

RAIL CROSSING
CROSSWAY

STOP

LOOK FOR TRAINS

NHVR

ATA
AUSTRALIAN TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL LEVEL CROSSING SAFETY NOTICE

We want you to get home safe, and we want **ZERO** fatalities and serious injuries at rail crossings. Between 1 July 2014 and 31 December 2022, there were:



39
fatalities



49
serious injuries



1000s
near hits

Trains have immense size and weight and cannot avoid obstacles on the tracks. When driving over rail tracks, consider these factors to stay alive:

- 1 Momentum:** Trains possess substantial mass. Once they're moving, it requires significant time to stop.
- 2 There aren't many trains:** But there could be one when you don't expect it, so always check and don't risk crossing if there is an approaching train.
- 3 Limited Visibility:** Train operators contend with restricted visibility, and curved tracks and bad weather make this worse. Once they can see you it's already too late for them to stop.
- 4 Fixed Tracks:** Fixed tracks mean there's no option to divert to a different path. Trains can't get out of the way.
- 5 Braking Distance:** Even with efficient braking systems, it takes considerable time for a train to stop, especially when traveling at high speeds. This means their stopping distances are a lot further than vehicles on the road.
- 6 Speed:** Trains travel faster than you think. It might look far away, but a train reach the crossing faster than you think.
- 7 Queuing and stacking:** Don't queue across railway lines. Always make sure there is space for your vehicle on the other side before crossing.

DO

LOOK

Slow down and ensure you have looked both ways for approaching trains.
Remain vigilant and look and adhere to any warning signs.
Assess the road condition and consider how that might affect your crossing.

LISTEN

Trains should whistle when approaching some tunnels and crossings. Keep your music down and pay attention to the sounds around you.

USE YOUR JUDGEMENT

Make sure you check your blind spots. There could be a train in there.
Identify, Assess, and then Control the risks to minimise or eliminate them.

DON'T

BECOME COMPLACENT

Whether you have driven the road once or 100 times remember to always adhere to the warning signals.
Do not ever drive if you are tired or distracted.

UNDERESTIMATE THE WEATHER

Bad weather such as heavy rain or fog can reduce visibility for motorists and trains and make it harder to spot the dangers when crossing rail tracks.

TAKE RISKS

If you see a train or there is a warning signal in place, stop. The risk in crossing the tracks is never worth it.