

What if there is no sidewalk?

Hopefully this will never happen. But here's how to handle it: When sidewalks are unavailable, pedestrians should walk on the left-hand edge of the road facing traffic, so you can see the cars coming.

What do all those signals mean?

- ▶ If you're at the crosswalk (with no pedestrian signal) and you are facing a green light, you can proceed across the street. However, remember to pay careful attention to cars around you and make sure you are seen before stepping into the crosswalk.
- ▶ If you see a green arrow . . . that means cars are turning into the crosswalk. So, remember not to enter the crosswalk on a green arrow.
- ▶ A yellow signal or arrow is a warning that there is not enough time for you to cross. That means you need to wait until you see a green light to cross.
- ▶ Red means stop. You definitely don't want to cross.
- ▶ The white walking person symbol indicates that you can cross the road in the direction of the signal. Watch for vehicles!
- ▶ The flashing or steady orange upraised hand or symbol of the words "DON'T WALK" mean, that you must not start to cross.

If you are in a crosswalk at an intersection, it is a good idea to wait for the white walking person or "WALK" sign, look all ways and THEN cross only if SAFE. If the light is already blinking when you approach . . . wait for the next one.

TIPS FOR SAFE WALKING:

- ▶ Only cross at corners so drivers can see you. Never cross mid-block or between parked cars.
- ▶ Always use a crosswalk when it is available.
- ▶ Cross when the light has just turned green so you have time to cross safely.
- ▶ Use the crosswalk push-button signal when available and cross when the signal says to.
- ▶ Look all ways before crossing; look and listen for cars, pedestrians and bicyclists.

- ▶ Watch for cars that are turning left or right when you are crossing.
- ▶ Walk on a sidewalk when it is provided. If you must walk in the street, walk facing traffic and on the left side of the road so you can see cars coming.
- ▶ Make it easy for drivers to see you—dress in light colors, wear reflective material and/or use a flashlight.
- ▶ Remove headphones and put away cell phones and other electronic devices when crossing the street.
- ▶ Watch for vehicles turning or backing out of driveways or coming out of parking lots.
- ▶ Go directly to and from school or the school bus stop. Do not make stops along the way.
- ▶ Avoid walking alone. Walk with a friend or in groups.
- ▶ Be extra careful in bad weather. Drivers may not see you and cars may not be able to stop as fast.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO? DISCUSSION ACTIVITY:

1. If you are walking where there is no sidewalk, what should you do?

answer: Walk on the left side of the street facing traffic so cars can see you.

2. What is a pedestrian?

answer: A pedestrian is someone who is walking or using a human-powered vehicle, such as a wheelchair, skateboard or roller skates.

3. What should you wear if you are going to be walking at night?

answer: Wear light or bright clothing, reflective material and/or use a flashlight.

4. During a walk, you come to an intersection where the "DON'T WALK" hand is flashing. What should you do?

answer: Stop and wait until you see a solid "WALK" sign or the pedestrian symbol. Look all ways and cross only when safe to do so.

5. You are at a crosswalk with a push-button signal. How do you safely cross the street?

answer: Press the button, wait for the "WALK" or white pedestrian symbol and look all ways before crossing.



School's Open Drive Carefully!