



We're all pedestrians.

Each year, more than 2,200 pedestrians are injured or killed by cars on North Carolina streets. Knowing the law and doing your part can help make the roads safer for everyone.



WatchForMeNC.org

WATCH FOR ME NC COALITION PARTNERS

North Carolina Department of Transportation

UNC Highway Safety Research Center,
Pedestrian Bicycle Information Center

City of Raleigh, Raleigh Police

City of Durham, Durham Police

Town of Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill Police

Town of Carrboro, Carrboro Police

Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

Durham Chapel Hill Carrboro

Metropolitan Planning Organization

Triangle J Council of Governments

North Carolina Central University

North Carolina State University

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Duke University

The Watch For Me campaign is federally funded.



What You Need to Know About North Carolina Crosswalks

Laws for drivers and pedestrians



WatchForMeNC.org

What's the problem?

In collisions with cars, pedestrians are the losers.

Pedestrians hit at 40 mph have an 85 percent chance of dying.

We are all pedestrians at some point, and we all share the responsibility to make sure North Carolina's roads are safe.



WHAT'S THE LAW?

- **At intersections controlled by ordinary traffic signals,** pedestrians must obey the same signals as drivers traveling in the same direction.
 - Pedestrians should not start to cross during a red or yellow signal;
 - When crossing with a green signal, pedestrians have the right of way over all vehicles, including those turning across the paths of the pedestrians; and
 - If a traffic signal changes to yellow or red while any pedestrian remains in the street, drivers must allow the pedestrian to complete the crossing safely.
- **At intersections without traffic signals,** pedestrians have the right of way if they are in marked crosswalks or in unmarked crosswalks formed by imaginary lines extending from the sidewalks across the streets.
- **At mid-block crosswalks with no traffic signal,** drivers must yield the way to pedestrians in the crosswalk. (N.C. General Statute 20-173)

- **At intersections with special "Walk" or "Don't Walk" signals,** pedestrians must obey these signals.
 - Pedestrians crossing with special pedestrian signals have the right of way just as they do while crossing with a green light.
- If you are moving through an intersection with a green signal and a pedestrian starts to cross in your path against the red signal, **give a warning with your horn.**
 - The law requires drivers to use the horn whenever a pedestrian may be affected by a turn, stop or start from a parked position. If the pedestrian does not stop, the driver must.

Saving a pedestrian's life is always worth the driver's lost right of way. The safe driver yields right of way to a pedestrian whether the pedestrian is entitled to it or not.

"What's the law?" information obtained from the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles Driver's Handbook, pg. 41-42.

SAFETY IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

 *When you're driving:*

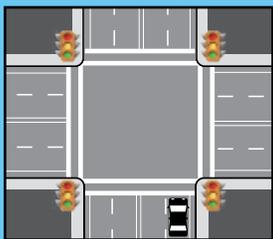
- Yield to people in crosswalks.
- Before making a turn, be sure the path is clear of people walking.
- Look behind your vehicle for people before backing up.
- Keep an eye out for people walking at night.

 *When you're walking:*

- Look for cars in all directions—including those turning—before crossing the street.
- Obey all pedestrian traffic signals.
- At night, walk in well-lit areas, carry a flashlight, or wear something reflective to be more visible.
- Watch for cars backing up in parking lots.
- Cross the street where you have the best view of traffic. At bus stops, cross behind the bus or at the nearest crosswalk.
- Always walk on the sidewalk; if there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far from the road as you can.

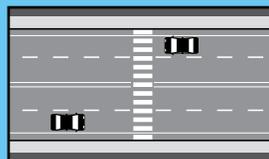
What's a crosswalk?

MARKED CROSSWALKS



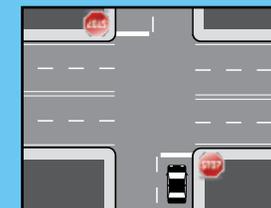
Crosswalks may be marked, either with two parallel white lines or a series of white blocks running across the street (or road).

MID-BLOCK CROSSWALK



These marked crosswalks are located in the middle of a block, not at an intersection.

UNMARKED CROSSWALKS



These crosswalks occur whenever a sidewalk ends at an intersection and continues on the other side. There is an implied crosswalk across the intersection.