



Think & Drive

FACT SHEET

In 2006, there were 39 pedestrian fatalities and 1,307 injuries on Alberta roads. These tragedies can be completely prevented if pedestrians and drivers follow these simple tips:

Tips for Pedestrians:

- Always use crosswalks and pedestrian-activated signals when they are available and cross only at intersections if they are not.
- Never jaywalk. Drivers are not anticipating pedestrians crossing in the middle of the street so they may not have enough time to avoid hitting you.
- Wear bright reflective clothing at night, in the evening and in the early morning hours.
- Walk on the sidewalk. If there are no sidewalks, walk off the road facing traffic.
- Watch for cyclists and vehicles backing up in driveways or parking lots.
- When crossing driveways and alleys, always look left and right just as you would when crossing a street.
- When crossing a street, walk, don't run. This will allow drivers more time to see and come to a safe stop.
- Use the POINT, PAUSE and PROCEED pedestrian safety method for crossing the street: Look all four ways: left, right, ahead and then behind.

Watch for vehicles turning right on a red light. They may not be looking for you. Most pedestrians overestimate the distance at which drivers can see them. Alcohol can limit your ability to judge situations - even as a pedestrian.

POINT across the road with your arm to indicate to drivers you want to cross.

PAUSE until all vehicles are stopped. Assume drivers don't see you and never step out into traffic until you have made eye contact with drivers and you are certain they will stop. When you step off the curb in front of a vehicle that has stopped to let you cross, don't proceed until you have checked the traffic in all other lanes. Drivers may not realize other vehicles have stopped for pedestrians.

PROCEED with your arm extended, when all vehicles have stopped. Keep scanning both sides of the road as you cross. Stop in the middle of the crosswalk if you have to and make sure all oncoming vehicles intend to stop.

Don't let children run out ahead of you. Children are less visible than adults and children cannot always exercise good judgment about safety - so stay close enough to pull them to safety.