Pedestrian crossings

When you see a pedestrian crossing, check your mirror then look for pedestrians near the crossing and consider whether you need to slow down or stop. Take extra care if you can't see one side of the crossing, perhaps due to parked cars. Always assume there are pedestrians in hidden areas.

You must not park on the white zig-zag lines that lead up to a crossing or overtake the vehicle closest to it, whether it is moving or has stopped to give way. Always keep the crossing area clear.



You should always give way to pedestrians who are on a crossing, even if your traffic lights are green.

While you are waiting, apply your handbrake in case you get shunted from behind and don't rev your engine as that will unnerve pedestrians.

Don't wave pedestrians across because it may make them rush and miss seeing a danger, such as an overtaking car.

Before moving off from the crossing, check the pavements behind you in case there are pedestrians there, rushing to reach the crossing before the traffic starts to move.

Look for and expect to find crossings in areas where there are lots of pedestrians, such as in town centres, near schools etc.

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The different pedestrian crossings...

ZEBRA CROSSING: If a pedestrian is waiting to cross, you should stop at the give way line. Wait until the pedestrian is on the opposite pavement before you move off. If the crossing has a central reservation, you may proceed once the pedestrian reaches it.



Traffic light controlled pedestrian crossings

PELICAN CROSSING: When approaching, try to predict what might happen to the traffic lights and adjust your speed accordingly. Are there pedestrians nearby who



could have pressed the button? If the flashing amber light is showing, motorists can proceed as long as no pedestrians are still crossing.

PUFFIN CROSSING: When the pedestrian presses the button, sensors will hold the lights on red until they are clear of the crossing. There is no flashing amber phase - the normal traffic light sequence applies.

TOUCAN CROSSING: Similar to the pelican, except there is no flashing amber phase and cyclists can ride across without having to dismount.

EQUSTRIAN CROSSING: As above, except it is horse riders who don't have to dismount. There will be a push button at horse rider height.

JUNCTION CROSSINGS: These are found at some traffic light-controlled junctions. Pressing the button will make the 'walking man' lights illuminate at the end of a traffic light sequence but will not interrupt the sequence. You can identify these crossings by the fact that they don't have white zig zag lines.

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