

Intersection and Defensive Driving Resource Guide

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Intended Audience: All Delivery Service Partners (DSPs)

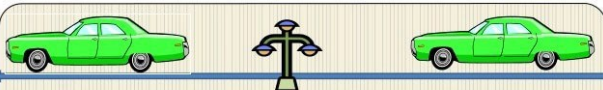
Background

To reduce driver error in intersection collisions, drivers need to use several incident prevention techniques. Intersection collisions are usually caused by drivers who fail to stop, fail to check properly before pulling onto a highway, roadway, crossroads or any intersection, fail to maneuver correctly or fail to obey the rules of the road. Intersections are among the most hazardous places on the road and a common location for crashes. To be a safe and effective driver at entering and exiting intersection, follow the steps in this guide.

Step One

Speed and Distance Control

Slow down on your approach to an intersection, being mindful of all surrounding vehicles. You don't want to create an unsafe distance between yourself and the vehicle in front of you, as well as the vehicle behind you. Watch your speed and leave a safe gap, maintaining a speed that is a direct reflection of the posted speed limit.



FOLLOWING DISTANCE

- **30 MPH 4 SECONDS**
- **40 MPH 5 SECONDS**
- **50 MPH 6 SECONDS**
- **60 MPH 7 SECONDS**
- **70 MPH 8 SECONDS**

Step Two

Yellow , Red Flashing and Inoperable Traffic Lights, Stop/Yield Signs,

Be sure to approach all intersections with caution. Avoid entering any intersection (junction) with a yellow traffic light indicated. Rushing through an intersection increases your chance of a collision. Play it safe and avoid a collision by not speeding to run through a yellow traffic light. If you are approaching an intersection that does not require you to stop (yield sign), be cautious – cross traffic may not see your vehicle, may make unexpected moves, or may simply dart out across your path because they are in a hurry or misjudged your speed. Always stop at stop signs. If your ability to see oncoming traffic is blocked, edge forward only after coming to a complete stop. It is your responsibility to be sure that it is safe to cross the intersection before moving. In addition, if you encounter an intersection with a red flashing light, it means the same as a stop sign. If you encounter an inoperable or blacked out traffic light, proceed cautiously and treat it the same as a four-way stop intersection.



Step Three

Watch for Hazards

Enter the intersection once you have completed the pattern “left-right-left” and when you are 100% confident to do so. Always look both ways before proceeding, even if you have the right of way. Maintain a safe distance if you are behind another vehicle. Be alert to pedestrians, motorcyclists, and cyclists. Remember to check your mirrors frequently and leave plenty of space between yourself and oncoming or cross-traffic when moving through. Avoid moving too fast through the intersection. Look in the direction of the traffic nearest to you.

Watch for:

- Emerging traffic from front, rear, side
- Pedestrian traffic that may act in an unpredictable manner
- Motorcyclists and cyclists who might be approaching



Step Four

Drive Defensively

Always be prepared for the actions of other drivers and anticipate all road user's actions at an intersection. Approach with caution into the intersection and depart knowing you are fully aware of your surroundings. Never assume that the other vehicles (drivers) will stop or yield to let you go. Do not force your way through an intersection if another driver is set on going first.

Follow these practices:

- Always approach intersections slowly and with caution
- Look for hazards
- Use your mirrors
- Double check your blind spots
- Be mindful and leave a safe distance between yourself and other vehicles
- Be watchful of traffic signals
- Don't be distracted
- Make no assumptions of other drivers
- Observe all traffic regulations all the time



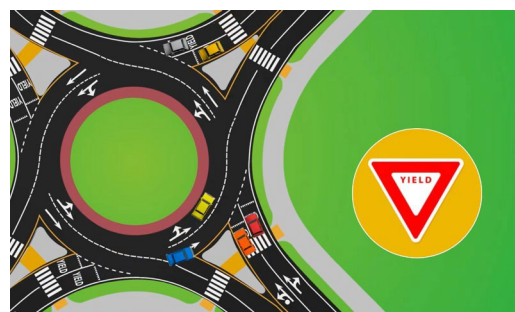
Drive safely through Roundabouts

Roundabouts are designed to make intersections safer and more efficient for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists. There are two types of roundabouts: single-lane roundabouts and multi-lane roundabouts. Roundabouts have certain essential distinguishing features:

- Counterclockwise Flow-Traffic travels counterclockwise around a center island.
- Vehicles entering the Roundabout yield to traffic already circulating. Drivers must yield to traffic in all lanes of the roundabout, not just in the lane closest to them.
- Low Speed-Curvature that results in lower vehicle speeds (15-25 mph) throughout the roundabout. Going slower provides more time to make decisions and be better prepared to yield to other drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists. Slow down as you approach the roundabout, and watch for pedestrians and bicyclists in the crosswalk.

There are a few key things to remember about driving in roundabouts:

- Yield to drivers in the roundabout
- Stay in your intended lane; do not make unnecessary lane changes
- Do not stop in the roundabout
- Avoid driving next to oversize vehicles



Always approach intersections slowly and with caution; look for hazards; use your mirrors; double check your blind spots; be mindful and leave a safe distance between yourself and other vehicles; be watchful of traffic signals; don't be distracted; make no assumptions of other drivers; and observe all traffic regulations all the time.