

HOW TO DRIVE A ROUNDABOUT

Modern roundabouts are different than traditional intersections, and they require some different driving techniques. Listed below are the steps to follow as you navigate a modern roundabout.

1. SLOW DOWN

Smaller roundabouts require speeds of 15 mph. Larger roundabouts allow for speeds of 20-25 mph. Watch for pedestrians.

2. PICK YOUR LANE

Before entering the roundabout be aware of your intended exit and pick the appropriate lane. Look for the green guide signs and black-on-white lane-use signs as you approach the roundabout. These provide directions for roundabout use. The rules are similar to other multi-lane intersections. Make a left-turn from the left-most lane and a right-turn from the right-most lane. For a multi-lane roundabout, the left-lane allows for going straight, turning left or making a U-turn. The right lane allows for going straight or making a right turn. When entering and navigating the roundabout, follow the lane lines.

3. YIELD AT THE ENTRY

Always yield to traffic already in the roundabout and to your left. The yield sign and pavement markings will show you where to stop if you need to. Yield to bicyclists and pedestrians.

4. NEVER PASS IN THE ROUNDABOUT

5. ALWAYS CHECK YOUR REAR-VIEW MIRRORS

Always check your rear-view mirrors for vehicles in the outside lane before changing lanes to exit the roundabout. If you cannot move to the outside lane safely, simply travel through the roundabout circle again, until there is an opening. Once you're in the circle, keep right. A roundabout is a one-way street, and the circulating car has the right of way.

6. GIVE WAY TO LARGE VEHICLES; EXIT FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES

Allow large vehicles the extra turning radius needed to navigate the roundabout properly. Never pass or drive next to a large vehicle in the roundabout. If you see an emergency vehicle coming, exit the roundabout as quickly as possible -- don't pull over within the roundabout.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

Pedestrians have the right of way within crosswalks at any intersection, including a roundabout.

For safety's sake, pedestrians must never walk into the path of a vehicle if it is so close that it is an immediate hazard.

PEDESTRIAN RULES:

1. Walk around the perimeter of the roundabout. Do not cross the roadway to the center island.
2. Use the crosswalks on the "legs" of the roundabout. Crosswalks are placed one to two car lengths back from the roundabout entrance areas. Approaching cars will yield to enter the roundabout behind the yield line. Pedestrians may cross the roadway behind the car at the yield line.

Please note:

If there is no crosswalk marked on a leg of the roundabout, that leg is not intended to be crossed. Find another route to your destination with pedestrian markings.

