

# Pedestrian Sense for Children

## Information for Parents, Guardians, Childcare Providers

Post these safety tips on your fridge at home and review them with your children. And remember, children do what you do, so always practise safe pedestrian behaviour.

1. **Always walk on the inside edge of the sidewalk** away from the curb or roadway. This way, you are less exposed to vehicles.
2. **If there is no sidewalk, always walk facing traffic** so you can see oncoming vehicles and drivers can see you.
3. **Dress to be seen.** Bright clothing makes it easier for drivers to see you during daytime. At dusk, night or in poor weather wear reflective material on your arms, legs, shoes, cap or jacket.
4. **Steps to crossing safely:**
  - **Stop** before stepping onto a road, driveway or lane.
  - **Look** all directions, left-right-left and over your shoulder for vehicles that may be turning. Keep looking for approaching vehicles as you cross.
  - **Listen** for approaching vehicles that aren't visible, but could be coming from a driveway, around a corner or over a hill.
  - **Make eye contact with drivers**, so you know they see you and they know you see them. Pedestrians often think if they can see the driver, the driver can see them.
  - **Check that vehicles have stopped** before you step off the curb or road.
  - **Obey all traffic signs.**
  - **Walk, don't run across a street**, driveway or lane.
5. **Don't wear headphones** when crossing the street. You won't be able to hear signs of danger.
6. **Don't jaywalk.** Cross only at corners or marked crosswalks.
7. **Parked vehicles can be dangerous.** An approaching driver may not see you between parked vehicles, and you may not see moving vehicles. Stop and look left-right-left around the parked vehicle before crossing.
8. **Parking lots require your special attention.** Vehicles can back up or move without warning and drivers may be distracted.
9. **Rules for railway crossings:**
  - **Don't play around railway crossings.** These zones can be dangerous.
  - **Know that trains always have the right of way.** They do not slow down at crossings like vehicles do. Use designated railway crossings and obey all signals and signs.
  - **Wait until a train passes completely before crossing the tracks.** Watch for more than one train, and check if a train is coming from the opposite direction.
  - **Look left-right-left before crossing.** Be extra careful and watch your step when crossing railway tracks.

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