

Every level crossing in NSW has a function and origin classification which determines whether access must be legally provided to the crossing.

Function	Origin
Public road This means the level crossing is located on main or local roads (Roads and Maritime services or local government is the road owner).	Accommodation This is a public or private level crossing that qualifies as "accommodation works" as defined in Section 91 of the Public Works Act. It was provided by the constructing authority at the time of construction of a new railway line to maintain existing access. Where a rail line cuts access to a road or property the rail authority was, and still is, obliged to provide and maintain access.
Pedestrian These level crossings are designed to allow pedestrians to cross rail lines. Pedestrian level crossings may also be located off the end of platforms, as they do not have to be in association with a road crossing.	Licensed This is a public or private level crossing that does not qualify as "accommodation works". Access via this crossing was provided after a rail line has been constructed and requires a licence agreement between the track owner and the entity requesting usage.
Private These level crossings allow access to private properties, or between parts of private properties. Private level crossings are for the use of the property holder and their nominees and not open to public access. Although they are often called farm crossings, they are not always found in rural areas.	
Service These level crossings are owned and maintained by rail authorities to allow authorised personnel to cross the track. They may be located in depots and station yards, or in field situations for maintenance access.	

Level crossing protection



The level of control provided at level crossings is determined on a case by case basis, and depends on the particular characteristics of a crossing. Level crossing control falls into three categories:

- **Passive protection** - uses signs (stop or give way) to warn motorists about a level crossing
- **Active protection** - uses either flashing lights only or flashing lights and boom gates to warn motorists that a train is approaching a level crossing.
- **Grade separation** - (underpasses or over-bridges) requires major reconstruction of road and rail infrastructure usually costing tens of millions of dollars. This type of work is typically funded and undertaken by Roads and Maritime Services.