

Tips for Safer Crossing

Protect yourself and your family by using the following tips.

Walk on the Sidewalk or Shoulder

- Stay on the sidewalk or road shoulder. Avoid walking in traffic where there are no sidewalks, shoulders, or crosswalks. If you have to walk on a road that does not have sidewalks, walk facing traffic.

Cross at Intersections

- Most people are hit by cars when they cross the road at places other than intersections.

Look left, right, and left for traffic

- Stop at the curb or road edge and look left, right, and left again for traffic. Stopping at the curb signals drivers that you intend to cross. Cross at traffic signals and use marked crosswalks when available.

See and Be Seen

- Drivers need to see you to avoid you.
- Stay out of the driver's blind spot.
- Make eye contact with drivers when crossing busy streets.
- Wear bright colors or reflective clothing if you are walking near traffic at night.
- Carry a flashlight when walking in the dark.
- Do not let kids play near traffic or cross the street by themselves. Kids are small, and drivers may not see them if they run into the street.

Watch Your Kids

- Children should not cross streets by themselves or be allowed to play or walk near traffic. Kids are small, unpredictable, and cannot judge vehicle distances and speeds.
- When kids get older, teach them three things to do before they cross the street:
 - 1) Try to cross at a corner with a traffic light
 - 2) Stop at the curb
 - 3) Look left, right, then left again to make sure no cars are coming

(National Highway Traffic Safety Administration)