




B. Traffic Signs

Colors

Traffic signs use both symbols and word messages to convey information to road users. You should be able to quickly identify traffic signs by their shapes and colors as well as by the words, numbers, or symbols on them. The principal background color of a traffic sign can tell you at first glance what kind of information it has to offer.






-  **Red** - Prohibitive: Stop, yield, do not enter, or wrong way.
-  **Yellow** - General warning of what to expect ahead.
-  **White** - Regulatory: such as speed limit, keep right, and some guide signs.

-  **Orange** - Construction and maintenance work area warning.
-  **Green** - Guidance information: destinations, distances, and directions.
-  **Blue** - Road user services: such as food, gas, rest area signs.
-  **Brown** - Recreation and cultural interest areas.
-  **Fluorescent Yellow-Green** - School, pedestrian and bicycle signs.
-  **Fluorescent Pink** - Emergency traffic incidents.
-  **Black** - Certain regulatory signs, such as One Way signs, and changeable message signs.

Shapes

The shape of a traffic sign can tell you as much about the sign's message as its color. In poor visibility conditions, such as heavy fog, you may be able to make out only the shape of a sign, which could convey valuable information.

-  **Octagon: Stop**
The octagonal (eight-sided) shape always means stop. You must come to a complete stop.
-  **Triangle: Yield**
Slow down and, if necessary, stop to give the right of way to vehicles and pedestrians.
-  **Diamond: Warning**
These signs warn you of special conditions or hazards ahead. You may have to slow down, so be ready to take appropriate action.
-  **Pennant: No Passing**
Indicates the start of a no passing zone.

-  **Rectangle: Regulatory or Guide**
Vertical signs are generally used to give instructions or tell you the rules of the road. In the horizontal position, the signs generally give directions or information.
-  **Pentagon: School Zone and School Crossing**
The pentagon (five-sided) shape warns you of school zones and marks school crossings.
-  **Round: Railroad Warning**
Used to warn that there is a railroad crossing ahead.
-  **Crossbuck: Highway—Rail Grade Crossing**
Identifies the location of a railroad crossing.
-  **Trapezoid**
Recreation and cultural interest areas and National Forest Routes.