


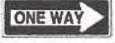








Traffic Signs

Fact Sheet 4.2
Content Information










Traffic Signs

Signs are specific sizes, shapes and colors so they can be easily identified at long distances.

Color of signs

	Red – prohibitive or stop		Black - regulatory signs
	Blue – motorist service signs		White – regulatory signs
	Green – guide information, such as direction or guidance signs		Brown – recreational and cultural interest
	Yellow – general warning, caution		Fluorescent Optic Yellow – school zones, school crossings and pedestrian crossings
	Orange – construction and maintenance work		Fluorescent Pink – incident signs

Shape of signs

	Octagon – Stop		Horizontal rectangle – Directions
	Triangle – Yield		Vertical rectangle – Indicates law
	Diamond – Warning		Round – Advance warning of railroad crossing
	Pentagon – School		Crossbuck – Railroad crossing
	Pennant – Advance warning of no passing zones		

Traffic Signs

Fact Sheet 4.2 continued

Content Information

Traffic Signs

Signs are specific sizes, shapes and colors so they can be easily identified at long distances.

- **Regulatory signs** tell the driver about specific laws that a driver must obey. They regulate the speed and movement of traffic. These signs are usually rectangle in shape and have a color pattern of red/white, white/black or red/white/black.

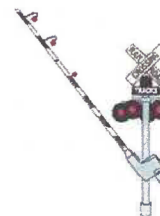


- **Warning signs** tell a driver of possible danger (road, environmental and traffic conditions) that is a short distance ahead to allow the driver time to safely minimize risk. These signs are mostly diamond shape and have a yellow/black color pattern. Some warning signs such as school zones, school crossing and pedestrian crossings may be fluorescent optic yellow.



- A **chevron sign** is a type of warning sign, which means sharp curve.

- **Railroad crossing warning signs** caution the driver to slow down, look and listen for a train or railroad vehicle and be prepared to stop if a train is approaching. A white, X-shaped sign with “Railroad Crossing” printed on it is located at the railroad crossing. A driver must wait for a train that is approaching the intersection and remain behind the stop line.



Traffic Signs

Fact Sheet 4.2 continued

Content Information

Traffic Signs

- **Construction zone signs** alert drivers to construction zones ahead. They are rectangle or diamond shape and orange in color.



- **Guide signs** guide drivers to their destination by identifying routes well in advance and can come in a variety of shapes and colors. Green signs give information on miles, route markers and destinations. Brown signs mark cultural points of interest and recreational areas. Blue signs provide information on services, such as hospital, police, fuel, food, and lodging.



- **Route numbering** – the interstate system features unique shield-shaped signs, which are blue on bottom with a red band across the top. The primary route number is either a single or double digit number. East-west routes have even numbers and north-south routes have odd numbers. Many non-interstate routes use a similar system.



Interstate
Route



US Route



State Route

- **Interstate spurs and loops** – a loop bypasses cities and meets the primary route at both ends and features a three-digit route number that begins with an even number. A spur is a short route that connects with a primary route at only one end and features a three-digit route number that begins with an odd number.

- **Incident signs or temporary traffic control signs** are temporary and let drivers know when they should be prepared to stop or when roadways are closed or detoured due to a road user incident, natural disaster, hazardous material spill, or other unplanned incident. These signs are fluorescent pink with black lettering.

