADVANCE WARNING SIGN

This is usually the first sign you see when approaching a highway-rail grade crossing. Slow down, look and listen! Be prepared to stop if a train is approaching.



PAVEMENT MARKINGS

An RXR and a Stop Line may be painted on a paved road approaching a crossing. Stay behind the Stop Line while waiting for a train to pass. No Stop Line? Wait at least 15 feet from the nearest rail.



CROSSBUCK SIGN

This sign tells drivers to YIELD if a train is approaching. At multiple tracks, the number will be shown. Watch for another train coming from either direction on any track.



FLASHING RED LIGHT SIGNALS

You must STOP when these signals begin to flash. Do not proceed until the lights stop flashing.



GATES AND FLASHING RED LIGHTS

If you see flashing lights or a lowering gate, it means a train is approaching. Do not proceed until the gates go completely up and the lights go off. It is illegal to go around lowered gates.

Tips for Staying Safe Around Tracks & Trains

LOOK BOTH WAYS!

Always expect a train. Trains can run on any track, at any time, in either direction. After a train passes, look both ways before proceeding.

DON'T GET STUCK ON THE TRACK!

Before you cross, be sure there is room on the other side to completely clear the tracks. Trains overhang the tracks by at least 3 feet on each side. For safety, leave at least 15 feet between the rear of your vehicle and the nearest rail. Do not shift gears while crossing.

GET OUT! GET AWAY!

If your vehicle stalls at a crossing, get everyone out and far away immediately, even if you do not see a train. Call the emergency notification number posted on or near the crossing or notify local law enforcement.

IF YOU SEE A TRAIN COMING, WAIT!

Don't be tempted to try to beat a train. An approaching train may be closer and traveling faster than it appears.

TRAINS CANNOT STOP QUICKLY.

The average freight train traveling 55 miles per hour takes a mile or more to stop. That's 18 football fields. If the locomotive engineer can see you, it's too late to stop the train.

WATCH FOR VEHICLES THAT MUST STOP AT RAILROAD CROSSINGS.

Most states require school buses, commercial buses and trucks carrying hazardous materials to stop at every highway-rail grade crossing. (State laws vary.)

IF YOU SEE A PROBLEM AT A CROSSING.

Report any problem - stalled vehicle on the tracks, damaged sign, obstructed view, signal malfunction - to the railroad immediately. Call the emergency notification number posted on or near the crossing, or notify local law enforcement.

You Can Help Operation Lifesaver Save Lives

Please help your family members and friends make safe decisions around tracks and trains.

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Can You Make the Grade?

PROVIDED IN THE INTEREST OF SAFETY



ANYONE WILLING TO ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE



Can You Make the Grade?

Driving through a neighboring town, you see a round, yellow sign with an X and the letters RR.

1. The round, yellow sign is called the

- Advance Warning sign.
- Crossbuck.
- Track sign.



2. It tells you

- there is a railroad yard nearby.
- to slow down, you are approaching a railroad crossing.
- there is only one railroad track ahead.

As you get closer, you see a sign with the words "Railroad Crossing" on two, crossed white boards.

3. This sign is called the

- Advance Warning sign.
- Crossbuck.
- Track sign.



4. It tells you

- to hurry across the tracks.
- there is only one railroad track ahead.
- to slow down, look, listen and be prepared to yield to an approaching train.

You notice a smaller sign below the crossed, white boards. On the small sign are the words "2 Tracks".

5. This sign tells you

- the road ahead crosses two tracks.
- to expect trains approaching from either direction.
- both a and b.



As you start driving over the tracks, you see the red lights begin to flash, and the gate start to come down.

6. This means

- you tripped an emergency signaling device.
- a train is approaching.
- someone is probably working on the signals.



7. You should

- keep going until you have cleared the tracks by at least 15 feet.
- stop and abandon the vehicle.
- back up to get off the tracks.

8. If your car stalls on the tracks as a train approaches,

- keep trying to restart your car until you see the train.
- stand next to your car and wave at the locomotive engineer.
- Get everyone out of the car, IMMEDIATELY, move far away from the tracks at an angle, in the direction of the approaching train.

The next day, you encounter a "passive" railroad crossing without a gate or flashing red lights. Please be very careful as you cross the tracks here.

9. It is very difficult to judge how far away a train is because

- an optical illusion fools the eye in judging distance and speed.
- you have not learned how.
- the train may unexpectedly speed up.

10. After fully applying the brakes, a 100-car freight train traveling 55 mph takes at least ____ to stop.

- 1/4 mile
- 1/2 mile
- a mile

11. You cannot predict the arrival of a freight train at a crossing because

- schedules are not published.
- they do not keep regular schedules.
- published schedules may not be accurate.

True or False?

- ____ The names railroad crossing, highway-rail intersection, crossing, and highway-rail grade crossing all refer to the place where the highway crosses the train tracks.
- ____ The biggest factor in vehicle-train collisions is train speed.
- ____ Light rail trains are quieter than freight and other passenger trains.
- ____ After fully applying the brakes, light rail trains take only 100 feet to stop.
- ____ Light rail trains are lighter than other trains. In a crash, they cannot cause as much damage to a person, bicycle or car.

- The round, yellow sign is called the Advance Warning sign.
- It tells you to slow down, you are approaching a railroad crossing.
- This sign is called a Crossbuck.
- The Crossbuck tells you to slow down, look, listen and be prepared to yield to an approaching train.
- A number posted below the Crossbuck indicates the number of tracks at that crossing. Always expect a train from either direction!
- When the red lights begin flashing and the gate starts to come down as you cross the tracks, keep going even if it means breaking the gate.
- Trains cannot stop quickly. If your vehicle stalls or gets stuck on the tracks, quickly get everyone out and move far away from the tracks at an angle, in the direction of the approaching train.
- As you look down the tracks, you experience an optical illusion. The train is closer and traveling much faster than it appears. Don't take a chance. Wait for the train to pass!
- After fully applying the brakes, a 100-car freight train traveling 55 mph takes at least a mile to stop.
- You cannot predict the arrival of a freight train at a crossing because they do not keep regular schedules.
- All of these terms refer to highway-rail grade crossings, where highways cross railroad tracks.
- FALSE. At a highway-rail intersection, roadway vehicles are required to yield to trains.
- TRUE. Light rail trains (LRT) run on electrical power drawn from sources outside of the train (overhead lines, etc.) or diesel electric engines; they are much quieter than most locomotive engines.
- FALSE. After applying the brakes, light rail trains can take up to 600 feet to stop, the length of 2 football fields.
- FALSE. The term "light rail" comes from the weight of the rails, not the train. Most LRTs weigh more than 80,000 lbs. Their weight is comparable to a long-distance train.