

INTERSECTION AHEAD

One of the Most Dangerous Places

The most dangerous place you can go in any vehicle is the nearest intersection. One of every three accidents occurs at an intersection.

The reasons are obvious. You're sharing space with vehicles, in all directions, and the right-of-way is constantly shifting.

As long as everyone knows the rules, agrees on who has the right-of-way and grants it courteously to others, you're safe. But if anything goes wrong, you're in danger. It often happens.

Be Prepared To Yield

The first rule about the right-of-way is that you never can take it for granted you've got it.

Even if you're entitled to proceed according to the rules, someone else may claim the right-of-way just as you're sailing through an intersection. If you stubbornly insist on your way, you may add your name to the long list of people who wound up "dead right."

The bottom line is safety. You always have to be prepared to yield, no matter who is entitled to the right-of-way.

Some Basic Rules

The golden rule applies here. Prepare to yield at any intersection, rather than being

in a hurry to get through first. You'll get your chance.

Yield to a vehicle that's already in the intersection when you reach it. If two vehicles arrive at the same time, the one on the left should yield to the one on the right. Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks.

At four-way stop signs, yield to vehicles that got there before you did. When making left turns, yield to oncoming cars and pedestrians. When entering from a parking space

Then look to the right and, once again, to the left. Sooner or later, you'll have to deal with a vehicle that shouldn't be there but is. If you see it in time, you're all right.

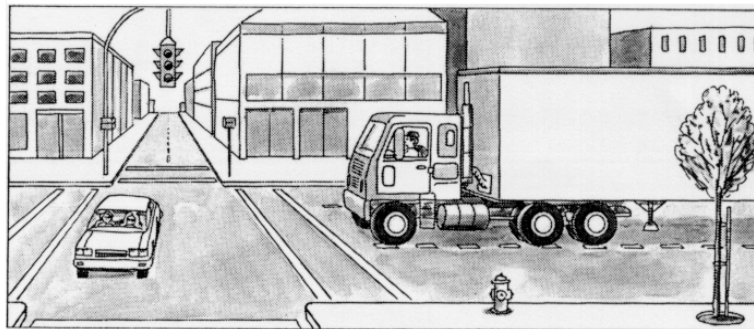
Get a Feel for the Lights

When the lights turn yellow, stop. Avoid "slipping through" as it's changing. And don't be too quick to move ahead when it turns green.

Someone else may be slipping through. Wait until the intersection clears.

Watch traffic lights as you approach them to develop a feel for when they'll change. Slow down if it's been green for too long.

Remember that a truck takes several seconds to



Never take it for granted that you have the right-of-way.

or driveway, wait for traffic to pass before you proceed.

When the Light Is Green

If you're protected by a green light or a stop or yield sign, you can move ahead cautiously. Even then, there's always the risk that someone may run the light or ignore the sign. Prepare to stop quickly (without skidding) or make an evasive maneuver. In some cases, your best bet is to step on the accelerator.

As you start to enter the intersection, look to the left.

get through an intersection. If your tractor keeps going on the yellow, the light will be red by the time your trailer clears through.

Intersections are a high-risk proposition. You pass through a lot of them in the course of a year's driving, even if you're on the open road most of the time. Know how to protect yourself every time you go through an intersection and you'll stand a better chance of maintaining the perfect record that everyone wants.