Operation Lifesaver Presents:

In the Interest of Safety
As you approach a railroad crossing, always expect a train.

Freight trains do not run on a schedule. Trains can run on any track, at any time, from either direction.
Trains Can’t Swerve

Trains don’t have a steering wheel, so they can’t go right or left.
Approximate Stopping Distance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
<th>Stopping Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>200 Ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Bus</td>
<td>230 Ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Truck</td>
<td>300 Ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Freight Train</td>
<td>&gt;5280 Ft.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When traveling at 55 MPH:
- Stopping distance of the average freight train is a mile or more. That’s 18 football fields.
- Trains can stop, but they can’t stop quickly.

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What Will You Do if You Stall on the Tracks?

1. Get out!
2. Get away from the tracks, even if you do not see a train.
3. Locate the Emergency Notification System sign and call the number provided, telling them about the stalled vehicle.
4. If a train is approaching, run toward the train but away from the tracks at a 45 degree angle. If you run in the same direction a train is traveling, you could be injured by flying debris.
In case of emergency, look for this blue sign that shows an emergency phone number.

- Call the number and give the Department of Transportation (DOT) crossing number found on the sign to identify your location.

- This sign may be located on the crossbuck post or signal post.

- If you cannot locate the ENS sign, call 911 or the local police.

REPORT EMERGENCY OR PROBLEM TO 1-800-555-5555 CROSSING 836 597 H
Flashing red lights warn of an approaching train and must be treated like a stop sign.

- At crossings with flashing lights and no gates, you must stop. Proceed only when it is safe to do so.
- Trains always have the right-of-way.
Driving Around the Gate

- Flashing lights with gates close the road temporarily when a train is approaching.
- Cross only when the gates are up completely and the lights have stopped flashing.
- Driving around lowered gates is dangerous and illegal.
Multiple Tracks

Multiple Tracks Mean Multiple Trains

Check for a multiple track sign, which informs the driver how many sets of tracks are at that crossing.

Always make sure all tracks are clear before crossing any track. If there is a train in the crossing, after that train clears, make sure another train is not approaching on any other track from either direction.
There May Not Always Be a Train Horn

Some communities have established Quiet Zones where train horns will not routinely sound.

Look for “No Train Horn” signs that should be attached to the Advance Warning Sign.

For more information on the Federal Train Horn Rule and Quiet Zones, visit www.fra.dot.gov.
Airplanes look like they are almost hanging in mid-air but their landing speed is **over 150 mph**. The effects of the optical illusion are the same with trains.

Because of their size, trains **appear** to be much further away and traveling much slower than their actual speed.
Three Don’ts

1. Don’t pass on the tracks
2. Don’t shift gears while crossing the tracks
3. Don’t stop on the tracks (it’s illegal)

When you stop, make sure the front and the back of your vehicle are 15 feet from the nearest rail.
Trains can carry loads that are wider than the railroad cars themselves. They can have chains, straps, or other equipment swinging loose from the train. If you are standing too close, you could get hit.
Distractions

Don’t text while driving!

Multi-tasking behind the wheel can be dangerous and even deadly—this is especially true around train tracks.

Avoid driving when tired or after drinking alcohol or taking medications (prescriptions or over the counter) that can blur your vision, cause drowsiness, and impair reaction time.

When approaching railroad tracks, keep your full attention on the road and your surroundings.
Passenger Trains – The Platform

Trains can run on any track, at any time, from either direction, and can be very quiet.

- Obey all signs, announcements, and signals.
- Stand behind the painted or raised platform edge markings.
- Never go down onto tracks – they may be electrified. If you drop something, alert a station agent, police officer, or other company personnel.
Railroad property is private property.

Being on railroad tracks or property without permission is trespassing, even if a sign is not posted.

Taking a shortcut across the tracks can get you seriously injured or killed.
Recreational activities do not mix with railroad tracks—you are trespassing.

Listening to music near railroad tracks may prevent you from hearing the train horn.

Train crews are not expecting people on or near the tracks. You may not be able to hear a warning in time.
Where Do You Cross the Tracks?

Pedestrians should cross tracks at a designated crossing, either where cars cross, or at a pedestrian overpass or underpass.

Use designated sidewalks when available.
Do Not Walk on Tracks

Walking on railroad tracks is dangerous and illegal.

• Many people believe they will always hear a train coming, but some trains are silent and difficult to hear.

• Engaging in conversation, speaking on a cell phone, and listening to music are all potentially deadly distractions.

• Trains can run on any track, at any time, from either direction.

• Walking, lying, or sitting on the tracks can cause injuries and even death.

• Tracks are for trains, not for people—Stay Off! Stay Away! Stay Alive!
Train and Car Collisions

- Two construction workers were late for work.
- They approached a properly operating railroad crossing with the gates down.
- After waiting for the train to pass, they drove around the lowered crossing gates thinking it was safe.
- They were struck by an oncoming train on the other tracks.

Never drive around lowered gates.
Look, Listen & Live

Look both ways!

Listen for the sound of a train!

If you look and listen, you will live!
IT CAN TAKE THE LENGTH OF 18 FOOTBALL FIELDS TO STOP A TRAIN.

See Tracks? Think Train!

SeeTracksThinkTrain.org
Thank You