



Rail Safety Tips

* - If one train passes, make sure that a second train isn't approaching on another track in the same or opposite direction.*

* - Walking or playing on train tracks is dangerous and illegal.*

* - Be prepared to stop at crossings.*

* - Cross train tracks at designated highway/railroad crossings.*

* - Look for the crossbuck sign, lights or gates at crossings.*

* - Listen for warning bells and whistles.*

* - Obey the signals. Never attempt to drive under a gate as it is closing, or around a closed gate.*

* - Obey the directions of a police officer or member of a train crew directing traffic at a crossing.*

* - Cross the tracks in low gear; do not change gears while crossing.*

* - Look both ways before crossing tracks.*

* - Rail Safety messages for kids:**

- ALWAYS Stop! Look! Listen!
- NEVER PLAY around train tracks
- ALWAYS obey the signs and signals
- NEVER THROW things at a train
- ALWAYS stand safely away from the platform edge

- NEVER CROSS in front, through or behind a stopped train
- ALWAYS Stay off! Stay away! Stay alive!

 - Expect a train on any track at any time. Any time is train time; so be cautious any time of the day or night.**

 - Never get trapped on a highway/railway crossing. Wait on the approach until you are sure you can clear the crossing completely.**

 - Never race a train to the crossing because even in a tie, you lose!**

 - If your vehicle stalls on a crossing, get all the occupants out of the vehicle and away from the track immediately. Move quickly to a point at least 30 metres away from the track and the vehicle. This will reduce the chances of being struck by flying debris if the train hits the stalled vehicle.**

 - If possible, attempt to contact the appropriate authorities when a condition occurs at a highway/railway crossing that may be dangerous to highway or rail traffic. Many railway companies post emergency numbers prominently at crossings. If this is not the case, report the unsafe condition to local police. Always ensure that you, and any other in the area, are safely away from the danger first!**

 - Half of all night time highway/railway crossing collisions involve vehicles hitting the side of a train. During poor weather or night time conditions, be especially alert for Advance Warning and Railway Crossing Signs. You should be able to stop within the distance illuminated by your headlights.**

 - If you see a train approaching, be prepared to stop. Most motorists seriously misjudge the speed of trains, commonly believing that they are traveling much more slowly than they actually are or incorrectly assuming that the train must slow down at highway/railway crossings. If you have any doubt, stop and wait for the train to pass.**

 - Do not pass while approaching a highway/railway crossing.**

 - Never park your vehicle within 15 metres of a highway/railway crossing. Doing so, may block another driver's view of Advance Warning Signs, Railway Crossing Signs, electronic or mechanical signals and approaching trains.**

 - On private roads, crossings may not be marked, or may be marked by non-standard signs. Be Alert!**

 - Never make a U-turn in the vicinity of a highway/railway crossing.**

 - Two-wheeled vehicles must slow down for highway/railway crossings. Railway tracks are extremely slippery and the potential exists for a wheel to get caught in the crossing. Always attempt to cross at a minimum angle of 45 degrees. Stay in your own lane and be aware that the traffic behind you may not have to slow down as much as you do.**

 - Pedestrians must obey crossing laws just as drivers do and must yield the right-of-way at highway/railway crossing. Whether on foot or in a vehicle, the only place you should ever cross railway tracks is at an authorized and properly marked crossing.**

 - When crossing a track, do not step on the rail. It is a smooth metal surface and you could easily slip. Always step across each rail to where the footing is more stable. Watch for loose rock and debris.**

 - Never trespass on railway property. It can be deadly. All railway tracks, bridges and tunnels, yards and equipment, are strictly off limits to unauthorized individuals. Trespassers are subject to arrest and fines.**

 - Never throw objects at trains. You may injure the passengers or crew on board. There is also the danger that objects thrown at a train will bounce off and come flying back, injuring anyone else nearby.**

 - Never place objects on the tracks. It is not only illegal but also dangerous. Trains can derail, causing death and serious injury.**

 - Never try to climb through or under a train that is stopped at a crossing. Trains can move suddenly and without warning.**

 - Do not use any audio device, such as a portable radio, CD player or cellular phone, as you approach a crossing. It will interfere with your ability to hear an approaching train. Take the time to Stop, Look and Listen.**

 - Trains are wider than the tracks! Locomotives and railway cars can extend beyond the rails on both sides. When a train is passing, stay at least five metres from the tracks, behind any gates or stop lines marked on the pavement.**

 - Safety precautions at station platforms:**

- Most platforms have a safety line painted parallel to the edge. Stand well back of the safety line or platform edge.
- Keep young children in sight and close to you.
- Be careful of any gaps that may exist between the platform and the train while boarding.
- ALWAYS enter or exit a station platform at designated areas.

- NEVER cross in front of or behind a stopped train. It is both dangerous and unlawful.
- Always obey railway crossing warning signs and signals.
- In multi-track areas, be vigilant to other train movements on other tracks in either direction.

* Information from CN Rail's "All Aboard for Safety" pamphlet.

** Information from Operation Lifesaver