



Driving and Being Street Wise Safety Facts

Can you read the road? You may be surprised at what you learn.

1. True or false: Yellow lines on the road separate traffic traveling in the same direction?

Answer: False. Yellow lines on the highway, whether solid or dashed, generally separate traffic going in opposite directions.

2. Do you know what a yellow "Exit Only" panel below a green freeway sign means?

Answer: A yellow "Exit Only" panel below a green freeway sign means that the lane under the panel becomes the exit ramp. If you remain in the lane, you must exit the freeway.

3. What does a flashing "Don't Walk" sign or don't walk symbol tell you?

Answer: A flashing "Don't Walk" sign or a don't walk symbol tells pedestrians already in the street that they should continue across; but tells pedestrians still on the curb not to start walking. Once the signal stops flashing and shows a steady "Don't Walk" sign, pedestrians should not leave the curb. This also means no right turn on red until the flashing light is no longer illuminated. Remember to come to a complete stop while making a right on red and look for signs that may prohibit a right turn on red.

4. Are you permitted to cross a double solid yellow line?

Answer: The only time you are permitted to cross a double solid yellow line is when you are making a left turn into a driveway, business entrance or for a safety factor yielding space for a pedestrian, bicyclist or vehicle.

5. What does a pentagon shaped sign mean?

Answer: A pentagon shaped sign with a point to the top warns drivers to watch for school children. The new optional color for these signs, fluorescent yellow-green, is much easier to see in low light and foggy/rainy weather.

6. What do familiar red, white and blue shield signs tell drivers?

Answer: The familiar red, white and blue shield signs tell drivers they are traveling on an Interstate Highway. Even numbered roads with 2 digits run east-west; north-south Interstate Highways have odd numbers with 2 digits. Interstate routes with three digits are beltways, loops or spur routes.

7. What are the purpose of the green and white mile markers?

Answer: The green and white mile markers help us gauge how far we've drive or how far we need to drive through a state. They can also be used to identify location in case of an emergency.

8. What are the orange diamond signs used for?

Answer: Orange diamond signs are construction signs that are specifically used to warn drivers about construction and work zone activity. Remember that in a work zone a flagger has the same authority as a regulatory sign, meaning you can be cited for disobeying his or her directions. Don't forget to slow down and give road crews a break.

9. In a "weaving section" where traffic is entering and exiting a freeway interchange, who is required to yield the right of way?

Answer: One of the most hazardous lane-management situations occurs when freeway traffic is exiting and entering in the same area. During this "weaving section" vehicles entering the freeway have to yield the right way to thru traffic and exiting traffic.

10. What type of roadway are you traveling on if you are on interstate I-495?

Answer: If you are on an Interstate with the number I-495, you are probably traveling on a beltway, loop or spur.

This fact sheet uses information from the Network of Employers for Traffic Safety and the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers'

