

Things to Remember for Motorists and Pedestrians

Motorists

1. You can encounter pedestrians anytime and anywhere - even in places where they are not supposed to be found
2. Pedestrians can be very hard to see - especially in bad weather or at night
 - You must keep a lookout and slow down if you can't see clearly
3. Stop for pedestrians who are in a crosswalk, even if it is not marked
 - When you stop for a pedestrian in a crosswalk, stop well back so that drivers in the other lanes can also see the pedestrian in time to stop
4. Cars stopped in the street may be stopped to allow a pedestrian to cross
 - Do not pass if there is any doubt!
5. Don't assume that pedestrians see you or that they will act predictably
 - They may be physically or mentally impaired - or drunk!
6. When you are turning, you often will have to wait for a "gap" in traffic
 - Beware that while you are watching for that "gap", pedestrians may have moved into your intended path
 - Don't run someone down
7. Be especially attentive around schools and in neighborhoods where children are active
 - Drive there like you would like people to drive in front of your own home!

Pedestrians

1. Be predictable
 - Stay off freeways and restricted zones
 - Use sidewalks where provided
 - Cross or enter streets where it is legal to do so
2. Where no sidewalks are provided, it is usually safer to walk facing road traffic
3. Make it easy for drivers to see you
 - Dress in light colors and wear reflective material
 - It might be wise to carry a flashlight in very dark areas
4. Buy "workout" clothes that incorporate reflective materials and that are highly visible
5. Be wary
 - Most drivers are nice people, but don't count on them paying attention
 - Watch out - make eye contact to be sure they see you!
6. Alcohol and drugs can impair your ability to walk safely, just like they do a person's ability to drive.
7. Use extra caution when crossing multiple lane, higher speed streets.

Source: Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center
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