Unit Two

Language of the Road

What Do You Know About Signs, Signals, & Pavement Markings ?

Unit Two Objectives

What has millions of miles & over 200,000,000 drivers and vehicles?

Can a driver know if an interstate road is going North to South or East to West?

What should a driver do at a flashing red signal?

Can a driver cross a single solid white line?

What is black and white and sometimes red all over?

What Do You Know About Signs, Signals, & Pavement Markings ?

Unit Two Objectives

- Student will be able to describe the laws for sharing the road safely with emergency vehicles, school buses, pedestrians, motorcycles, and bicycles.
- Student will be able to define the concept of the Highway Transportation System and evaluate what impact that concept has on safe driving.
- Students will be able to describe the function of signs, signals, and lane markings and the potential consequences of not following those markings.
- Students will evaluate how traffic control devices impact safety including right of way and risk and the impact of failing to obey the laws pertaining to traffic control devices.
- Student will evaluate the risks of failing to adhere to signs and road markings including the risks of speeding and distraction.

What Is The Highway Transportation System?

The system of roads, vehicles, and drivers that includes **EVERY** person and **EVERY** vehicle and **EVERY** road at any time in the United States.

Over 4,000,000 miles of road

Over 250,000,000 vehicles

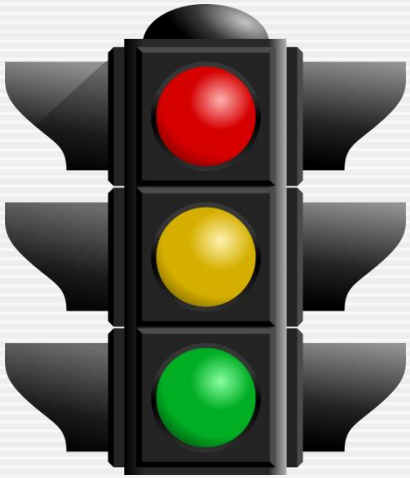
Over 210,000,000 drivers

Highway Transportation System: Everyone On The Road At Anytime

What Is The Language Of The Road?

The "language of the road" is composed of:

- Signs
- Signals
- Pavement Markings



Signs

Remove all the traffic lights, yellow lines, one-way systems and road markings, and let blissful anarchy prevail. I imagine it would produce a kind of harmony.

-SADIE JONES, ENGLISH WRITER AND NOVELIST, 1967-CURRENT

But would it?

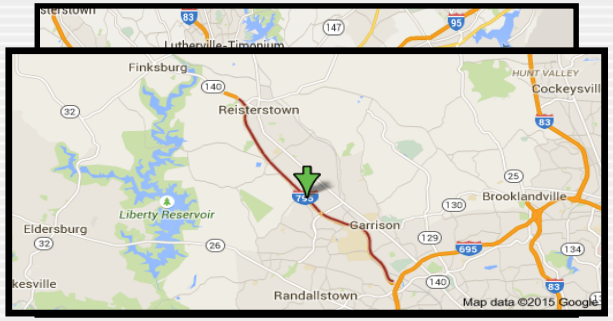
Guide Signs: Communicating Where You Are Going

Guide Signs can be **RED, WHITE, & BLUE to indicate Interstate numbers**, **BLACK AND WHITE** to indicate US routes and state roads, **GREEN** to indicate exits or mile markers, **BLUE to indicate motorists' services,** or **BROWN to indicate special points of interest.**

- **Interstate system guide signs –**
  - Any two digit interstate is a road that goes from one state to another. **Marked with blue shield shaped signs with a red stripe.**
    - Even numbers go from EAST to WEST.
    - Odd numbers go from NORTH to SOUTH.

Guide Signs: Communicating Where You Are Going

- **On the interstate system, three digit numbers with an EVEN first number are beltways going around a city like:**



- **On the interstate system, three digit numbers with an ODD first number are spurs connecting an interstate to another community.**

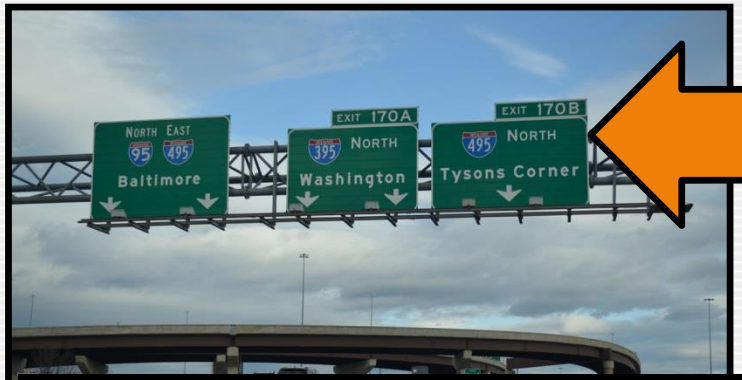
Guide Signs: Communicating Where You Are Going

- U.S. Routes - Black and White Shields on a Square Sign
  - **US routes preceded the interstate system.**
  - **Many run through cities and towns.**
  - **Odd numbers generally run north – south.**
  - **Even numbers run east – west.**

- Maryland Routes – Usually black and white squares
  - **Smaller routes maintained by local governments.**
  - **Might know them by street names rather than route numbers.**

Guide Signs: Guiding You To Destinations

Green Guide Signs: Where are you going? How far until you get there?



What exit you may need to take & what lane to be in to take that exit.

How far you are from your destination?

Mile markers tell you where you are on an interstate highway.

Guide Signs: Guiding You To Destinations And Services

Do you need food, fuel, or a hotel?

Blue signs will tell you what is available at an exit.

Do you want to go somewhere?

Brown signs indicate recreational "stuff."

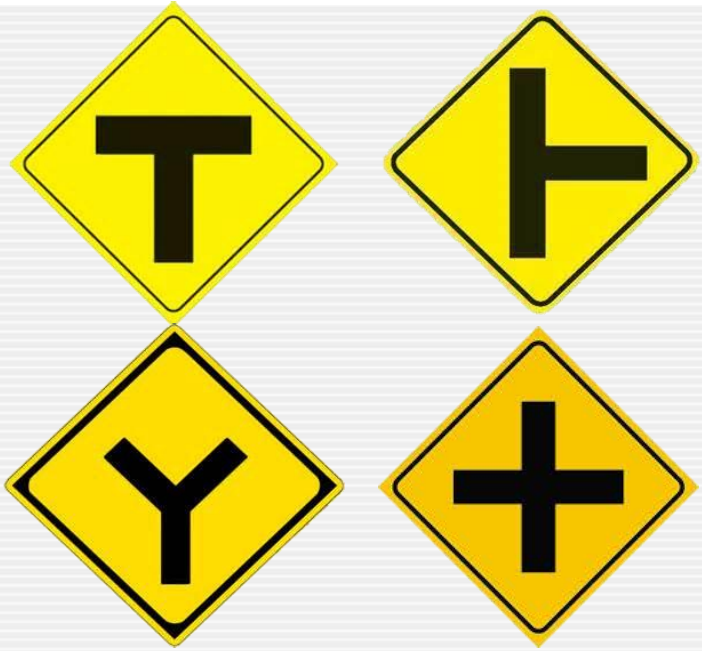
Warning Signs: Real Risks

These signs tell a driver a median is upcoming; the number of lanes is changing; or traffic is entering from a different direction.

What are the possible hazards or risks around these types of road changes?

Warning Signs: Real Risks

These signs warn a driver of intersections and road crossings.



What are the possible hazards or risks around these types of road changes?

Warning Signs: Real Risks

These signs tell a driver the road is changing direction or is becoming curvier.

What are the possible hazards or risks around these types of road changes?

Warning Signs: Real Risks

What are the possible hazards or risks around these types of road changes?

These signs alert a driver to specific issues with road conditions.

Warning Signs: Real Risks

- **Construction Zones**

- **Railroad Signs**

- **Incident Signs**

What are the risks that go along with these signs?

Warning Signs: Possible Risks

Regulatory Signs:
Regulate The Flow Of Traffic And Let Drivers Know The Law

Regulatory signs - signs with black, white or red markings telling a driver what actions are legal and illegal.

Regulatory signs - may have red circles with lines through them to indicate what <u>MAY NOT</u> do.

No right turn

No U turn

No left turn

Regulatory Signs: Speed Limit Signs

Residential

Suburban/ Urban/Rural Roads

Suburban/ Urban/Rural Roads

Highway/ Interstate

Interstate/ Expressway

Where would a driver find these posted speed limits?

Speeding: Fact Or Fiction

- You can go 10 miles over the speed limit, and you won't get stopped by a police officer.
- Every expressway has a speed lane where you can go faster than the rest of the road.
- If you are passing another vehicle, you are allowed to exceed the speed limit.

Speeding Facts

Speed limits are absolute limits that must be adjusted for bad weather, traffic, or road work.

What's The Difference Between These Two Signs?

Regulatory Signs:
Regulate The Flow Of Traffic And Let Drivers Know The Law

The speed limit is 55 mph. You observe cars driving at 80 mph. How fast can you go to keep pace with traffic?

When travelling on a road marked 40 mph, how fast can a driver legally go?

Speeding & Law Enforcement

VIDEO TO BE DISPLAYED DURING CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION.

Regulatory Signs:
Regulate The Flow Of Traffic And Let Drivers Know The Law

Do you know what this is, anywhere in the world?

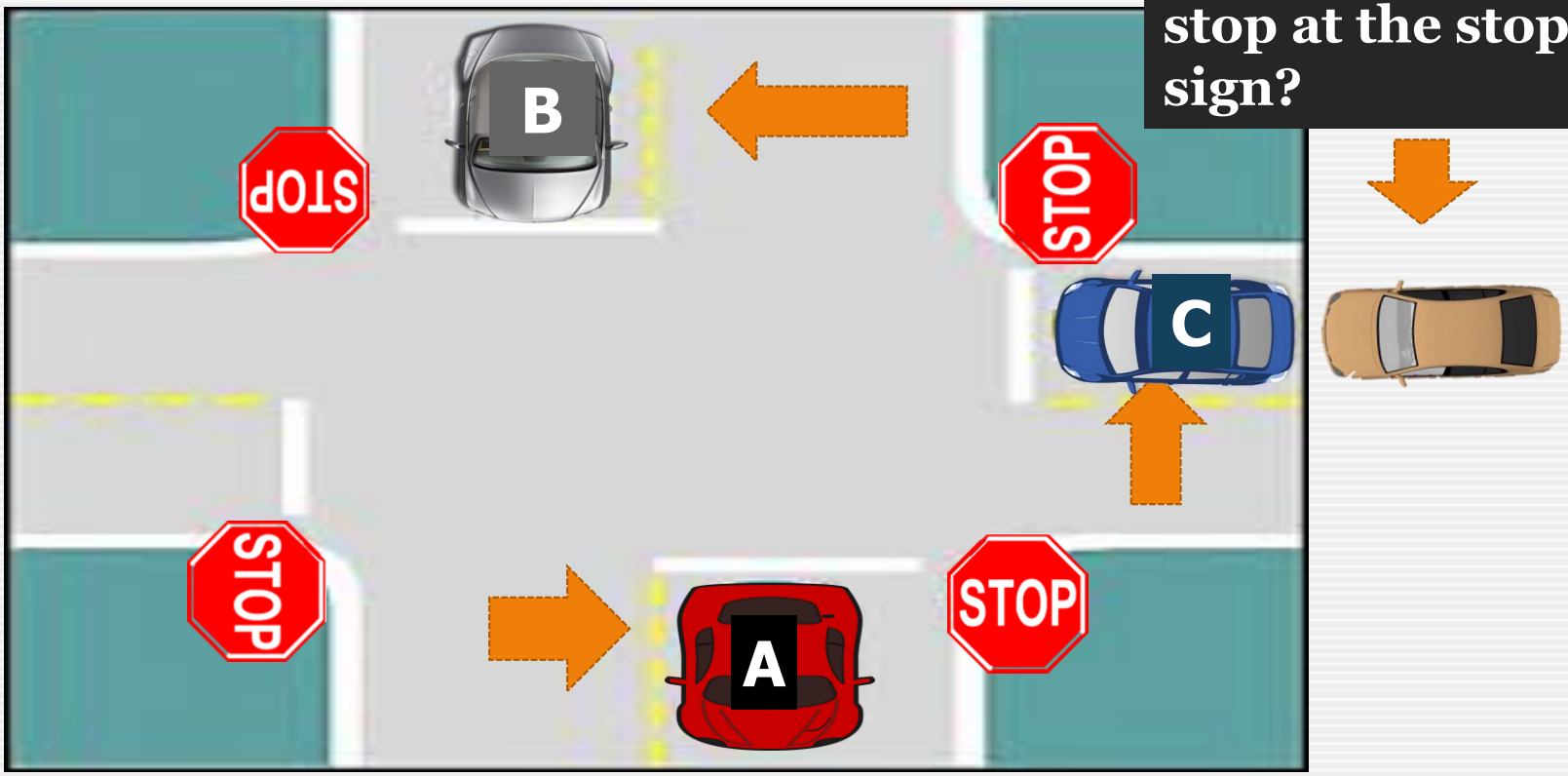
So What Are You Supposed To Do At A Stop Sign?

Come to a **complete** stop!!!!

- **WHERE?** Before your vehicle crosses the stop line, moves into the crosswalk, or enters the intersection.
- **WHO?** Yield to pedestrians, cyclists, any driver to your right, any driver already in the intersection, any driver who got to the stop sign before you.
- **HOW?** Look to your right, then your left, and then your right again.
- **WHEN?** When the intersection is clear and there is enough space in any approaching traffic, you may proceed. Remember that all drivers an at intersection **MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO STOP**.

Where are you supposed to stop?

Does this car still have to stop at the stop sign?



If all three cars arrived at the same time and you are in CAR A, who goes first?

Regulatory Signs:
Regulate The Flow Of Traffic And Let Drivers Know The Law

VIDEO TO BE DISPLAYED DURING CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION.

Yield Signs – What and How – Basic Overview

- **A yield sign means a driver should let other road users go first.**
- **Usually found when two roads cross or combine.**
- **If you see a yield sign ahead, be prepared to let other drivers crossing your road go ahead of you.**
- **May have to stop if there is no gap.**
- **And don't forget about bicycles and pedestrians. You must always yield to them.**

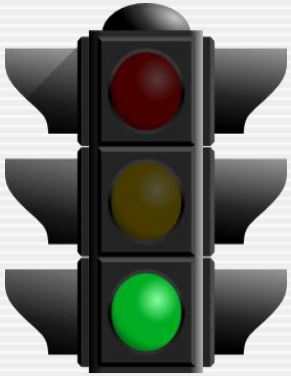
How To Yield

VIDEO TO BE DISPLAYED DURING CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION.

Signals

Traffic Signals

Green - the traffic moves in the direction of the signal but should yield to other vehicles and pedestrians in the intersection or crosswalk.

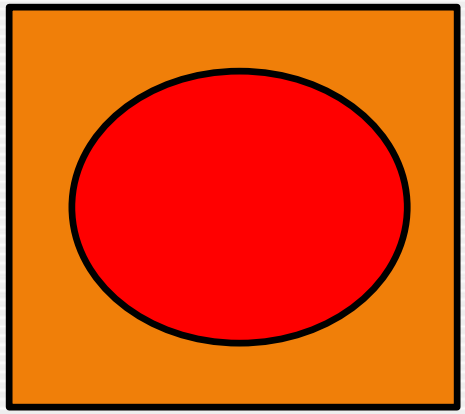


Yellow - a change is about to occur and a driver must clear or must not enter the intersection.

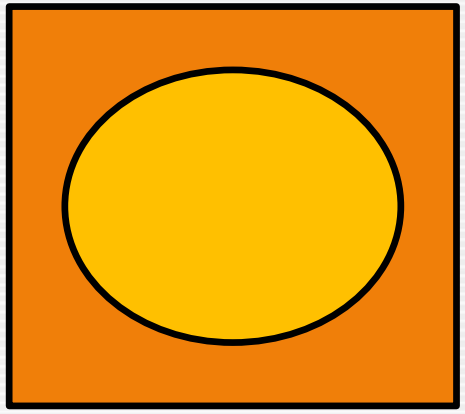
Red - moving traffic shall stop & remain stopped as long as the signal is red

Flashing Signals

Flashing red – a driver must stop before entering the intersection.



Flashing yellow – a driver must slow down and proceed with caution when going through the intersection.

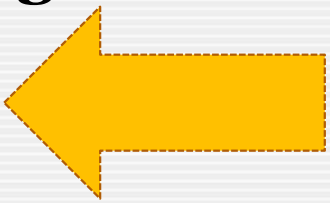


Signals

Directional Arrows

- **A red arrow tells a driver that he/she may not turn in the direction of the arrow.**

- **A yellow arrow tells a driver that he/she may complete any turn when it is safe to do so but should be prepared for the light to change.**



- **A green arrow tells a driver that he/she may turn when it is safe to do so.**

Intersections And Traffic Lights

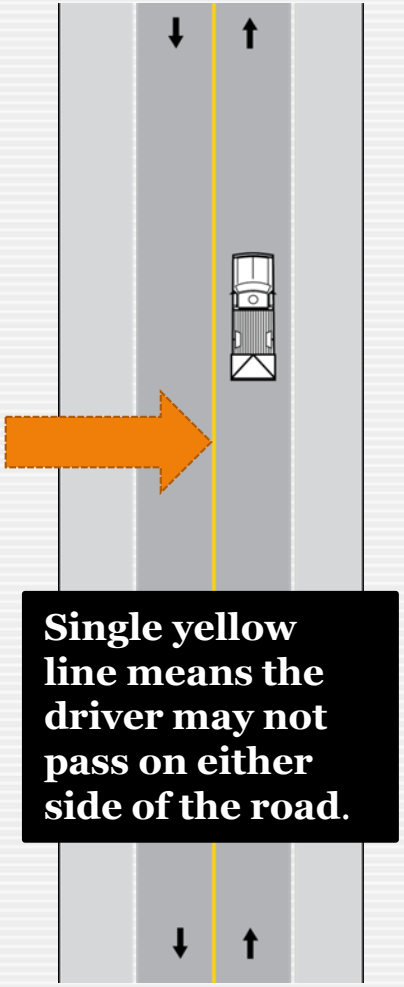
VIDEO TO BE DISPLAYED DURING CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION.

Pavement Markings

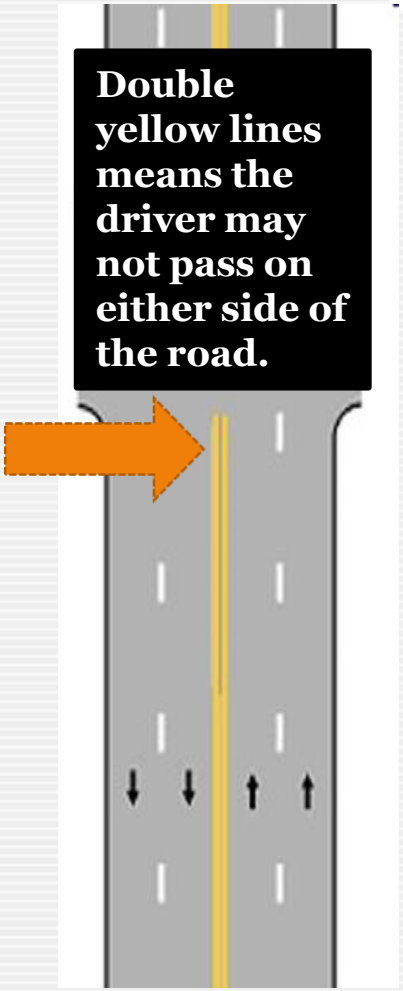
Pavement Markings: Yellow

- **Yellow Lines**
  - **Separate traffic traveling in opposite directions.**
  - **Mark the left edge of the road on divided highways, one way roads, and ramps.**
  - **May be**
    - ***Single***
    - ***Double***
    - ***Solid***
    - ***Dashed or broken***

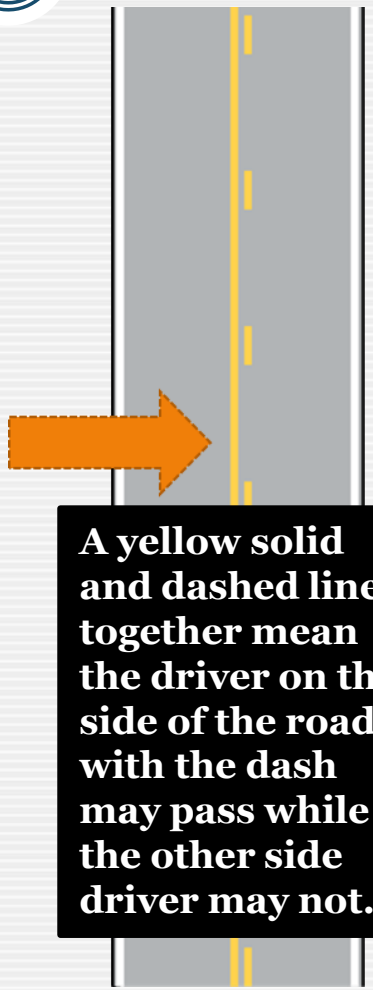
Pavement Markings: Yellow



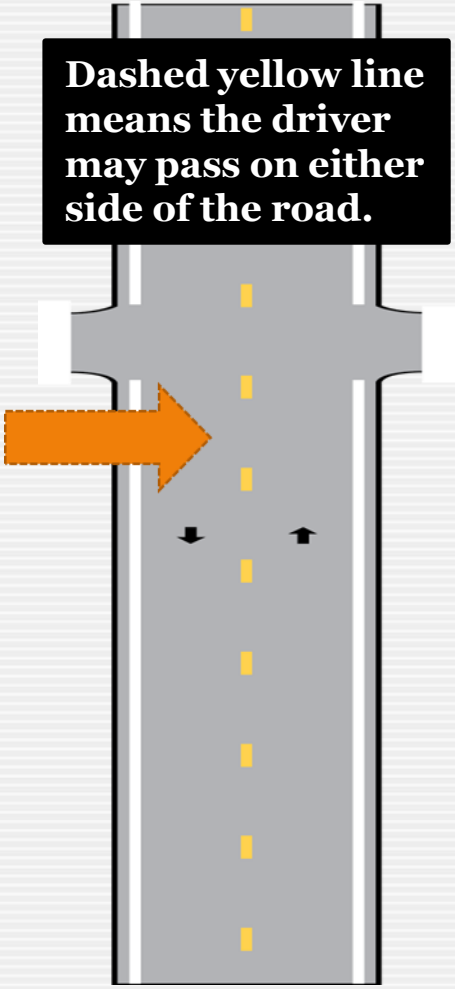
Single yellow line means the driver may not pass on either side of the road.



Double yellow lines means the driver may not pass on either side of the road.



A yellow solid and dashed line together mean the driver on the side of the road with the dash may pass while the other side driver may not.



Dashed yellow line means the driver may pass on either side of the road.

Pavement Markings: What Does A White Line Or Marking Mean?

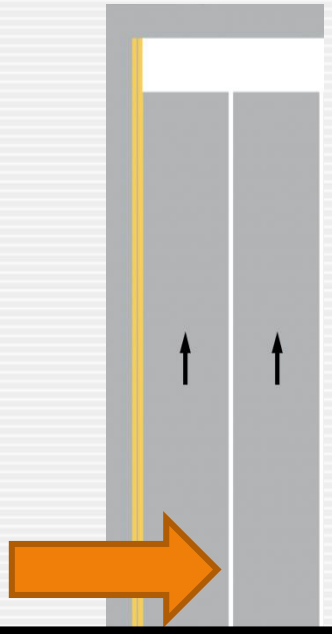
White lines can be

- ***Single***
- ***Double***
- ***Solid***
- ***Dashed or broken***

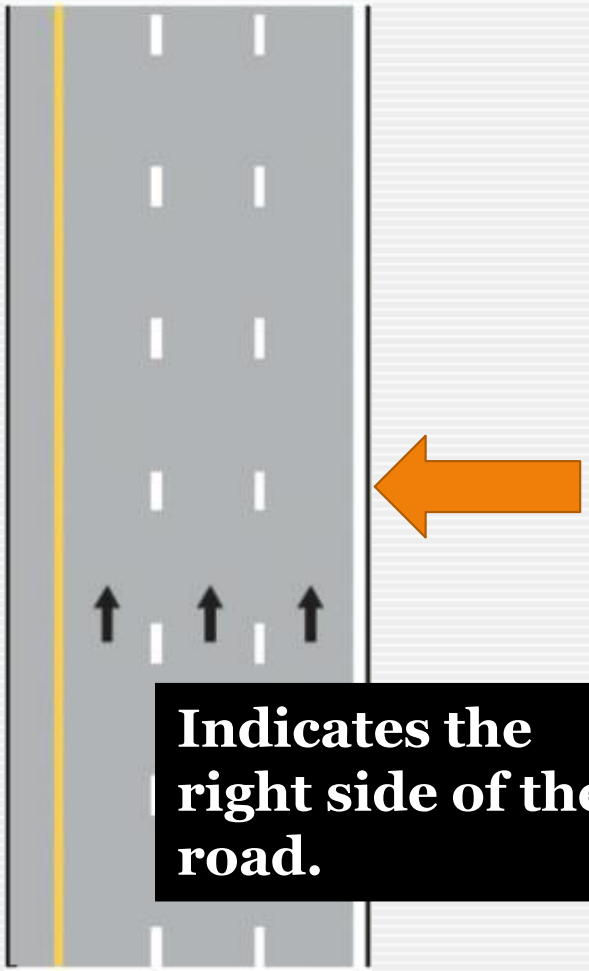
White lines are usually used:

- **To separate traffic traveling in the same direction.**
- **To indicate where you must stop (stop line).**
- **To mark the right edge of roadway.**

Pavement Markings: White Road Markings



Separates lines of traffic traveling in the same direction. Crossing is not recommended but is allowed.



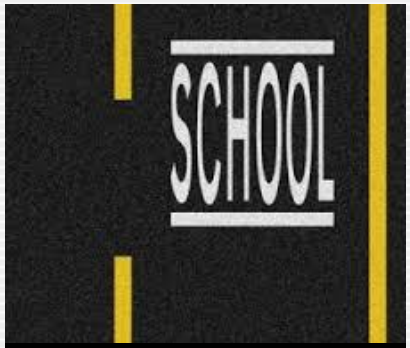
Indicates the right side of the road.

Pavement Markings: What Does A White Line Or Marking Mean?

- **White pavement markings mark special lanes:**
  - HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle)
  - Bike lanes
  - School or pedestrian crossing
  - Rail crossings
  - Extension of lane indicators into intersection

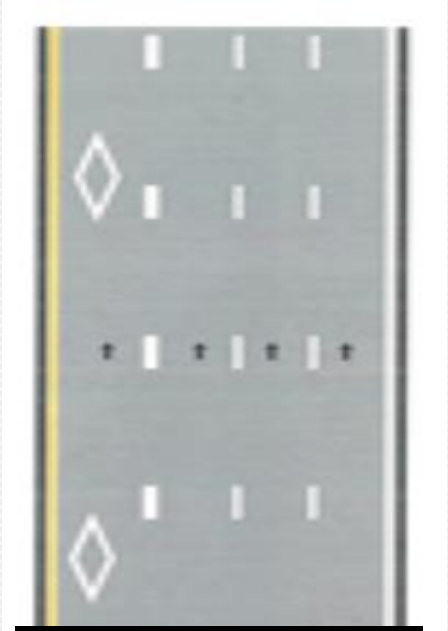
Pavement Markings: White

Bike Lane

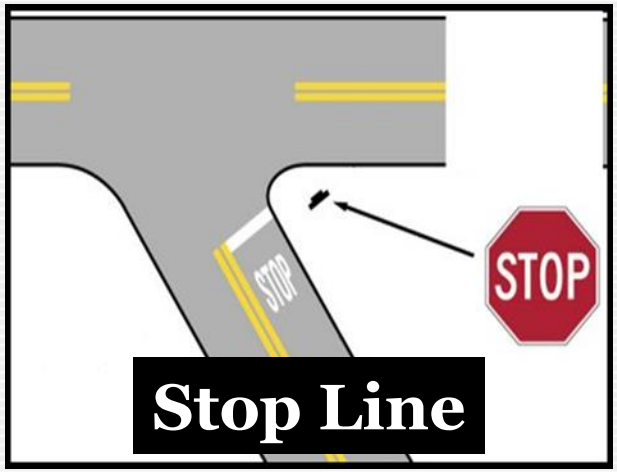


School Zone

Railroad Crossing



Separating Traffic



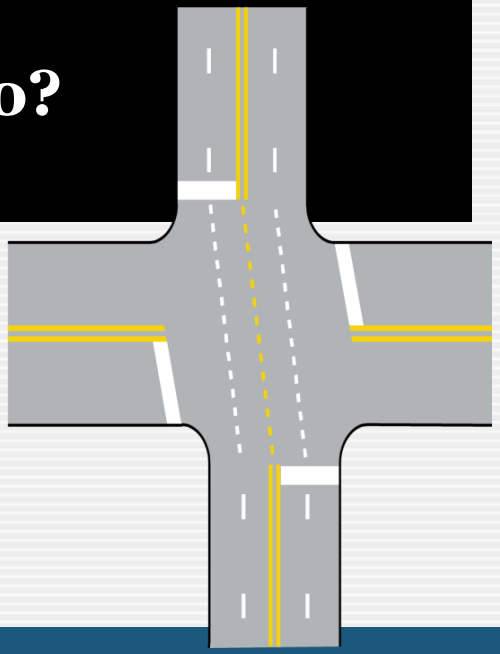
Stop Line

Pavement Markings: Intersections & Expressways

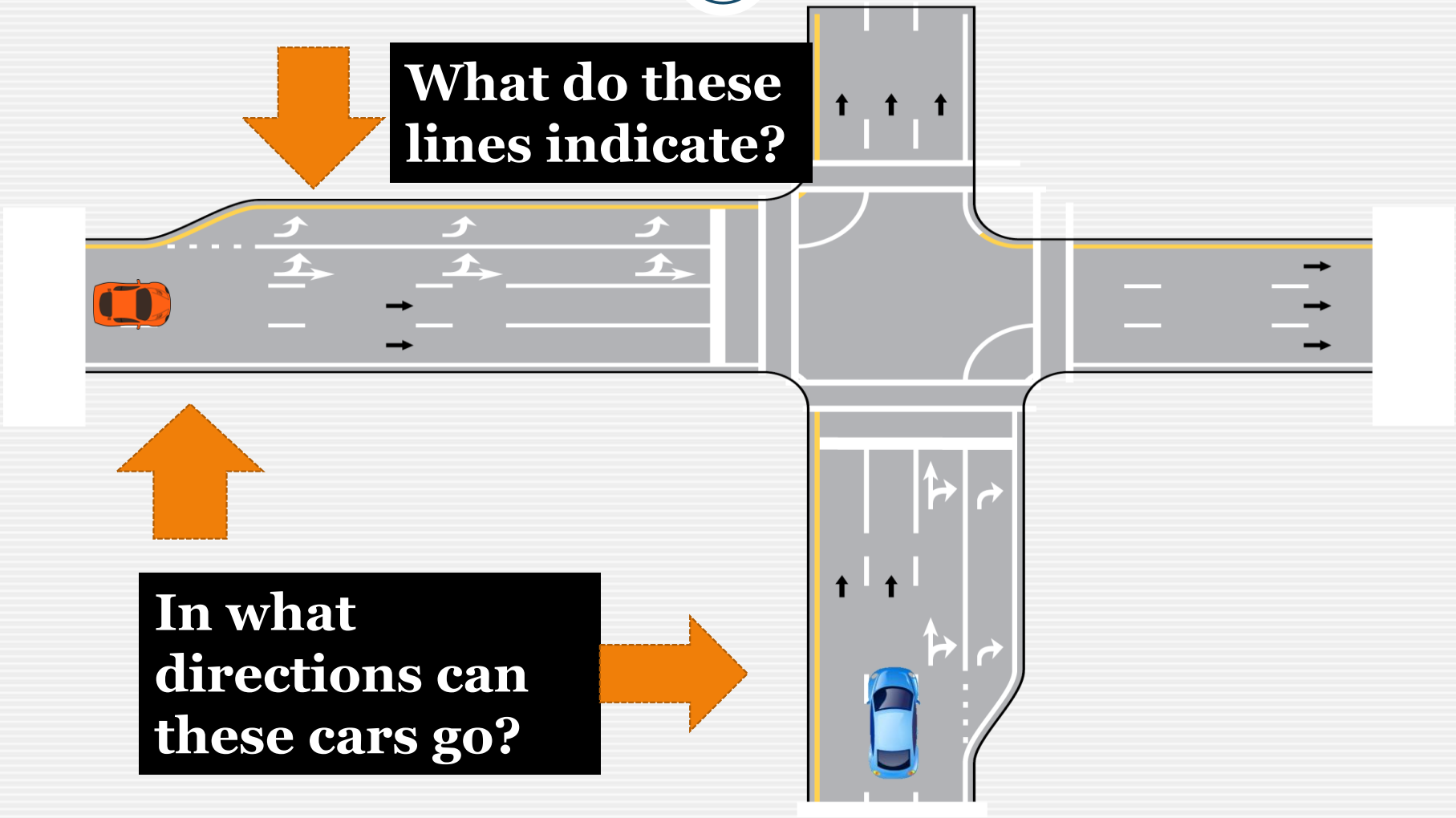
In what directions would vehicles be going?

Where would a driver be allowed to go?

What could a driver not do?



Pavement Markings: Intersections



Review for Unit Two

1) What is the difference between real risk and possible risk?
2) What are some examples of regulatory signs?
3) What are some uses of white pavement markings?
4) What are some uses of yellow pavement markings?
5) Describe the process for stopping your vehicle?
6) What is the difference between a yellow speed sign and a white and black one?
7) What are some of the common myths about speed limits and speeding?

What's next? Unit Three: Getting Started

- **Is there really such a thing as an emergency brake?**
- **How do I make my vehicle fit me?**
- **If I have an airbag, do I really need a seatbelt?**
- **What do all the lights on my dashboard mean?**

END OF UNIT TWO