

# Roundabout Safety Tips

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## How Inexperienced Cyclists Use Roundabouts

Less experienced cyclists should dismount their bicycle and walk through following the same rules and procedure as pedestrians.

- Remember to signal your intention when crossing, and make sure motorists see you.
- Only cross through the marked crosswalk, and never through the centre island.

## How Experienced Cyclists Use Roundabouts

- Experienced cyclists should follow the same rules and procedure as motorists.
- Stay in the middle of the approach-ing lane. Don't hug the curb.
- Since traffic is slower inside the roundabout, you should be able to travel at the same speed as other vehicles. Watch out for driver's blind spots.

## How Pedestrians Use Roundabouts

### HOW TO CROSS

**Pay attention.** Think. Be prepared to make decisions.

**Step up** to the curb and signal your intention to cross by extending your arm. Keep that arm extended until you reach the far side of the road.

**Look and listen** for a gap in traffic before walking to the splitter island. Make sure that all drivers can see you.

**Wait** on the splitter island, if needed.

**Keep watching** all the way across. When an appropriate gap in the traffic occurs, cross from the splitter island to your intended side of the road.

There are a few things to keep in mind:

- Cross at marked crosswalks only. You will find them before each road reaches the roundabout.
- Never cross through the centre island.
- Only cross one direction of traffic at a time.
- Always try to make eye contact with drivers to ensure they acknowledge that you are going to cross and that they are yielding to you.

- Do not start to cross if a vehicle is so close that the driver cannot safely yield the crosswalk to you, or if a driver shows by the way that they are driving that they do not intend to stop for you.
- Use assertive body language to clearly tell drivers that you intend to cross.
- Start to cross as soon as you are sure that the driver intends to slow or stop to yield the crosswalk to you

## **How Motorists Use a Roundabout**

### **APPROACH**

- Reduce your speed so that you may stop at the yield sign if necessary.
- Do visual checks of all vehicles already in the roundabout and those waiting to enter (including cyclists).
- Watch for signs that may help you find your exit.
- Watch for people using the crosswalk, and be ready to stop.

### **YIELD**

- Yield to traffic already in the roundabout that comes from your immediate left before you enter.
- Don't block the crosswalk.

### **ENTER**

- Enter the roundabout to your right when there is a gap in traffic and you feel it is safe to do so.
- Keep to the right of the central island and travel in a counter clockwise direction.
- Do not stop, except to avoid a collision. You have the right-of-way over entering traffic.
- Continue until you reach your exit.

### **EXIT**

- Use your right turn signal to indicate your intention to other road users as soon as you pass the exit prior to yours.
- Exit at a slow speed.
- As you exit, watch for people using the crosswalk, and be ready to stop.
- If you miss your exit, keep going around the roundabout until you reach it again.
- Don't accelerate until you are past the crosswalk on your exit.

### **LARGE VEHICLES**

The slightly raised area toward the outside of the central island is called the "truck apron," and is designed to accommodate larger vehicles. Large vehicles may have to swing wide on the approach or within the roundabout. Give them plenty of room.

## **EMERGENCY VEHICLES**

If you are in a roundabout when an emergency vehicle approaches, exit at your intended exit and proceed beyond the traffic island before pulling over. Do not stop inside the roundabout because you may block the emergency vehicle. If you have not entered the roundabout yet, pull over to the right and wait until the emergency vehicle has passed.