

What parents need to know

Children are NOT small adults!

- ✧ Children often act before they think.
- ✧ Children cannot judge how fast cars are moving towards them and think that cars stop instantly.
- ✧ Children are easily distracted and act unpredictably.
- ✧ Children forget to look at traffic while they play.
- ✧ Children are shorter than adults and cannot see over cars, bushes, or other objects.

School zones and school children

The law says that when a school bus is stopped for children and its lights are flashing, traffic — **on both sides of an undivided roadway** — **must stop**. Some drivers do not know about this law or ignore it and pass the bus without stopping.

Drivers should slow down in school zones, near playgrounds, or where they see children.

Expect the unexpected!



Everyone can take steps for safety

- ☀ At **NIGHT**, lights make you the most visible. Just wearing white is not enough to be seen by drivers.
- ☀ Carry a flashlight or wear flashers.
- ☀ Use retroreflective materials which are available in department or sporting goods stores. Children like them because they reflect light and can be attached to clothing, backpacks, and other items.
- ☀ During the **DAY**, at **DAWN** and **DUSK**, the best colors to wear are fluorescent yellow, orange, green, and pink.
- ☀ Where there are no sidewalks, **walk facing traffic**.

When walking at night, carry a flashlight or wear flashers.

Remember that these colors do not work at night!

Where there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic.
Be Safe!
Be Seen!

BE SAFE! BE SEEN!



Beth Israel Deaconess
Medical Center

Developed by Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Trauma Center and Outreach
www.bidmc.harvard.edu/surgery/trauma/index.html
Boston, MA, June 2003

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PEDESTRIAN,
WALK SAFELY



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Walking safely is important for the whole family

We all walk at some time during the day—when walking on the sidewalk or crossing a street and even when getting off a bus or out of a car.

Thousands of people walking are victims of traffic crashes. You can prevent being the next victim if you follow these tips when crossing the street.

Always cross a street at the corner.

☀ **Stop** at the curb.

☀ Look to your **left**, then to your **right** and then **left again**.

☀ When clear, start crossing.

☀ **Keep looking** as you cross.



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Obey traffic signals



Do NOT Walk
(STEADY symbol of hand)

This means **STAY ON THE SIDEWALK**. Do not cross. It is the driver's turn to go.

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Walk (symbol of figure)

This means it is your turn to cross.

Do not depend on anybody or anything.

Remember, look left, right, left again.

Now, cross, but keep looking.

Always remain ALERT.

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(FLASHING symbol of hand)

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Each year, tens of thousands of children and adults are killed and injured when they are hit by motor vehicles.

They are hit by cars most often when playing near home. They tend to run into the street in the middle of the block, where drivers do not expect them.

Children under the age of ten should cross the street with an adult or older child.

Remember: Children will do what you do, so **TEACH BY EXAMPLE.**

Kids on the move

Children in kindergarten through third grade are learning to become independent. They cannot make judgements about traffic by themselves yet. Therefore, they should cross the road with an adult or older child.

Set a good example. When crossing the street with a child, always remind the child

- ☀ **NEVER to run out** from between parked cars
- ☀ **NEVER to play in** the street

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