



# Rail Safety Tips for Passenger and Commuter Rail Users

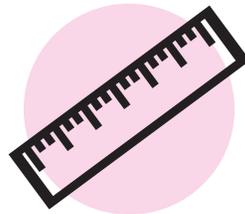
Every day, hundreds of thousands of Canadians depend on passenger and commuter trains to get them where they're going. Regardless of whether you are taking a passenger train across the country, or a commuter train to work, getting there safely is a priority. Be sure to follow these tips—they could save your life.

[OperationLifesaver.ca](http://OperationLifesaver.ca)  
[LookListenLive.ca](http://LookListenLive.ca)



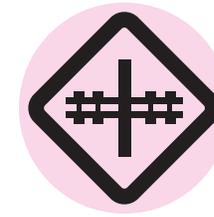
## STAY OFF THE TRACKS

Never walk on train tracks. Trains can come at any time, from either direction. It's also hard to judge how far away a train is or its speed. Trains can travel as fast as 160 km/h and take up to 2 kilometres to come to a complete stop—that's the length of 18 football fields. Passenger and commuter trains also run more frequently than freight trains and use adjacent tracks at the same time, with trains running in either direction.



## KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM THE PLATFORM EDGE

Stand well behind the platform edge or the safety line painted along the edge. Keep a close eye on children. When boarding, be careful of any gaps between the platform and the train. And always enter or exit stations at designated areas. Never cross in front of or behind a stopped train—it is both against the law and dangerous.



## OBEY ALL RAILWAY SIGNS AND SIGNALS

When approaching either a train station, be sure to obey all railway signs and warning devices, such as lights, bells and gates. Some commuter rail services may have unique traffic control devices, such as gates across the lanes of the intersection in both directions, median barriers or pedestrian gates. Heed them all! Whenever you're approaching a designated crossing, look and listen for trains before proceeding.

### REMEMBER:

- An optical illusion makes it hard to determine a train's distance from you, or its speed. Trains are usually a lot closer than they seem—and travel a lot faster.
- Train movements may be unpredictable. They can move in either direction, regardless of whether they have a locomotive at each end or not.

# Know the Signs and Signals

## FLASHING RED LIGHTS

STOP when flashing. DO NOT proceed until the lights stop flashing. If the lights begin flashing after you start crossing the tracks, keep going.

## CROSSBUCK

YIELD if a train is approaching. Trains always have the right-of-way.

## LOWERING GATES AND FLASHING RED LIGHTS

A train is approaching (even if you don't see it yet). DO NOT proceed until the lights turn off and the gates go up. It's illegal and dangerous to go around lowered gates.

## MULTIPLE TRACKS

Multiple tracks are present. Multiple tracks may mean multiple trains. Wait until you can see clearly down the tracks in both directions before proceeding.



## PAVEMENT MARKINGS

A large "X" and a wide white line on the road mean you're approaching a railway crossing. Stay behind the white stop line while waiting for a train to pass. No stop line? Stop at least 5 metres from the nearest rail.

## LOW GROUND CLEARANCE CROSSING

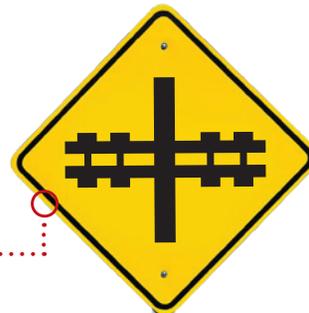
Raised crossing ahead. If you drive anything low to the ground — like a bus, truck, sports car or trailer — you're at risk of getting hung up on the tracks. DO NOT proceed until you know your vehicle will clear the tracks.

## EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SIGN (ENS)

This is the first phone number to call if a vehicle is stuck or stalls on the tracks (this number may also be found on the signal house). You can also dial it to report people, vehicles or debris on the tracks, as well as damaged signs or signals, or obstructed views. The mile post and subdivision listed on the sign will help the railway to identify your location.

## ADVANCE WARNING

Slow down, look, listen, and BE PREPARED TO STOP. Typically, this is the first sign you see when approaching a railway crossing.



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