

# STREET SMARTS

## WALK SAFE

When you're walking to and from work or school, it's easy to be distracted or have your mind wander. That can be dangerous, which is why you should always remain alert and rely on these basic street smarts to stay safe.

### WALK THIS WAY

- ▶ Always **look left, right and left** before crossing.
- ▶ **Use sidewalks** whenever they're available. If they aren't, walk on the left side of the road facing traffic.
- ▶ If possible, cross streets only at marked crosswalks or intersections. Crossing anywhere else is dangerous and may be illegal in that area.
- ▶ Remain on the curb while waiting to cross, and **stand clear** of things like parked cars and hedges so drivers can see you.
- ▶ Obey all traffic signals, including walk/don't walk signals and pedestrian directional signs.
- ▶ **Make eye contact** with drivers so you know they see you and understand your intention.
- ▶ Don't wear headphones or talk on a cell phone while crossing.
- ▶ Be aware of **buses** that may be traveling in specially designated lanes that flow in reverse of regular traffic.
- ▶ Assume traffic is traveling in both directions, even on one-way streets.

- ▶ Remain alert for any vehicles, including bicycles, that may be passing a stopped vehicle or bus.
- ▶ If you're walking at **night**, wear reflective clothing and carry a flashlight. Always cross a street in a well-lit area.
- ▶ Be aware of your surroundings so you can identify any potential threats to your personal safety.

## FOLLOW THE SIGNALS

At many crosswalks, **walk/don't walk signals** help guide you as to when it's safe to cross a street. These signals can use symbols like a raised hand, a walking person or simply the words walk/don't walk.



A **WALK** signal means you can start crossing the roadway once you look left, right and left.



A **FLASHING** signal indicates you should *not* start crossing. If you have started walking, continue to cross.



A **DON'T WALK** signal means just that—don't cross the street.

For more comprehensive information and resources, visit [commuteinfo.org](http://commuteinfo.org)

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DONT BE A **ROAD ZOMBIE**

*Help keep others safe while also helping the environment.  
Pass this card along to a friend, family member or fellow walker.*