



Railway Crossing Safety Steps

Be mindful of trains. It takes more than a mile for a train to stop. Due to the size of the train, it may appear to be further down the tracks and moving slower than it really is.

WHAT TO DO WHEN APPROACHING RAILWAY CROSSINGS:

- **Approach with care.** Even if crossing lights are not flashing, slow down and be prepared to stop if needed.
- **Approaching trains can be hidden by nearby brush and buildings.** Warn others that you are slowing down or stopping. Turn on four-way flashers.
- **Prepare yourself.** Turn off your fans and radio and open your windows to better hear and have a clearer view if a train is approaching.
- **Stop at the crossing.** Stop no closer than the stop line. If there is no stop line, stop at least 15 feet, but not more than 50 feet, from nearest rail.
- **Look both ways and listen carefully.** Bend forward to see around mirrors and A-pillars. Trains travel from both directions.
- **Look again. Before you move, look again in both directions.**
- **Cross the tracks with care.** Use the highest gear that will let you cross without shifting and clear the tracks as safely and as quickly as possible.
- **Keep going once you start,** even if the lights start to flash or gates come down.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR VEHICLE STALLS OR BECOMES HIGH CENTERED ON THE TRACKS:

- **Get out immediately.** Evacuate your vehicle. (Trains traveling at 60 mph may take a mile or more to stop.)
- **Move away.** If a train is coming, run 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.)
- **Locate the emergency phone number.** If a train is not immediately coming, find the railroad's emergency phone number and the DOT crossing identification number posted near the crossing.
- **Call for help! Call the railroad's emergency phone number, and 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 that crosses the tracks.
- **Your vehicle may be blocking the view of other motorists to see a train approaching.**