

Driving and Being Road-Wise FactSheet

HS04-038C (04-10)

Test Your Road IQ and Sharing the Road Skills.

Can you read the road? You may be surprised at what you learn!

1. True or False? Yellow lines on the road separate traffic traveling in the same direction.

Answer: False. Yellow lines on the highway, whether solid or dashed, generally separate traffic going in opposite directions.

2. Do you know what a yellow EXIT ONLY panel below a green freeway guide sign means?

Answer: A yellow EXIT ONLY panel below a green freeway sign means that the lane under the panel becomes the exit ramp. If you remain in the lane, you must exit the freeway.

3. What does a flashing DON'T WALK or a don't walk symbol tell you?

Answer: A flashing don't WALK or a don't walk symbol tells pedestrians already in the street that they should continue across; but tells pedestrians still on the curb not to start walking. Once the signal stops flashing and shows a steady DON'T WALK, pedestrians should not leave the curb.

4. Are you permitted to cross a double solid yellow line?

Answer: The only time that you are permitted to cross a double solid yellow line is when you are making a left turn into a driveway or business entrance.

5. What does a pentagon-shaped sign mean?

Answer: The pentagon-shaped sign with the point to the top warns us to watch for school children. The new optional color for these signs – fluorescent yellow-green – is much easier to see in low light and foggy/rainy weather.

6. What do the familiar red, white, and blue shield signs tell drivers?

Answer: The familiar red, white, and blue shield sign tells drivers they are traveling on an Interstate

Highway. Even-numbered roads with 2 digits run east-west; north-south Interstates have odd numbers with two digits. Interstate routes with three digits are beltways, loops, or spur routes.

7. What is the purpose of the green and white “mile markers”?

Answer: The green and white “mile markers” help us gauge how far we've driven, or how far we need to drive through a state. They can also be used to identify location in case of an emergency.

8. What are the orange diamond signs used for?

Answer: Orange diamond signs are construction signs that are specifically used to warn drivers about construction and work zone activity. Remember that in a work zone, a flagger has the same authority as a regulatory sign, meaning you can be cited for disobeying his or her directions. Don't forget to slow down and give road crews a break.

9. In a “weaving section” where traffic is entering and exiting a freeway interchange, who is required to yield the right of way?

Answer: One of the most hazardous lane-management situations occurs when freeway traffic is exiting and entering in the same area. During this “weaving” situation, vehicles entering the freeway have to yield the right of way to thru traffic and exiting traffic.

10. What type of roadway are you traveling on if you are on Interstate I-494?

Answer: If you're on an Interstate highway with the number I-494, you are probably traveling on a beltway, loop or spur.

Remember to practice safety. Don't learn it by accident.

This factsheet was published with information from the Network of Employers for Traffic Safety and the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (TDI-DWC) and is considered accurate at the time of publication.