DRIVER-PREP.COM

US road signs: cheat sheet

79 signs, traffic signals and pavement markings · 2026 edition · signs are the same in every state (MUTCD)

Scan to practice the signs online

Color = meaning

- **Red** stop, prohibited
- **Orange** road work
- **Green** directions
- **Brown** parks and recreation
- **Yellow** warning
- **White** rules
- **Blue** services
- **Yellow-green** pedestrians and schools

Shape = meaning (the DMV test shows signs without words)

- **Octagon** — STOP only
- **Triangle pointing down** — YIELD only
- **Diamond** — warning
- **Pentagon** — school
- **Pennant** — no passing zone
- **Circle** — railroad crossing ahead
- **Crossbuck** — railroad crossing, yield to trains
- **Rectangle** — rules

Common NC test questions

- **Right turn on red** is allowed after a full stop, unless a NO TURN ON RED sign is posted.
- **Left turn on red** is illegal in NC.
- **School bus** with red lights and stop arm out on a two-lane road: all traffic in both directions stops.
- **Flashing red** = STOP, **flashing yellow** = caution, **signal not working** = STOP from all directions.
- **NC DMV signs test:** 12 signs shown without words, you must identify 9.

Regulatory signs



Stop
STOP



Yield
YIELD



Do not enter
DO NOT ENTER



Wrong way
WRONG WAY



Speed limit
SPEED LIMIT



Do not pass
DO NOT PASS



Pass with care
PASS WITH CARE



Slower traffic keep right
SLOWER TRAFFIC KEEP RIGHT



One way
ONE WAY



One way, to the left
ONE WAY



Left turn only
LEFT TURN ONLY



Straight or left
THRU AND LEFT



Two left-turn lanes
DOUBLE LEFT TURNS



Left lane turns left
LEFT LANE MUST TURN LEFT



Keep right
KEEP RIGHT



Keep left
KEEP LEFT



Keep off median
KEEP OFF MEDIAN



No right turn
NO RIGHT TURN



No left turn
NO LEFT TURN



No U-turn
NO U-TURN



No turns
NO TURNS



No turn on red
NO TURN ON RED



Turns: yield to pedestrians
TURNING VEHICLES YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS



One-hour parking
ONE HOUR PARKING



Bus stop, no parking
NO PARKING BUS STOP



Disabled parking
RESERVED PARKING



Emergency parking only
EMERGENCY PARKING ONLY



No bicycles
NO BICYCLES

Warning signs



Curve ahead
CURVE



Sharp turn
SHARP TURN



Winding road
WINDING ROAD



Steep hill
HILL



Slippery when wet
SLIPPERY WHEN WET



Soft shoulder
SOFT SHOULDER



Low clearance
LOW CLEARANCE



Crossroad
CROSSROAD



Side road on right
SIDE ROAD



Side road at an angle
SIDE ROAD



Merge
MERGE



Right lane ends
RIGHT LANE ENDS

Lane ends
LANE ENDS

Divided highway begins
DIVIDED HIGHWAY

Divided highway ends
DIVIDED HIGHWAY ENDS

Two-way traffic
TWO-WAY TRAFFIC

Roundabout
ROUNDABOUT

Dead end
DEAD END

Stop ahead
STOP AHEAD

Yield ahead
YIELD AHEAD

Signal ahead
SIGNAL AHEAD



Reduced speed ahead
REDUCED SPEED AHEAD



Pedestrian crossing
PEDESTRIAN CROSSING



School zone
SCHOOL



School bus stop ahead
SCHOOL BUS STOP AHEAD



Bicycle crossing
BICYCLE CROSSING



Deer crossing
DEER CROSSING



Cattle crossing
CATTLE CROSSING



Farm machinery
FARM MACHINERY



No passing zone
NO PASSING ZONE

Work zone signs



Road work 1000 feet
ROAD WORK 1000 FT



Workers ahead
WORKERS



Flagger ahead
FLAGGER AHEAD



Road closed
ROAD CLOSED



One lane road
ONE LANE ROAD



Detour
DETOUR



End road work
END ROAD WORK

Railroad crossing



Railroad crossing ahead
RAILROAD CROSSING AHEAD



Railroad crossing
RAILROAD CROSSING (crossbuck)



Multiple tracks
3 TRACKS



Do not stop on tracks
DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS



Emergency phone number
REPORT PROBLEM OR EMERGENCY

Guide signs



Distances to cities
DISTANCE SIGN



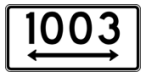
Interstate number
INTERSTATE



US route
US ROUTE



NC state route
NC ROUTE



NC secondary road
SECONDARY ROAD



Hospital
HOSPITAL



Rest area
REST AREA



State park
STATE PARK

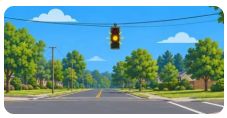


Bike route
BIKE ROUTE

Traffic signals



Flashing red
Same as a STOP sign: stop completely, then go when you will not get in anyone's way.



Flashing yellow
Caution: slow down and go through carefully. You do not have to stop.



Green arrow
Protected turn on the arrow: oncoming traffic and pedestrians have a red light. Still look both ways.



Signal not working
Under NC law (G.S. 20-158), treat it as a STOP sign on every side: stop, then go in turn.

Markings: yellow separates opposite directions, white separates lanes going the same way



Broken yellow line
Traffic going in opposite directions. You may pass across the line when it is safe.



Solid and broken yellow
You may pass only from the side with the broken line.



Double solid yellow
No passing in either direction. You may cross it only to turn left, for example into a driveway.



Broken white line
Lanes going the same direction. You may change lanes when it is safe.



Solid white line
Right edge of the road, or the border between lanes going the same direction.



Center turn lane
Middle lane only for left turns, from both directions. Do not use it to pass or to speed up.