

Pedestrians First at Road Crossings

1 Follow the Rules at Pedestrian Crossings

There is no end to traffic accidents at road crossings that result in the death of pedestrians. They have the right of way on pedestrian crossings and drivers are obliged to slow down or stop before such pedestrian crossings.

In addition, a large number of traffic accidents result in the death of pedestrians violating laws and regulations, such as crossing a road other than at a pedestrian crossing, crossing a street diagonally, or crossing a road immediately in front of or behind a moving vehicle.

Both drivers and pedestrians should make sure to follow traffic rules to ensure traffic safety.

2 Traffic Rules near Pedestrian Crossings, etc.

○ Rules for drivers

When approaching a pedestrian crossing or a bicycle crossing lane, drivers must slow down, so that their vehicles can stop in front of it, unless there are clearly no pedestrians or cyclists crossing the road. Drivers are also required to stop their vehicles in front of a pedestrian crossing or a bicycle crossing lane (in front of a stop line, if any) and yield to pedestrians or cyclists when they are crossing or about to cross a pedestrian crossing or a bicycle crossing lane.



Drivers must stop their vehicles before overtaking another vehicle that is stopping at or immediately in front of a pedestrian crossing or a bicycle crossing lane on one side before pulling in front of it.

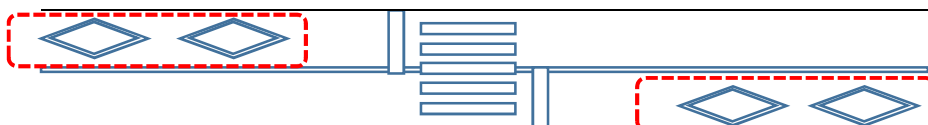
Drivers must not overtake another vehicle on one side and pull in front of it over a pedestrian crossing or a bicycle crossing line or on a part of the road within 30 meters before a pedestrian crossing or a bicycle crossing lane.

Drivers must not stop or park their vehicles on a pedestrian crossing or a bicycle crossing lane, as well as areas within five meters in front of and behind the outside edges of a pedestrian crossing or a bicycle crossing lane, except to stop at a red light or to prevent a road hazard.

Drivers must not prevent a pedestrian from proceeding when the pedestrian is crossing an intersection without a pedestrian crossing or any place in its vicinity.

[Markings indicating pedestrian crossings]

Rhombus-shaped markings indicate pedestrian crossings or bicycle crossing lanes ahead.



Pedestrian crossings or bicycle crossing lanes ahead

○ Rules for pedestrians

When there is a pedestrian crossing or an intersection with traffic lights nearby, pedestrians must cross at the crossing or the intersection. When there is a pedestrian overpass or underpass nearby, pedestrians are encouraged to use it whenever possible.

Pedestrians must not cross a road where there is a road sign of "no crossing by pedestrians." Pedestrians must also not cross a road diagonally. It is extremely dangerous to cross a road with guardrails along the road. In addition, pedestrians should refrain from entering bicycle crossing lanes.



3 Punishments, etc.

- Violating the right of way of pedestrians and cyclists at pedestrian crossings and bicycle crossing lanes

Punishment: Imprisonment for not more than 3 months or a fine of not more than 50,000 yen

Penalties: 12,000 yen for oversized motor vehicles, 9,000 yen for standard motor vehicles, 7,000 yen for motorcycles, and 6,000 yen for motorized bicycles

Penalty points: 2 pts.

- Violating the right of way of pedestrians at intersections without pedestrian crossings

Punishment: Imprisonment for not more than 3 months or a fine of not more than 50,000 yen

Penalties: 12,000 yen for oversized motor vehicles, 9,000 yen for standard motor vehicles, 7,000 yen for motorcycles, and 6,000 yen for motorized bicycles

Penalty points: 2 pts.