



Level crossing safety

Every life lost and injury on the rail network is a tragedy. It's crucial to remember that trains can't stop quickly or swerve, so stay alert and obey the signs and signals.

The facts

- **Trains always have the right of way.**
Freight trains can take up to 2km to stop - it's up to us to stay out of their way.
- **The only place you can legally cross train tracks is at a designated level crossing.**
Whether you're in a car, on foot or on a bike, if you cross the tracks anywhere other than a designated level crossing, you're trespassing and can face fines.
- **Seeing you on the tracks can cause real trauma to oncoming train drivers.**
What might seem like an innocent, harmless or fun act for you, could lead to a lifetime of impact for a train driver.

What does a level crossing look like?

As you approach a level crossing, you'll see warning signs. Many will also have flashing lights, bells or sirens and boom gates for added protection.

There are over 20,000 level crossings in Australia, but only around 20% have flashing lights and/or boom gates. The rest have a Stop or Give Way sign, so you have to check for trains yourself.

What do I do at a level crossing?

- Obey the road rules and signs.
- Slow down as you approach and be prepared to stop.
- Never cross if you can see a train.
- Don't assume it's safe to cross because a train has gone past but lights are still flashing – there might be a second train.
- Once any gates are up and lights have stopped flashing, look both ways before you cross.
- If you're in a car, never queue across the tracks and only enter the level crossing if you can see the other side is clear for you to exit.
- Always look, listen and think before you cross the tracks.



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