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.
Approximate Stopping Distance

When traveling at 55 MPH:
- Car: 200 Ft.
- Bus: 230 Ft.
- Semi-Truck: 300 Ft.
- Freight Train: 600 Ft.
- More than 5,280 Ft.

Trains can stop when traveling at 55 MPH, but they can’t stop quickly.

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.
**Emergency Notification System (ENS)**

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.

---

**Approaching a Passive Crossing**

- You may see a round yellow Advance Warning sign that warns drivers that railroad tracks are ahead.
- Pavement markings R X R, may be near the Advance Warning sign.
- There is a no passing zone within 100 feet of the approach to a railroad crossing.
Passive Crossing

- A passive crossing does not have flashing lights or automatic gates.
- The crossbuck sign, required at all public railroad crossings, means to yield the right of way to the train.
- A painted line identifies the safe place to stop when a train is approaching. If there isn’t a line, stop no closer than 15 feet and no farther than 50 feet from the closest rail.

Active Crossing – Warning Devices

Flash 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 if it is safe to do so.
- Trains always have the right-of-way.
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.

Stay Off! Stay Away! Stay Alive!

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.
Trespassing

• 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.

Stay Off!
Stay Away!
Stay Alive!®

Working Near Tracks

If your job requires you to dig, survey, inspect, or work near the tracks, contact the railroad before the work begins. The railroad company will be able to assist you in working safely near their tracks.
Train and Truck Collisions

Collisions between tractor-trailers and trains cause severe damage. This truck was shoved a great distance from the crossing.

Reasons a tractor-trailer could get hit by a train:

- The driver may fail to look for an oncoming train.
- The driver may try to beat the train.
- Low clearance can cause the trailer to get hung up on the tracks.