

# Pedestrians

**Cross as if your  
life depends on it – it does.**

## Leaving a curb or other place of safety

A pedestrian shall "... not leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle that is so closely approaching that it is impractical for the driver of the vehicle to stop."

## Pedestrian activated beacon

Where a pedestrian activated beacon exists a pedestrian "... shall not leave the curb ... unless the pedestrian-activated beacon has been activated."

## Don't Walk light



A pedestrian shall not start to cross the roadway when facing a 'don't walk' light, either flashing or solid, with or without a countdown timer.

If you are not already in the crosswalk when the countdown timer begins or the 'don't walk' light comes on you can't legally enter the crosswalk.

Provided by the  
Crosswalk Safety Society of Nova Scotia  
[www.crosswalksafety.ca](http://www.crosswalksafety.ca)  
[crosswalksafety@eastlink.ca](mailto:crosswalksafety@eastlink.ca)

# Crosswalk Education Drivers and Pedestrians

Many Nova Scotians do not know laws relating to crosswalks.



Both drivers and pedestrians will benefit by reviewing the issues covered in this brochure.

Once reviewed please share the brochure with others.

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# Definition of a Crosswalk

Crosswalks exist at **ALL**, including 'T' intersections.

Some crosswalks are marked with either two lines or what are commonly referred to as 'zebra' markings. Others are not marked at all.



Unmarked



Marked (lines)



marked ('zebra')

**Whether a crosswalk is marked or not, the same rules and laws apply.**



# Drivers

*"... are required to yield the right of way to a pedestrian lawfully within a crosswalk or stopped facing a crosswalk"*

**Regardless of the location of the crosswalk and regardless of whether it is marked or not marked, DRIVERS ARE REQUIRED TO YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS.**

## Wait until pedestrian fully crosses

Drivers should continue to yield until the pedestrian reaches the opposite curb, or median if one exists. If a driver proceeds across a crosswalk after yielding but before a pedestrian reaches the opposite curb, drivers approaching from the opposite direction may see the vehicle movement and not the pedestrian.

It is safer, and therefore recommended drivers wait until the pedestrian reaches the opposite curb, or median.

## Use of cell phones and text messaging

Except in an emergency a driver may not use a hand-held phone or engage in text messaging while operating a motor vehicle.



**Drive as if the pedestrian is a relative, or your child.**