

Crossing Tips

Pedestrian Signals help to assign right-of-way at intersections. It is important, however, to always be cautious when crossing a street.

Always cross defensively. Watch for the mistakes that drivers make.

- Is the driver going to stop at the red light?
- Is the driver making a turn watching for you, or just looking for a gap in traffic?

If there are vehicles around, always make eye contact with the drivers before stepping out in front of their vehicle. Even if they are stopped, you want to make sure they know you are there so they do not start moving again while you are crossing.

If you think a pedestrian signal is not working properly, please report that to us so we can fix it promptly. Please call the Traffic Engineering Shop at 608-266-4767

For more information about the pedestrian signals, or other traffic issues, contact:

City of Madison
Traffic Engineering
215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd, Suite 100
PO Box 2986
Madison, WI 53701-2986

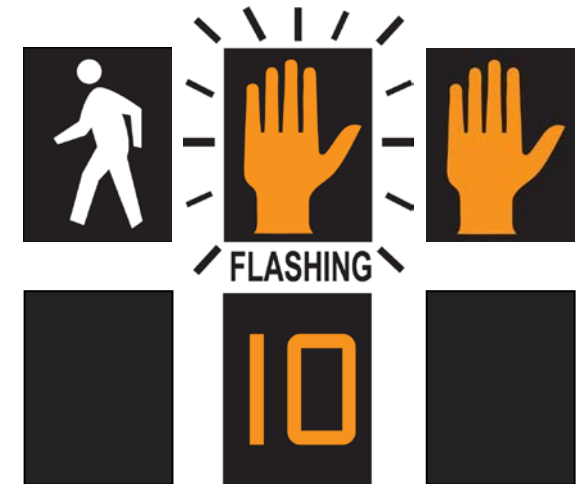
608-266-4761 (voice)
866-704-3215 (TTY)
608-267-1158 (fax)

www.cityofmadison.com/trafficengineering



How Pedestrian Signals Work

Important Facts For Pedestrians



Pedestrian Traffic Signal Information

The meaning of the symbols



START CROSSING

**Watch For
Turning Vehicles**

Only start to cross the street when the white walking person symbol or the white WALK signal is lit.

Make sure to look for traffic before stepping into the street. Drivers might run the red light or be turning and not look for pedestrians first.



**DON'T START
Finish Crossing
If Started**



**TIME REMAINING
To Finish Crossing**

Do NOT start to cross when you see a flashing or steady orange hand symbol or orange DON'T WALK signal.

When you see an orange countdown number, and/or flashing orange hand symbol:

- Do not start to cross.
- If you have already started, continue crossing.
 - The countdown number is the time you have left to either finish crossing the street OR to reach the next median refuge zone.
- Time to cross equals the white WALK time plus the flashing orange DON'T WALK time.

Pedestrian Traffic Signal Information

The meaning of the symbols



**DO NOT START
TO CROSS**

Wait for



Do NOT start to cross when you see a steady orange hand symbol or orange DON'T WALK signal. Wait until the white walking person symbol or the white WALK signal is lit before starting to cross.

PUSH BUTTON



Wait for



to Cross

Always look to see if there is a push button for the pedestrian signal. If there is, then you have to push the button to get the WALK signal to come on.

If you do not push the button, the amount of green time that comes up for car drivers will not be long enough for a pedestrian to be able to safely walk across the street. At these locations the WALK light will not come on with the green for the cars. You have to push the button to tell the signal control equipment that a pedestrian is waiting to cross the street and to provide enough time for you as a pedestrian to cross. This is indicated by showing the WALK signal.

If there is no push button, the WALK signal should come on with every green signal.

Crosswalks with Traffic Signals

That Do Not Have Pedestrian Signals

Some crosswalks at intersections with traffic signals do not have pedestrian signals. To cross, simply obey the RED – YELLOW – GREEN signals facing you in the direction you wish to cross.

If there is a push button present, but no pedestrian signals, push the button and wait for the GREEN signal to come on.

If the signal is GREEN you may start to cross. Make sure to look for traffic before stepping into the street. Drivers might run the red light or be turning and not look for pedestrians first.

If the signal is YELLOW, do not start to cross. There will not be enough time for you to safely get to the other side or to a median refuge area.

If the signal changes from GREEN to YELLOW after you have started to cross, keep crossing, but stop at a median refuge area if there is one.

If the signal is RED, do not start to cross if there is traffic on the street you want to cross. You can cross against the RED if there are no pedestrian signals, but only if you can complete your crossing without interfering with other traffic. It is your responsibility in this case to yield to other traffic on the street you want to cross. In this situation drivers do not have to yield to you.