

Some trains can take up to 14 rugby fields to stop at a level crossing, which means that even if trains see you, they can't stop!

Train schedules are unpredictable and have different timetables week to week so look for approaching trains and obey the signs and flashing lights.

If you ignore the signs or flashing lights, you not only risk a \$415 fine and three demerit points, but your next crossing may be your last.

Take care at level crossings. Don't rush to the other side.

When you cross at a level crossing "Stop, look, listen and cross"

STOP:

- Always obey all signs, flashing lights, boom gates and line markings.
- Be prepared to STOP or GIVE WAY at all times – never assume a train is not coming.
- Trains can run at any time, day or night and in either direction.
- If the lights are flashing, do not enter the crossing. Wait for the lights to stop flashing before you drive across the railway tracks.
- If boom gates are going up or going down never drive under or around these gates as an oncoming train is close to the crossing or a second train may be approaching. Wait until the boom gates fully rise before you drive across the railway tracks.
- If a boom gate is down, do not drive around the gate as it is extremely dangerous and it is very likely the oncoming train is close to the crossing.

LOOK:

- Once a train has passed always check both directions to see if another one is coming before crossing.
- If traffic ahead is stopped, stay behind the STOP line until you are sure there is enough room for your vehicle to get all the way across safely.
- If the road on the other side of the tracks is congested, do not drive across until there is plenty of room for you to do so safely. Never queue on a level crossing.

LISTEN:

- You may not always hear a train coming so never assume that a train is a long way off.

CROSS:

- Once you are confident there are no trains approaching and you think it is safe to cross, proceed with caution.

Weather

The weather also affects conditions at level crossings. Wet weather affects your braking; fog affects your ability to see a train in the distance as does looking into a rising or setting sun.

Private/farm crossings

These level crossings provide access to a private property and are usually gated. When entering or leaving a property, never park your vehicle on the tracks while you close the gate behind you. In the time it takes you to open and close a gate, a train can be upon you.

Don't assume

Trains do not always run to timetable. Trains can travel from both directions so never assume that:

- Because you have crossed plenty of times before with no train in sight there won't be a train this time.
- Because you're running late and in a hurry it is safe to cross this time without stopping.
- Another train won't come after a train has passed.
- It is no big deal to cross at a level crossing.
- You know when the train is due at a level crossing. Some trains don't run to timetable.