



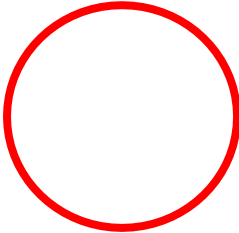
Traffic Awareness On Road Safety

ROAD SIGNS

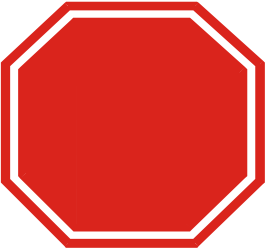
Road Signs, markings, traffic signals and other traffic devices are there to guide the road users and hence are the languages of the road. Every road user whether a pedestrian, two-wheeler rider, driver of four-wheeled vehicle should have knowledge regarding these traffic controlling devices and should be aware of what they signify.

Traffic Signs are there to regulate traffic, warn about hazards and to guide the road User. There are three types of traffic signs – Mandatory, Cautionary, and Informatory. Mandatory road signs are the ones that give order regarding dos and don'ts and are to be followed strictly. These are generally circular in shape

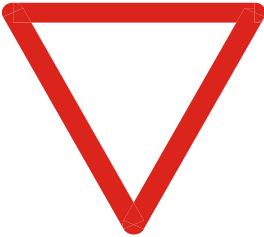
MANDATORY



Exceptions:-



STOP SIGN


















GIVE WAY SIGN



Mandatory Signs

		
Straight Prohibited or No Entry	Vehicles Prohibited In One Direction	Vehicles Prohibited In One Direction
		
Vehicles Prohibited In Both Direction	All Vehicles Prohibited	Trucks Prohibited
		
Cycles Prohibited	Horns Prohibited	Bullock Carts & Hand Carts Direction

		
Bullock Carts Prohibited	Tongas Prohibited	Hand Carts Prohibited
		
Pedestrians Prohibited	Right Turn Prohibited	Left Turn Prohibited
		
U-Turn Prohibited	Overtaking Prohibited	No Parking
		
No Parking and No Stopping	Speed Limit	Width Limit
		
Height Limit	Length Limit	Load Limit



Axle Load Limit



Compulsory Bus Stop



Restriction Ends Sign



Compulsory Cycle track



Compulsory Sound Horn



Compulsory Keep Left



Compulsory Turn Left



Compulsory Turn Right Ahead



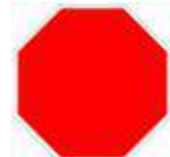
Compulsory Ahead Or Turn Right



Compulsory Ahead Or Turn Left



Compulsory Ahead



Stop












Give Way

Cautionary road signs are the ones that warn the road user regarding the road situation ahead. Cautionary signs are generally in triangular shape.



Cautionary Signs

		
Right Hand Curve	Left Hand Curve	Right Hair Pin Bend
		
Left Hair Pin Bend	Right Reverse Bend	Left Reverse Bend
		
Steep Ascent	Steep Descent	Narrow Road Ahead



Road Widening Ahead



Narrow Bridge



Slippery Road



Loose Gravel



Cycle Crossing



Pedestrian Crossing



School Ahead



Men at Work



Cattle



Falling Rocks















Ferry



Cross Road



Gap in Median	Side Road Right	Side Road Left
		
Y-Intersection	Y-Intersection	Y-Intersection
		
T-Intersection	Staggered Intersection	Staggered Intersection
		
Major Road Ahead	Major Road Ahead	Roundabout
		
Dangerous Dip	Hump or Rough Road	Barrier Ahead



200 Meters



50-100 Meters



200 Meters




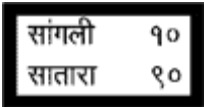




20-100 Meters

Informatory road signs are the ones that give information regarding directions, destinations, etc. Informatory signs are generally rectangular in shape.



Informatory Signs

		
<p>Advance Direction</p>	<p>Destination Sign</p>	<p>Direction Sign</p>
		
<p>Re-Assurance Sign</p>	<p>Telephone Booth</p>	<p>Petrol Pump</p>



Medical Facility



Eating Place



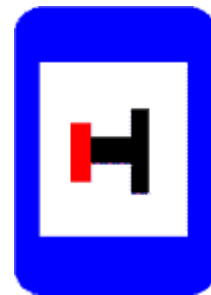
Light Refreshment



Resting Place



No Thorough Road



No Thorough Side Road



Park In This Direction



Parking Both Sides



Scooter & Motorcycle Stand



Cycle Stand



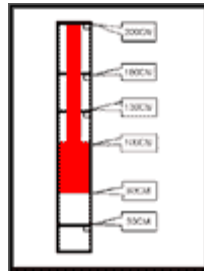
Taxi Stand



Auto Rickshaw Stand



Cycle Rickshaw Stand



Flood Gauge

Road Safety Tips for Different Categories of Road Users

As

Pedestrian:

Dos:

- ✓ Walk on any side of the road if there are footpaths
- ✓ On roads without footpath walk on your extreme right side facing the oncoming traffic.
- ✓ Use Zebra Crossing, Foot Overbridge & Subways to cross the roads. Where such facilities are not available be extra cautious while crossing road.
- ✓ Children below 8 years of age should cross the road with the help of elders
- ✓ Cross the road when the vehicles are at a safe distance
- ✓ Wear light coloured dresses during night

Don'ts:

- Don't cross the road hastily by running
- Don't cross the road in front of or in between parked vehicles
- Don't try to cross the road from blind corners, turnings where you are not visible to the vehicle drivers
- Don't jump over the railings to cross the road

For school children

While commuting in school transportation

Dos

- ✓ Get up early and start from home early
- ✓ Board the bus from the designated bus stop in a queue
- ✓ Once inside the bus behave properly
- ✓ Hold on to the railings of the bus
- ✓ Alight only at the designated bus stop
- ✓ Get down only when the bus has completely stopped
- ✓ The number of students should not exceed 1.5 of the actual seating capacity
- ✓ If the driver is not following the road safety norms bring it to the notice of school authorities/parents or Traffic

Don'ts

- Do not rush or run to catch your bus
- Do not stand on the steps of the bus
- Do not make noise that may distract the driver
- Do not put any part of the body outside the bus
- Do not alight from a moving bus

As pillion rider/co-passenger

- ✓ **Always wear helmet/seatbelt**
- ✓ **Do not indulge in talking with the driver**
- ✓ **Children below 12 years of age should occupy the back seat**

Play at safe places

- ✓ **Do not play on roads**
- ✓ **Look for a playground or vacant land to play**
- ✓ **Do not play around a vehicle parked inside your school premises/colony or near your residence**

Rules of Road

Negotiating an Intersection Judiciously

- **Almost 50% of all city driving collisions occur at intersections.**
- **Choose the left lane if you want to turn left, the middle lane if you want to go straight, the right lane if turning right, at least 100 m in advance.**
- **Give proper indication before you turn.**
- **Slow down while approaching an intersection.**
- **Stop before stop line at red light.**
- **Even if the signal allows you to go, proceed slowly and cautiously.**
- **While approaching an unmanned intersection cover the brake and be prepared to stop.**

Negotiating a Round About

- **Choose your lane as per your exit, at least 100m in advance.**
- **Slow down while approaching a roundabout.**
- **Enter the roundabout at an angle.**
- **Give way to traffic on your right.**
- **Merge slowly with the traffic inside the roundabout.**
- **Move towards your exit gradually giving proper indications.**
- **Be watchful of a pedestrian or an animal that may suddenly appear.**

While Overtaking

- Never overtake from left, always overtake from right.
- Show your intentions of overtaking clearly to your fellow drivers.
- Give proper indications, before overtaking.
- Be watchful of a pedestrian or an animal that may suddenly appear in front of the vehicle you are overtaking.
- On roads having two-way traffic overtake only when the oncoming vehicle is at a safe distance.

While Turning

- Give proper indications.
- Start changing lane only when the vehicles behind you have understood your intentions.
- Slow down while approaching the turning point.
- Turn only when the vehicle coming from the opposite direction is at a safe distance.
- The vehicle coming from the opposite direction has the right of way.
- Watch out for pedestrians as well as vehicles coming from your right side.

Right of Way

- The children and the disabled have the right of way.
- Pedestrians have the first right of way at unmanned intersections.
- At an unmanned intersection, traffic on your right has the right of way.
- At a roundabout, traffic on your right has the right of way.
- Traffic on major road has the right of way.
- On hilly and steep roads vehicles going uphill have the right of way.
- Emergency vehicles like fire brigade, ambulance, police have the right of way.
- These vehicles, during emergency, can jump a red right, drive in no- entry areas or on wrong side.
- These vehicles should be given priority and clear passage.

Keep left

- How far from the left side of the road you should drive depends upon the road condition and the type of traffic on it. But, as a driver you must drive sufficiently to the left. You must allow all traffic proceeding in the opposite directions to pass on the right hand side.

Lane driving

- Every road has lanes, whether marked or not. Where they are not marked, divide the road mentally into appropriate lanes. Where it is marked, drive within your lane. Change only if it is safe to do so and after giving a proper signal. Sudden changes should be avoided. A good driver never weaves in and out of lane, in a traffic hold-up, don't try to get ahead by jumping the queue or by cutting into another lane.

Changing Lanes

- If you need to move into another lane, check through your rear view mirror and look over your shoulder for the traffic following you, if it is safe, give proper signal and then change lanes. After you have changed your lane or overtaken,
- Make sure that the indicator given to change lane is switched off, keeping to your lane is important to maintain discipline and safe road usage. Do not change lanes frequently. Remember, weaving in and out is bad driving and you could be booked by traffic police for negligent driving.

Signal

- To signal: Use indicator or Give hand signal

Reverse driving

- Make sure you have rear side view mirrors on you left and right doors in addition to the one fitted inside. A good driver uses all the mirrors before beginning the reverse driving. However, you should also turn around for an all side vision. Before you reverse make sure there are no pedestrians, especially children or any other impediments on the road behind you.
- Be particularly careful of the blind areas that are obscured form the driver's seat. In case of doubt it is always better to step down from the vehicle or get the help of someone to ensure that there are no obstructions all the back. Never reverse from a side road on to a main road. If there is no other way, seek someone's help while doing so. Don't drive backwards more than necessary while making sure you don't cause danger or inconvenience to other road users.

U Turn

- A U- Turn means a turn carried out within the width of the road without reversing so as to proceed in the opposite direction. After ensuring that there is no prohibition to take a U-turn, also make sure
- That the road is wide enough for this manoeuvre
- That there is no traffic approaching from either side and you have full visibility of the road on both sides.

One-way

There are three types of one-way regulations in force.

- The first and the most common type is the operation of traffic in one direction at all times. It is suitable in situations where parallel roads are available, a short distance apart, to handle traffic from opposite directions.
- The second type is the reversible one-way street, where the direction of flow is reversed depending upon the predominant direction of movement, as introduced in some metropolitan cities.
- The third type is operated as a two way facility during off-peak hours and is made one-way in the direction of predominant flow during peak hours.

Remember

- On one-way roads, you must choose the correct lane for exit as soon as you can.
- Unless road marking indicate otherwise, choose the left lane when going to the left, right lane when going to the right, choose centre lane when going straight.
- Do not drive your vehicle on roads declared as one-way except in the direction Specified by the road sign. Do not drive your vehicle in a reverse direction with a road designated as one-way.

Speed

- Speed is a relative term. You must aim at a good average speed of travel.
- Over speeding with reference to driver control, circumstances and violation of law is dangerous.
- Speeding with negligence is the direct cause of most road accidents leading to injury and death.
- Driving at a high speed does not give you sufficient reaction time to observe hazards. Other road users too, get less time to react.

- The higher the speed, the greater the stopping distance and larger the chances of an accident.
- So make sure and drive within the stipulated speed limits. However, speed limit does not mean that it is safe to drive at that speed. Always drive keeping the following conditions in mind:
 - Condition of the road
 - Traffic
 - Weather and vision
 - Type of vehicle
 - Restricted areas
 - Your own skills and concentration

The golden rule for speed:

Drive at a speed that will allow you to stop well within the distance you can see clearly

Parking

- Every moving vehicle needs to be parked. You must know how vehicles may be parked effectively and where and how to manoeuvre parking.
- Absence of 'No Parking' sign does not necessarily mean that you can park there. Wherever possible, park off the road or in a car park. Normally, a parking space is indicated by a road sign or marking. Look for the sign and park your vehicle accordingly.
- If you have to park on the road choose a safe place. Park your vehicle in the direction of traffic movement. If there is a kerb, park as close as you can on the left side. If there is no kerb, leave space for pedestrians.
- When you park on the road, there must be a clear space of at least 3 meters for other vehicles to pass. Park your vehicle in such a way that it is not likely to cause danger, obstruction or undue inconvenience to other road users. When you have parked, make sure that handbrake is drawn up fully so that your vehicle does not move.

Use of Seatbelt

- Seat belt save lives and reduce the severity of injuries.
- With seat belt properly fastened, you become a part of the vehicle, rather than a loose object that can be tossed around inside during a crash or may be thrown outside.

- **If someone is thrown out of a vehicle in a crash, his chances of being killed are 25 times greater than if he stays inside.**
- **People not having fastened their seat belts have been killed in crashes even at speed as low as 20 Km/h.**

Road Safety suggestions for drivers

Driving at Night

- **Be alert: pedestrians, bicycles, animals and hand drawn vehicles that travel without light are difficult to see.**
- **Drive at a slow speed to get a safe reaction and stoppage time.**
- **Turn on the headlights when darkness falls.**
- **Drive with dipped headlights in places where the roads are amply lit.**
- **Keep the headlights clear and clean and check them frequently. Also carry spare bulbs.**
- **Keep your windscreen clean because dirty windscreen can impair your vision.**
- **Avoid looking to the dazzling light if an oncoming vehicle is driving in high beam and gradually slow down your speed.**
- **To reduce the glare of lights following you, switch your interior rearview mirror to the night position or slightly tilt it or tilt the exterior rear view mirrors.**
- **Do not mistake cock-eyed vehicle-a vehicle with one fused headlamp-for a two- wheeler.**
- **Before overtaking ensure that the oncoming vehicle is at a safe distance.**

In case of Breakdowns and Accidents

Most breakdowns are the result of negligence, failing to make routine checks, inadequate preventive maintenance and abuse of vehicle

Preventive maintenance reduces chances of a breakdown. However even a well maintained vehicle can break down occasionally.

Warning lights

- **In case of a breakdown, switch on your warning lights to make your stationary presence known.**
- **In case it is possible – get the vehicle out of way of traffic for free movement of traffic. Be patient and do not panic.**

Warning triangle

Carry an advance warning triangle. It folds easily and is easy to stow. Use it to warn other road users if your car is obstructing the highway or is in a dangerous position as a result of a breakdown or accident.

Where to place the triangle

- **On the road, in the same lane, well behind the car**
- **Recommended distance is 50 mts behind your vehicle**
- **On a winding or hilly road, place the triangle where drivers will see it before**

they have to deal with any bend or hump in the road

- On a very narrow road place the triangle on the near side kerb or footpath.

Co-exist Peacefully on Road

When confronted by an aggressive driver

- Avoid eye contact.
- Stay calm and relaxed
- Make every attempt to get out of the way safely.
- Avoid confrontation – Do not respond by blowing horn, following too closely, cutting them off or applying brakes; give such drivers ample space.
- Do not take other driver's behaviour personally, he might have some reason to drive erratically.
- If you feel you are being followed too closely, signal and pull over to allow the other driver to go by.
- Ignore harassing gestures and name calling, and do not return them.

Mandatory pre-checks of vehicles

Do not take your vehicle for granted. Before you drive your vehicle each day, make it a habit to inspect the basics of the vehicle. In addition to your daily review, periodical technical checking and regular servicing must be carried out. The saying, 'a stitch in time saves nine' is an apt example for your vehicle.

Daily check list

Before you start the engine, make a walk around exterior check of your vehicle and ensure that:

- The windscreen, windows, mirrors and number plates are clean.
- The tyres have a good tread and are properly inflated.
- Wheel nuts are securely fastened.
- No damage or theft of any exterior parts
- There is no leakage of fuel, water or oil under your vehicle and their levels are correct.
- Doors are secured properly

Then while sitting on the driver's seat, check the following:

- All lights and indicators are in proper working conditions
- Brakes are functional
- Ensure that the driver's seat is in the proper position. The controls should be within reach and the visibility clear in all directions
- Sufficient fuel for travel
- Properly adjusted mirrors
- Car documents, especially your driving license is with you.

Mechanical failures

Brake failure

If your pedal brake suddenly gives way

- a) Pump the brake pedal fast and strongly many times to build pressure
- b) Put your vehicle in low gear as we call this engine brakes
- c) If vehicle still does not come under control, use hand brake.

Tyre burst/flat tyre

Tyre burst or sudden tyre puncture while driving at higher speed could be dangerous, especially of the front wheel tyres as you may lose control.

Avoid panic – hold your steering wheel firmly. Do not brake abruptly and draw the vehicle towards the road side

Sudden loss of acceleration

An accelerator wire break or a break in petrol or current may create sudden loss of acceleration. Do not brake suddenly. Indicate your desire to turn left. Draw vehicle off the road to attend to failure.

Stuck accelerator

This happens due to accelerator pedal or accelerator wire getting stuck. Press clutch immediately and bring gear to neutral. Then switch off the ignition and draw your vehicle to road side, preferably off the road, while activating your hazard lights.

Fire

If you get a strong burning smell, it could be prelude to the possibility of a fire. Switch off ignition, draw the vehicle towards the road off side. Put on the hazard lights. Try to pull out the affected wires with a thick cloth or pleyer. Do not use bare hands. Try to throw sand to put off the emerging fire. If fire is increasing, stay away from the vehicle. Fire can lead to explosion of the fuel tank. Warn other people near your vehicle to stay away.

As per Cyclist:

Dos

- Check that the cycle is fitted with the standard gadgets – bell, brakes, rearview mirror, both front & back mudguard painted white, reflective tapes affixed at the front & back
- Cycle on the extreme left side of the road or use service road, if available
- Avoid busy roads
- Keep a safe distance from fast moving vehicles
- Give proper indications before stopping or turning
- Remember to ride a cycle of your size. The ideal size of the cycle is the one on

which your feet easily reaches the pedal

Don'ts

- **Don't indulge in any kinds of stunts**
- **Don't load the cycle with another person or heavy goods**
- **Don't ride holding on to other fast moving vehicle**
- **Don't ride parallel to another cycle**

As Two- wheeler rider:

Dos

- **Wear a full face good quality helmet approved by the Bureau of Indian Standards**
- **Ensure that the pillion rider also wears a helmet of the same quality**
- **Fasten the helmet tightly**
- **Check the inflation of both front and rear tyres**
- **Ensure that both the front and rear lights are functional**
- **Ensure that the indicators are functional and give proper indications as regards your intentions**
- **Switch off your indicators after turning**
- **Use front and rear brakes simultaneously**
- **Tuck in your clothes and tie your shoe laces properly**
- **Ride in the middle lane**
- **Keep a safe distance from the vehicle ahead**

Don'ts

- **Don't indulge in zig zag riding**
- **Don't overtake from the blind corners of a heavy vehicle or from the left side**
- **Don't apply sudden brakes**
- **Don't carry heavy loads or more than one person as pillion rider**
- **Don't talk on cell phone while riding**
- **Don't ride in the bus lane**
- **Don't allow a minor to ride**
- **Don't indulge in any stunt**