

## **Part 11 Keeping left, overtaking and other driving rules**

### **Division 1 General**

#### **125 Unreasonably obstructing drivers or pedestrians**

- (1) A driver must not unreasonably obstruct the path of another driver or a pedestrian.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Driver** includes a person in control of a vehicle — see the definition of **drive** in the dictionary.

- (2) For this rule, a driver does not unreasonably obstruct the path of another driver or a pedestrian only because:
- (a) the driver is stopped in traffic; or
  - (b) the driver is driving more slowly than other vehicles (unless the driver is driving abnormally slowly in the circumstances).

*Example of a driver driving abnormally slowly*

A driver driving at a speed of 20 kilometres per hour on a length of road to which a speed-limit of 80 kilometres per hour applies when there is no reason for the driver to drive at that speed on the length of road.

#### **126 Keeping a safe distance behind vehicles**

A driver must drive a sufficient distance behind a vehicle travelling in front of the driver so the driver can, if necessary, stop safely to avoid a collision with the vehicle.

Offence provision.

## **127 Keeping a minimum distance between long vehicles**

- (1) The driver of a long vehicle must drive at least the required minimum distance behind another long vehicle travelling in front of the driver, unless the driver is:
- (a) driving on a multi-lane road or any length of road in a built-up area; or
  - (b) overtaking.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Built-up area**, **length** of road, **multi-lane road** and **overtake** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) In this rule:

**long vehicle** means a vehicle that, together with any load or projection, is 7.5 metres long, or longer.

*Note* **Vehicle** includes a combination — see rule 15 (d).

**required minimum distance** means:

- (a) for a long vehicle in a road train area — 200 metres or, if another law of this jurisdiction provides another distance for the area, that distance; or
- (b) for a long vehicle in another area — 60 metres or, if another law of this jurisdiction provides another distance for the area, that distance.

**road train** means a combination that is a road train for the Australian Road Rules under another law of this jurisdiction.

*Note* **Combination** is defined in the dictionary.

**road train area** means an area where, under another law of this jurisdiction, road trains may be driven.

**Rule 128**

---

**128 Entering blocked intersections**

A driver must not enter an intersection if the driver cannot drive through the intersection because the intersection, or a road beyond the intersection, is blocked.

Offence provision.

*Examples*

The intersection, or a road beyond the intersection, may be blocked by congested traffic, a disabled vehicle, a collision between vehicles or between a vehicle and a pedestrian, or by a fallen load on the road.

*Note* **Enter** and **intersection** are defined in the dictionary.

## Division 2 Keeping to the left

### 129 Keeping to the far left side of a road

- (1) A driver on a road (except a multi-lane road or a road with 2 or more lines of traffic travelling in the same direction as the driver) must drive as near as practicable to the far left side of the road.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Multi-lane road** is defined in the dictionary.

- (2) This rule does not apply to the rider of a motor bike.

*Note* **Motor bike** is defined in the dictionary.

- (3) In this rule:

**road** does not include a road-related area.

*Note* **Road-related area** includes the shoulder of a road — see rule 13.

### 130 Keeping to the left on a multi-lane road

- (1) This rule applies to a driver driving on a multi-lane road if:
- (a) the speed-limit applying to the driver for the length of road where the driver is driving is over 80 kilometres per hour; or
  - (b) a *keep left unless overtaking sign* applies to the length of road where the driver is driving.

*Note 1* **Length** of road and **multi-lane road** are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Part 3 deals with speed-limits.

- (2) The driver must not drive in the right lane unless:

- (a) the driver is turning right, or making a U–turn from the centre of the road, and is giving a right change of direction signal; or
- (b) the driver is overtaking; or
- (c) a *left lane must turn left sign* or left traffic lane arrows apply to any other lane and the driver is not turning left; or

**Rule 130**

---

- (d) the driver is required to drive in the right lane under rule 159; or
- (e) the driver is avoiding an obstruction; or
- (f) the traffic in each other lane is congested; or
- (g) the traffic in every lane is congested.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Centre of the road, left traffic lane arrows, obstruction, overtake, right change of direction signal, traffic** and **U-turn** are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 159 deals with traffic signs that require a particular kind of vehicle to drive in the marked lane indicated by the signs.

*Note 3* Rule 329 deals with when a traffic control device applies to a marked lane.

- (3) A *keep left unless overtaking sign* on a multi-lane road applies to the length of road beginning at the sign and ending at the nearest of the following:
  - (a) an *end keep left unless overtaking sign* on the road;
  - (b) a traffic sign or road marking on the road that indicates that the road is no longer a multi-lane road;
  - (c) if the road ends at a T-intersection or dead end — the end of the road.

*Note* **Road marking, T-intersection** and **traffic sign** are defined in the dictionary.

- (4) In this rule:

**lane**, for a driver, means a marked lane for vehicles travelling in the same direction as the driver, but does not include a special purpose lane in which the driver is not permitted to drive.

*Note 1* **Marked lane** and **special purpose lane** are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 95 deals with driving in emergency stopping lanes, and Division 6 of this Part deals with driving in other special purpose lanes.

Keep left unless overtaking sign



End keep left unless overtaking sign



### **131 Keeping to the left of oncoming vehicles**

A driver must drive to the left of any oncoming vehicle unless:

- (a) the driver is turning right at an intersection; and
- (b) the driver is passing an oncoming vehicle turning right at the intersection; and
- (c) there is no traffic sign or road marking indicating that the driver must pass to the left of the oncoming vehicle.

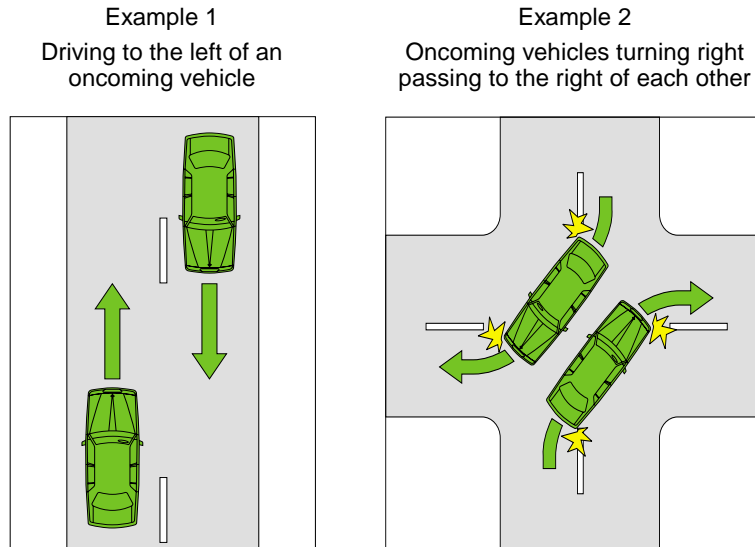
Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Intersection, oncoming vehicle, road marking** and **traffic sign** are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Part 4, Division 2 deals with making right turns.

**Rule 132**

*Examples*



**132 Keeping to the left of the centre of a road or the dividing line**

- (1) A driver on a two-way road without a dividing line or median strip must drive to the left of the centre of the road, except as permitted under rule 133 or 139 (1).

Offence provision.

*Note 1* *Centre of the road, dividing line, median strip* and *two-way road* are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* For the meaning of driving to the *left* of something, see rule 351 (3).

*Note 3* Rule 133 deals with driving to the right of the centre of the road to overtake another vehicle, to enter or leave a road, to move from one part of the road to another, or because of the width or condition of the road. Rule 139 (1) deals with driving to the right of the centre of the road to avoid an obstruction.

- (2) A driver on a road with a dividing line must drive to the left of the dividing line, except as permitted under rule 134 or 139 (2).

**Offence provision.**

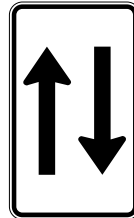
*Note* Rule 134 deals with driving to the right of the dividing line to overtake another vehicle, to enter or leave a road, or to move from one part of the road to another. Rule 139 (2) deals with driving to the right of the dividing line to avoid an obstruction.

- (3) This rule, and rules 133, 134 and 139 (1) and (2), apply to a service road to which a *two-way sign* applies as if it were a separate road, but do not apply to any other service road.

*Note 1* **Service road** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 136 deals with driving on a service road without a *two-way sign*.

Two-way sign



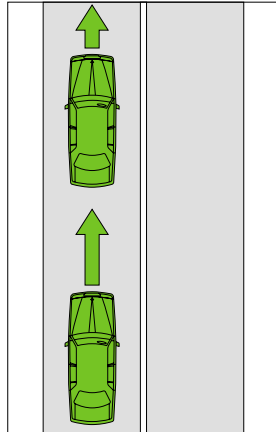
*Note for diagram* There is another permitted version of the *two-way sign* — see the diagram in Schedule 3.

**Rule 133**

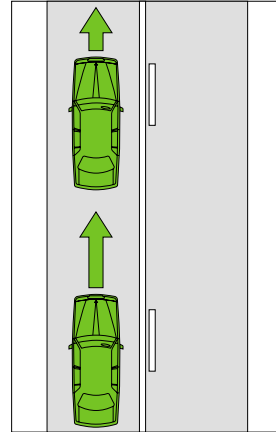
---

*Examples for subrule (2)*

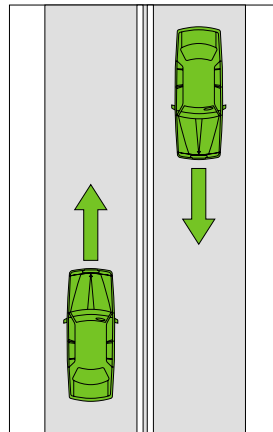
Example 1  
Driving to the left of a single  
continuous dividing line only



Example 2  
Driving to the left of a single  
continuous dividing line to the left of  
a broken dividing line



Example 3  
Driving to the left of 2 parallel continuous dividing lines



### **133 Exceptions to keeping to the left of the centre of a road**

- (1) This rule applies to a driver on a two-way road without a dividing line or median strip.

*Note* **Dividing line**, **median strip** and **two-way road** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) The driver may drive to the right of the centre of the road:

- (a) to overtake another driver; or
- (b) to enter or leave the road; or
- (c) to enter a part of the road of one kind from a part of the road of another kind (for example, moving to or from a service road or emergency stopping lane).

*Note* **Centre of the road**, **overtake** and **service road** are defined in the dictionary, and **emergency stopping lane** is defined in rule 95.

- (3) The driver may also drive to the right of the centre of the road if:

- (a) because of the width or condition of the road, it is not practicable to drive to the left of the centre of the road; and
- (b) the driver can do so safely.

### **134 Exceptions to keeping to the left of a dividing line**

- (1) This rule applies to a driver on a road with a dividing line.

*Note* **Dividing line** is defined the dictionary.

- (2) If the dividing line is a broken dividing line only, or a broken dividing line to the left of a single continuous dividing line, the driver may drive to the right of the dividing line to overtake another driver.

*Note 1* **Overtake** is defined the dictionary.

*Note 2* A driver must not overtake another driver unless the driver has a clear view of any approaching traffic, and it is safe to overtake the other driver — see rule 140.

**Rule 134**

---

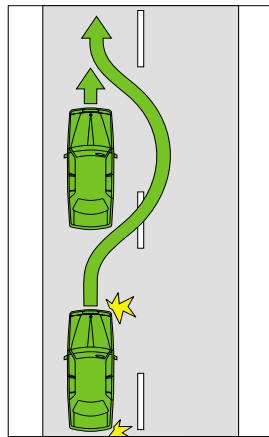
- (3) If the dividing line is not 2 parallel continuous dividing lines, the driver may drive to the right of the dividing line:
- (a) to enter or leave the road; or
  - (b) to enter a part of the road of one kind from a part of the road of another kind (for example, moving to or from a service road or emergency stopping lane).

*Note* **Emergency stopping lane** is defined in rule 95, and **service road** is defined in the dictionary.

*Examples*

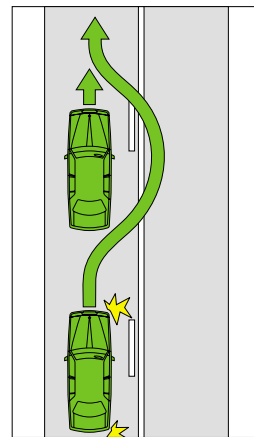
Example 1

Driving to the right of the centre of the road permitted — overtaking on a road with a broken dividing line only



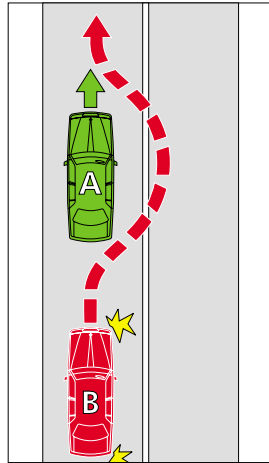
Example 2

Driving to the right of the centre of the road permitted — overtaking on a road with a broken dividing line to the left of a single continuous dividing line



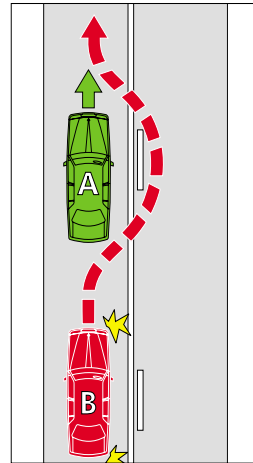
Example 3

Driving to the right of the centre of the road **not** permitted — overtaking on a road with a single continuous dividing line only



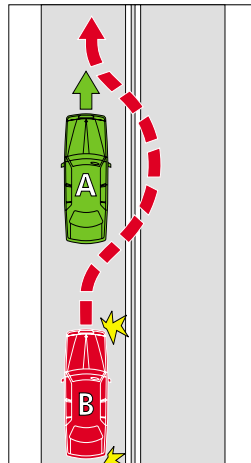
Example 4

Driving to the right of the centre of the road **not** permitted — overtaking on a road with a single continuous dividing line to the left of a broken dividing line



Example 5

Driving to the right of the centre of the road **not** permitted — overtaking on a road with 2 parallel continuous dividing lines



**Rule 135**

---

**135 Keeping to the left of a median strip**

- (1) A driver on a road with a median strip must drive to the left of the median strip, unless the driver is:
- (a) entering or driving in a median strip parking area; or
  - (b) required to drive to the right of the median strip by a *keep right sign*.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Median strip** and **median strip parking area** are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* For the meaning of driving to the *left* of something, see rule 351 (3).

- (2) In this rule:

**median strip** does not include a painted island.

*Note 1* **Painted island** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 138 deals with keeping off painted islands.

Keep right sign



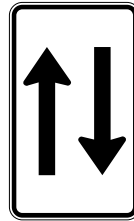
**136 Driving on a one-way service road**

A driver on the part of the road that is a service road (except a service road to which a *two-way sign* applies) must drive in the same direction as a vehicle travelling on the part of the road used by the main body of moving vehicles in the marked lane or line of traffic closest to the service road.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Marked lane**, **part of the road used by the main body of moving vehicles** and **service road** are defined in the dictionary.

Two-way sign



*Note for diagram* There is another permitted version of the *two-way sign* — see the diagram in Schedule 3.

### **137 Keeping off a dividing strip**

- (1) A driver must not drive on a dividing strip, except as permitted under this rule or rule 139 (4).

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Dividing strip** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 139 deals with avoiding obstructions on a road.

- (2) A driver may drive on a dividing strip that is at the same level as the road, and marked at each side by a continuous line:
  - (a) to enter or leave the road; or
  - (b) to enter or leave an area on the dividing strip to which a parking control sign applies if the driver is permitted to park in the area.

*Note 1* **Parking control sign** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Part 12 deals with restrictions on stopping and parking.

- (3) In this rule:  
**dividing strip** does not include a painted island.

*Note 1* **Painted island** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 138 deals with keeping off painted islands.

**Rule 138**

---

**138 Keeping off a painted island**

- (1) A driver must not drive on or over a single continuous line, or 2 parallel continuous lines, along a side of or surrounding a painted island, except as permitted under this rule or rule 139 (4).

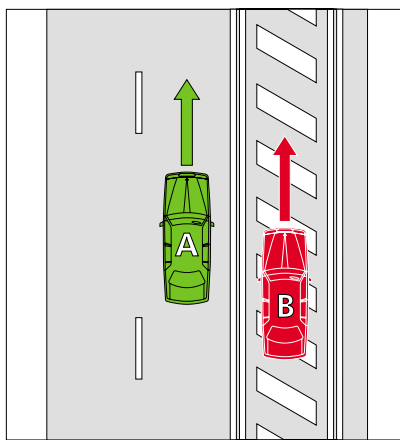
Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Painted island** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 139 deals with avoiding obstructions on a road.

*Example*

Painted island surrounded by 2 parallel continuous lines



In this example, vehicle B is contravening the rule.

- (2) A driver may drive on or over a single continuous line along the side of or surrounding a painted island:
- (a) to enter or leave the road; or
  - (b) to enter a turning lane that begins immediately after the painted island.

*Note 1* **Turning lane** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 85 deals with the give way rules applying to a driver entering a turning lane from a painted island.

### **139 Exceptions for avoiding obstructions on a road**

- (1) A driver on a two-way road without a dividing line or median strip may drive to the right of the centre of the road to avoid an obstruction if:
- (a) the driver has a clear view of any approaching traffic; and
  - (b) it is necessary and reasonable, in all the circumstances, for the driver to drive to the right of the centre of the road to avoid the obstruction; and
  - (c) the driver can do so safely.

*Note* **Approaching, centre of the road, dividing line, median strip, obstruction, traffic** and **two-way road** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) A driver on a road with a dividing line may drive to the right of the dividing line to avoid an obstruction if:
- (a) the driver has a clear view of any approaching traffic; and
  - (b) it is necessary and reasonable, in all the circumstances, for the driver to drive to the right of the dividing line to avoid the obstruction; and
  - (c) the driver can do so safely.
- (3) For subrule (2), if the dividing line is a single continuous dividing line to the left of a broken dividing line, a single continuous dividing line only or 2 parallel continuous dividing lines, the hazard in driving to the right of such a dividing line must be taken into account in deciding whether it is reasonable to drive to the right of the dividing line.
- (4) A driver may drive on a dividing strip, or on or over a single continuous line, or 2 parallel continuous lines, along a side of or surrounding a painted island, to avoid an obstruction if:
- (a) the driver has a clear view of any approaching traffic; and
  - (b) it is necessary and reasonable to drive on the dividing strip or painted island to avoid the obstruction; and
  - (c) the driver can do so safely.

*Note* **Dividing strip** and **painted island** are defined in the dictionary.

## **Division 3 Overtaking**

### **140 No overtaking unless safe to do so**

A driver must not overtake a vehicle unless:

- (a) the driver has a clear view of any approaching traffic; and
- (b) the driver can safely overtake the vehicle.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Approaching, overtake** and **traffic** are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* A driver is not permitted to overtake another vehicle by crossing a single continuous dividing line only, a single continuous dividing line to the left of a broken dividing line or 2 parallel continuous dividing lines — see rules 134 (2) and 132 (2).

### **141 No overtaking etc to the left of a vehicle**

- (1) A driver (except the rider of a bicycle) must not overtake a vehicle to the left of the vehicle unless:
  - (a) the driver is driving on a multi-lane road and the vehicle can be safely overtaken in a marked lane to the left of the vehicle; or
  - (b) the vehicle is turning right, or making a U–turn from the centre of the road, and is giving a right change of direction signal.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Bicycle, centre of the road, marked lane, multi-lane road, overtake, right change of direction signal** and **U–turn** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) The rider of a bicycle must not ride past, or overtake, to the left of a vehicle that is turning left and is giving a left change of direction signal.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Left change of direction signal** is defined in the dictionary.

- (3) In this rule:

*turning right* does not include making a hook turn.

*vehicle* does not include a tram, a bus travelling along tram tracks, or any vehicle displaying a *do not overtake turning vehicle sign*.

*Note 1* *Bus, tram* and *travelling along tram tracks* are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Part 4, Division 3 deals with making hook turns.

*Note 3* Division 7 of this Part deals with overtaking and passing trams (and buses travelling along tram tracks). Rule 143 deals with overtaking or passing a vehicle displaying a *do not overtake turning vehicle sign*.

## **142 No overtaking to the right of a vehicle turning right etc**

- (1) A driver must not overtake to the right of a vehicle if the vehicle is turning right, or making a U–turn from the centre of the road, and is giving a right change of direction signal.

Offence provision.

*Note* *Centre of the road, overtake, right change of direction signal* and *U-turn* are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) In this rule:

*turning right* does not include making a hook turn.

*vehicle* does not include a tram, a bus travelling along tram tracks, or any vehicle displaying a *do not overtake turning vehicle sign*.

*Note 1* *Bus, tram* and *travelling along tram tracks* are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Part 4, Division 3 deals with making hook turns.

*Note 3* Division 7 of this Part deals with overtaking and passing trams (and buses travelling along tram tracks). Rule 143 deals with overtaking or passing a vehicle displaying a *do not overtake turning vehicle sign*.

**Rule 143**

---

**143 Passing or overtaking a vehicle displaying a do not overtake turning vehicle sign**

- (1) A driver must not drive past, or overtake, to the left of a vehicle displaying a *do not overtake turning vehicle sign* if the vehicle is turning left and is giving a left change of direction signal, unless it is safe to do so.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Left change of direction signal** and **overtake** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) A driver must not drive past, or overtake, to the right of a vehicle displaying a *do not overtake turning vehicle sign* if the vehicle is turning right, or making a U–turn from the centre of the road, and is giving a right change of direction signal, unless it is safe to do so.

Offence provision.

*Example*

A driver driving on a multi-lane road who is turning right at an intersection to which a *right turn only sign* applies may drive past a vehicle displaying a *do not overtake turning vehicle sign* that is turning right from another marked lane, and giving a right change of direction signal, if it is safe to do so.

*Note* **Centre of the road**, **right change of direction signal** and **U–turn** are defined in the dictionary.

- (3) In this rule:  
**turning right** does not include making a hook turn.

*Note* Part 4, Division 3 deals with making hook turns.

Do not overtake turning vehicle signs



*Note for diagrams* These signs are displayed on certain long vehicles.

## **144 Keeping a safe distance when overtaking**

A driver overtaking a vehicle:

- (a) must pass the vehicle at a sufficient distance to avoid a collision with the vehicle or obstructing the path of the vehicle; and
- (b) must not return to the marked lane or line of traffic where the vehicle is travelling until the driver is a sufficient distance past the vehicle to avoid a collision with the vehicle or obstructing the path of the vehicle.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Marked lane** and **overtake** are defined in the dictionary.

## **145 Driver being overtaken not to increase speed**

If a driver is overtaking another driver on a two-way road by crossing a dividing line, or crossing to the right of the centre of the road, the other driver must not increase the speed at which the driver is driving until the first driver:

- (a) has passed the other driver; and
- (b) has returned to the marked lane or line of traffic where the other driver is driving; and
- (c) is a sufficient distance in front of the other driver to avoid a collision.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Centre of the road**, **dividing line**, **marked lane**, **overtake** and **two-way road** are defined in the dictionary.

## **Division 4 Driving in marked lanes or lines of traffic**

### **146 Driving within a single marked lane or line of traffic**

- (1) A driver on a multi-lane road must drive so the driver's vehicle is completely in a marked lane, unless the driver is:
- (a) entering a part of the road of one kind from a part of the road of another kind (for example, moving to or from a service road, a shoulder of the road or emergency stopping lane); or
  - (b) entering or leaving the road; or
  - (c) moving from one marked lane to another marked lane; or
  - (d) avoiding an obstruction; or
  - (e) obeying a traffic control device applying to the marked lane; or
  - (f) permitted to drive in more than one marked lane under another provision of the Australian Road Rules or under another law of this jurisdiction.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Driver's vehicle, marked lane, multi-lane road, obstruction, service road** and **traffic control device** are defined in the dictionary, **shoulder** is defined in rule 12, and **emergency stopping lane** is defined in rule 95.

*Note 2* A driver is generally not permitted to move from one marked lane to another marked lane across a continuous line separating the lanes — see rule 147.

*Note 3* Rule 148 deals with giving way when moving from one marked lane to another marked lane.

*Note 4* An overhead lane control device may require a driver to leave a marked lane — see rule 152.

*Note 5* Drivers of certain long vehicles are permitted to use 2 marked lanes when turning at an intersection — see rule 28 (left turns) and rule 32 (right turns).

- (2) A driver on a road with 2 or more lines of traffic travelling in the same direction as the driver, but without marked lanes, must drive so the driver's vehicle is completely in a single line of traffic unless:
- (a) it is not practicable to drive completely in a single line of traffic; or
  - (b) the driver is entering a part of the road of one kind from a part of the road of another kind (for example, moving to or from a service road, a shoulder of the road or an emergency stopping lane); or
  - (c) the driver is entering or leaving the road; or
  - (d) the driver is moving from one line of traffic to another line of traffic; or
  - (e) the driver is avoiding an obstruction.

Offence provision.

*Note* Rule 148 deals with giving way when moving from one line of traffic to another line of traffic.

#### **147 Moving from one marked lane to another marked lane across a continuous line separating the lanes**

A driver on a multi-lane road must not move from one marked lane to another marked lane by crossing a continuous line separating the lanes unless:

- (a) the driver is avoiding an obstruction; or
- (b) the driver is obeying a traffic control device applying to the first marked lane; or
- (c) the driver is permitted to drive in both marked lanes under another provision of the Australian Road Rules or under another law of this jurisdiction; or
- (d) either of the marked lanes is a special purpose lane in which the driver is permitted to drive under the Australian Road Rules and the driver is moving to or from the special purpose lane.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Marked lane**, **multi-lane road**, **obstruction**, **special purpose lane** and **traffic control device** are defined in the dictionary.

**Rule 148**

---

*Note 2* An overhead lane control device may require a driver to leave a marked lane — see rule 152.

*Note 3* Drivers of certain long vehicles are permitted to use 2 marked lanes when turning at an intersection — see rule 28 (left turns) and rule 32 (right turns).

*Note 4* Rule 95 deals with driving in emergency stopping lanes, and Division 6 of this Part deals with driving in other special purpose lanes.

**148 Giving way when moving from one marked lane or line of traffic to another marked lane or line of traffic**

- (1) A driver on a multi-lane road who is moving from one marked lane (whether or not the lane is ending) to another marked lane must give way to any vehicle travelling in the same direction as the driver in the marked lane to which the driver is moving.

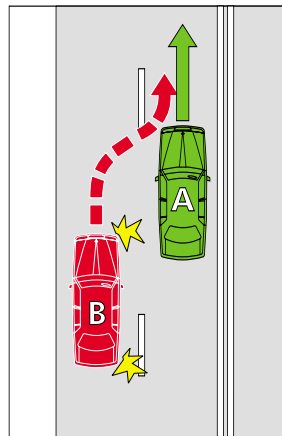
Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Marked lane** and **multi-lane road** are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* For this rule, **give way** means the driver must slow down and, if necessary, stop to avoid a collision — see the definition in the dictionary.

*Example*

Giving way when moving from one marked lane to another marked lane



In this example, vehicle B must give way to vehicle A.

- (2) A driver on a road with 2 or more lines of traffic travelling in the same direction as the driver, and who is moving from one line of traffic (whether or not the line of traffic is ending) to another line of traffic, must give way to any vehicle travelling in the same direction as the driver in the line of traffic to which the driver is moving.

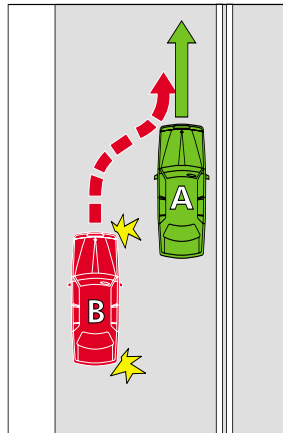
Offence provision.

- (3) Subrule (2) does not apply to a driver if the line of traffic in which the driver is driving is merging with the line of traffic to which the driver is moving.

*Note* Rule 149 deals with giving way when lines of traffic merge.

*Example*

Giving way when moving from one line of traffic to another line of traffic when the lines are not merging



In this example, vehicle B must give way to vehicle A

## **149 Giving way when lines of traffic merge into a single line of traffic**

A driver in a line of traffic that is merging with one or more lines of traffic travelling in the same direction as the driver must give way to a vehicle in another line of traffic if any part of the vehicle is ahead of the driver's vehicle.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* ***Driver's vehicle*** is defined in the dictionary.

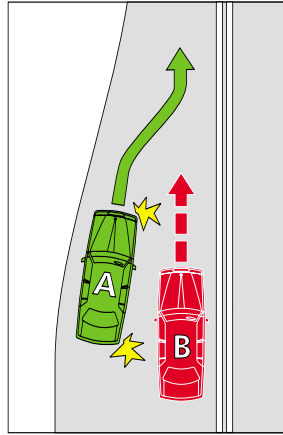
**Rule 150**

---

*Note 2* For this rule, **give way** means the driver must slow down and, if necessary, stop to avoid a collision — see the definition in the dictionary.

*Example*

Giving way when lines of traffic merge into a single line of traffic



In this example, vehicle B must give way to vehicle A.

**150 Driving on or across a continuous white edge line**

- (1) A driver must not drive on or over a continuous white edge line on a road unless the driver is:
  - (a) turning at an intersection; or
  - (b) entering or leaving the road; or
  - (c) entering a part of the road of one kind from a part of the road of another kind (for example, moving to or from a service road, a shoulder of the road or an emergency stopping lane); or
  - (d) overtaking a vehicle that is turning right, or making a U–turn from the centre of the road, and is giving a right change of direction signal; or
  - (e) driving a slow-moving vehicle; or
  - (f) stopping at the side of the road (including any shoulder of the road); or

- (g) driving a vehicle that is too wide, or too long, to drive on the road without driving on or over the edge line; or
- (h) permitted to drive on or over the edge line under another law of this jurisdiction.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Centre of the road, edge line, intersection, overtake, right change of direction signal, service road** and **U-turn** are defined in the dictionary, **emergency stopping lane** is defined in rule 95, and **shoulder** is defined in rule 12.

*Note 2* A driver must not stop at the side of a road marked with a continuous yellow edge line — see rule 169.

- (2) This rule does not apply to the rider of a bicycle or animal.

*Note* **Bicycle** is defined in the dictionary.

### **151 Riding a motor bike or bicycle alongside more than 1 other rider**

- (1) The rider of a motor bike or bicycle must not ride on a road that is not a multi-lane road alongside more than 1 other rider, unless subrule (3) applies to the rider.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Bicycle, motor bike** and **multi-lane road** are defined in the dictionary, and **rider** is defined in rule 17.

- (2) The rider of a motor bike or bicycle must not ride in a marked lane alongside more than 1 other rider in the marked lane, unless subrule (3) applies to the rider.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Marked lane** is defined in the dictionary.

- (3) The rider of a motor bike or bicycle may ride alongside more than 1 other rider if the rider is:
  - (a) overtaking the other riders; or
  - (b) permitted to do so under another law of this jurisdiction.

*Note* **Overtake** is defined in the dictionary.

**Rule 151**

---

- (4) If the rider of a motor bike or bicycle is riding on a road that is not a multi-lane road alongside another rider, or in a marked lane alongside another rider in the marked lane, the rider must ride not over 1.5 metres from the other rider.

Offence provision.

- (5) In this rule:

**road** does not include a road-related area, but includes a bicycle path, shared path and any shoulder of the road.

*Note* **Bicycle path** is defined in rule 239, **road-related area** is defined in rule 13, **shared path** is defined in rule 242, and **shoulder** is defined in rule 12.

## **Division 5 Obeying overhead lane control devices applying to marked lanes**

### **152 Complying with overhead lane control devices**

- (1) A driver in a marked lane to which an overhead lane control device applies must comply with this rule.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Marked lane** and **overhead lane control device** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) If the device displays an illuminated red diagonal cross or is a traffic sign displaying a red diagonal cross, the driver must not drive in the marked lane past the device.
- (3) If the device displays a flashing illuminated red diagonal cross, the driver must leave the marked lane as soon as it is safe to do so.

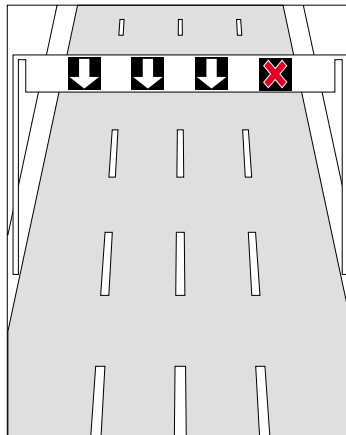
**Rule 152**

---

- (4) If the device displays an illuminated white, green or yellow arrow pointing downwards or indicating one or more directions, the driver may drive in the marked lane past the device.

*Example*

Overhead lane control device applying to marked lanes



*Note for diagram* If the device displays an arrow indicating one or more directions, the device operates also as traffic lane arrows — see the definition of **traffic lane arrows** in the dictionary. Rule 92 deals with traffic lane arrows.

## **Division 6 Driving in marked lanes designated for special purposes**

### **153 Bicycle lanes**

- (1) A driver (except the rider of a bicycle) must not drive in a bicycle lane, unless the driver is permitted to drive in the bicycle lane under this rule or rule 158.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Bicycle** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 158 provides additional exceptions applying to this rule, and also provides a defence to the prosecution of a driver for an offence against this rule.

- (2) If stopping or parking is permitted at a place in a bicycle lane under another law of this jurisdiction, a driver may drive for up to 50 metres in the bicycle lane to stop or park at that place.

*Note* Part 12 deals with parking and restricted stopping areas.

- (3) A driver may drive for up to 50 metres in a bicycle lane if:
- (a) the driver is driving a public bus, public minibus or taxi, and is dropping off or picking up, passengers; and
  - (b) there is not another law of this jurisdiction prohibiting the driver from driving in the bicycle lane.

*Note* **Public bus**, **public minibus** and **taxi** are defined in the dictionary.

**Rule 154**

---

- (4) A **bicycle lane** is a marked lane, or the part of a marked lane:
- (a) beginning at a *bicycle lane sign* applying to the lane; and
  - (b) ending at the nearest of the following:
    - (i) an *end bicycle lane sign* applying to the lane;
    - (ii) an intersection (unless the lane is at the unbroken side of the continuing road at a T-intersection or continued across the intersection by broken lines);
    - (iii) if the road ends at a dead end — the end of the road.

*Note* **Continuing road, intersection, marked lane** and **T-intersection** are defined in the dictionary.

Bicycle lane sign



End bicycle lane sign



*Note for diagrams* There are a number of other permitted versions of the *bicycle lane sign*, and another permitted version of the *end bicycle lane sign* — see the diagrams in Schedule 3.

## 154 Bus lanes

- (1) A driver (except the driver of a public bus) must not drive in a bus lane, unless the driver is permitted to drive in the bus lane under rule 158.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Public bus** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 158 provides additional exceptions applying to this rule, and also provides a defence to the prosecution of a driver for an offence against this rule.

- (2) A **bus lane** is a marked lane, or the part of a marked lane:
- (a) beginning at a *bus lane sign*; and
  - (b) ending at an *end bus lane sign*.

*Note* **Marked lane** is defined in the dictionary.

Bus lane sign



End bus lane sign



*Note for diagrams* There are a number of other permitted versions of each of these signs — see the diagrams in Schedule 3.

## 155 Tram lanes

- (1) A driver (except the driver of a tram or public bus) must not drive in a tram lane, unless the driver is permitted to drive in the tram lane under this rule or rule 158.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Public bus** and **tram** are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 158 provides additional exceptions applying to this rule, and also provides a defence to the prosecution of a driver for an offence against this rule.

- (2) A driver may drive in a tram lane if the driver is driving a truck and it is necessary for the driver to drive in the tram lane to reach a place to drop off, or pick up, passengers or goods.
- (3) A **tram lane** is a part of a road with tram tracks that:
- (a) is marked along the left side of the tracks by a continuous yellow line parallel to the tracks; and
  - (b) begins at a *tram lane sign*; and
  - (c) ends at an *end tram lane sign*.

*Note* **Tram tracks** and **left** are defined in the dictionary.

**Rule 156**

---

Tram lane sign



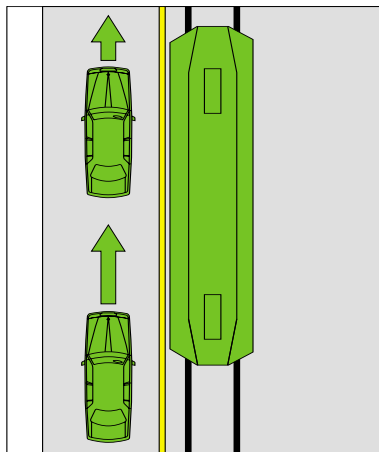
End tram lane sign



*Note for diagrams* There are a number of other permitted versions of the *tram lane sign* and another permitted version of the *end tram lane sign* — see the diagrams in Schedule 3.

*Example*

Tram lane



## 156 Transit lanes

- (1) A driver must not drive in a transit lane unless:
  - (a) the driver is driving:
    - (i) a public bus, public minibus, motor bike, taxi or tram; or
    - (ii) if the *transit lane sign* applying to the transit lane is a *transit lane (T2) sign* — a vehicle carrying at least 1 other person; or

- (iii) if the *transit lane sign* applying to the transit lane is a *transit lane (T3) sign* — a vehicle carrying at least 2 other people; or
- (b) the driver is permitted to drive in the transit lane under rule 158.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Motor bike, public bus, public minibus, taxi and tram** are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 158 provides additional exceptions applying to this rule, and also provides a defence to the prosecution of a driver for an offence against this rule.

- (2) A **transit lane** is a marked lane, or the part of a marked lane:
  - (a) beginning at a *transit lane sign*; and
  - (b) ending at an *end transit lane sign*.

*Note* **Marked lane** is defined in the dictionary.

Transit lane signs

Transit lane (T2) sign



Transit lane (T3) sign



End transit lane signs

End transit lane (T2) sign



End transit lane (T3) sign



*Note for diagrams* There are a number of other permitted versions of the *transit lane sign* and another permitted version of the *end transit lane sign* — see the diagrams in Schedule 3.

**Rule 157**

---

**157 Truck lanes**

- (1) A driver (except the driver of a truck) must not drive in a truck lane, unless the driver is permitted to drive in the truck lane under rule 158.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Truck** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 158 provides additional exceptions applying to this rule, and also provides a defence to the prosecution of a driver for an offence against this rule.

- (2) A **truck lane** is a marked lane, or the part of a marked lane:
- (a) beginning at a *truck lane sign*; and
  - (b) ending at an *end truck lane sign*.

*Note* **Marked lane** is defined in the dictionary.

Truck lane sign



End truck lane sign



*Note for diagrams* There is another permitted version of the *end truck lane sign* — see the diagram in Schedule 3.

**158 Exceptions to driving in special purpose lanes etc**

- (1) The driver of any vehicle may drive for up to the permitted distance in a bicycle lane, bus lane, tram lane, transit lane or truck lane if it is necessary for the driver to drive in the lane:
- (a) to enter or leave the road; or
  - (b) to enter a part of the road of one kind from a part of the road of another kind (for example, moving to or from a service road, the shoulder of the road or an emergency stopping lane); or

- (c) to overtake a vehicle that is turning right, or making a U-turn from the centre of the road, and is giving a right change of direction signal; or
- (d) to enter a marked lane, or a line of traffic, from the side of the road.

*Note 1* **Permitted distance** is defined in subrule (4).

*Note 2* **Bicycle lane** is defined in rule 153, **bus lane** is defined in rule 154, **emergency stopping lane** is defined in rule 95, **centre of the road**, **marked lane**, **overtake**, **right change of direction signal**, **service road** and **U-turn** are defined in the dictionary, **shoulder** is defined in rule 12, **tram lane** is defined in rule 155, **transit lane** is defined in rule 156, and **truck lane** is defined in rule 157.

*Note 3* A driver must keep clear of a tram travelling in a tram lane — see rule 76.

- (2) The driver of any vehicle may drive in a bicycle lane, bus lane, tram lane, transit lane or truck lane if:
  - (a) it is necessary for the driver to drive in the lane to avoid an obstruction; or
  - (b) information on or with a traffic sign applying to the lane indicates that the driver may drive in the lane; or
  - (c) the driver is permitted to drive in the lane under another law of this jurisdiction.

*Note* **Obstruction**, **traffic sign** and **with** are defined in the dictionary.

- (3) It is a defence to the prosecution of a driver for an offence against a provision of this Division for driving in a bicycle lane, bus lane, tram lane, transit lane or truck lane if:
  - (a) it is necessary for the driver to drive in the lane to stop at a place in the lane; and
  - (b) the driver is permitted to stop at that place under the Australian Road Rules or another law of this jurisdiction, or it is a defence under rule 165 for the driver to stop at that place; and
  - (c) if the lane is a bicycle lane — the driver drives in the lane for no more than the permitted distance.

*Note* Rule 165 provides a defence to the prosecution of a driver for an offence against a provision of Part 12 (Restrictions on stopping and parking). The defence is available, for example, if the driver needs to stop to deal with a medical or other emergency.

**Rule 159**

---

(4) In this rule:

*permitted distance* means:

- (a) for a bicycle lane — 50 metres; or
- (b) for any other lane — 100 metres.

**159 Marked lanes required to be used by particular kinds of vehicles**

- (1) If information on or with a traffic sign applying to a length of road indicates that a vehicle of a particular kind must drive in a particular marked lane, a driver driving a vehicle of that kind on the length of road must drive in the indicated lane, unless the driver is:
  - (a) avoiding an obstruction; or
  - (b) obeying a traffic control device applying to the indicated lane; or
  - (c) permitted to drive in the indicated lane and also another marked lane under another provision of the Australian Road Rules or under another law of this jurisdiction.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* *Length* of road, *marked lane*, *obstruction*, *traffic control device*, *traffic sign* and *with* are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* An overhead lane control device may require a driver to leave a marked lane — see rule 152.

*Note 3* Drivers of certain long vehicles are permitted to use 2 marked lanes when turning at an intersection — see rule 28 (left turns) and rule 32 (right turns).

- (2) A traffic sign mentioned in this rule that is on a road applies to the length of road beginning at the sign and ending at the nearest of the following:
  - (a) a traffic sign or road marking on the road that indicates that the first traffic sign no longer applies;
  - (b) the next intersection on the road;

- (c) if the road ends at a T–intersection or dead end — the end of the road.

*Note 1* **Intersection, road marking, T–intersection** and **traffic sign** are defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Rule 322 (1) and (2) deal with the meaning of a traffic sign *on* a road.

*Examples of a traffic sign mentioned in the rule and a traffic sign indicating that the first traffic sign no longer applies*

Trucks use left lane sign



End trucks use left lane sign



*Note for diagrams* There is another permitted version of the *trucks use left lane sign* — see the diagrams in Schedule 3.

**Rule 160**

---

## **Division 7 Passing trams and safety zones**

*Note* **Bus, tram, tram tracks** and **travelling along tram tracks** are defined in the dictionary.

### **160 Passing or overtaking a tram that is not at or near the left side of a road**

- (1) This rule applies to a driver driving on a road with tram tracks that are not at or near the far left side of the road.
- (2) The driver must not drive past, or overtake, a tram to the right of the tram.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Overtake** is defined in the dictionary.

- (3) The driver must not drive past, or overtake, a tram if the tram is turning left or is giving a left change of direction signal, unless the driver is turning left and there is no danger of a collision with the tram.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Left change of direction signal** is defined in the dictionary.

- (4) In this rule:  
**tram** includes a bus travelling along tram tracks.

### **161 Passing or overtaking a tram at or near the left side of a road**

- (1) This rule applies to a driver driving on a road with tram tracks at or near the far left side of the road.
- (2) The driver must not drive past, or overtake, a tram to the left of the tram unless the driver is turning left and there is no danger of a collision with the tram.

Offence provision.

**Rule 160**

---

## **Division 7 Passing trams and safety zones**

*Note* **Bus, tram, tram tracks** and **travelling along tram tracks** are defined in the dictionary.

### **160 Passing or overtaking a tram that is not at or near the left side of a road**

- (1) This rule applies to a driver driving on a road with tram tracks that are not at or near the far left side of the road.
- (2) The driver must not drive past, or overtake, a tram to the right of the tram.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Overtake** is defined in the dictionary.

- (3) The driver must not drive past, or overtake, a tram if the tram is turning left or is giving a left change of direction signal, unless the driver is turning left and there is no danger of a collision with the tram.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Left change of direction signal** is defined in the dictionary.

- (4) In this rule:  
**tram** includes a bus travelling along tram tracks.

### **161 Passing or overtaking a tram at or near the left side of a road**

- (1) This rule applies to a driver driving on a road with tram tracks at or near the far left side of the road.
- (2) The driver must not drive past, or overtake, a tram to the left of the tram unless the driver is turning left and there is no danger of a collision with the tram.

Offence provision.

- (3) The driver must not drive past, or overtake, a tram if the tram is turning right or is giving a right change of direction signal.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Right change of direction signal** is defined in the dictionary.

- (4) In this rule:

**tram** includes a bus travelling along tram tracks.

## 162 Driving past a safety zone

- (1) A driver driving past a safety zone:

- (a) must not drive on the safety zone; and
- (b) must drive to the left of the safety zone at a speed that does not put at risk the safety of any pedestrian crossing the road to or from the safety zone.

Offence provision.

- (2) A **safety zone** is an area of a road:

- (a) at a place with **safety zone signs** at or near a tram stop; and
- (b) indicated by a structure on the road (for example, a dividing strip, pedestrian refuge or traffic island).

*Note* **Dividing strip** and **traffic island** are defined in the dictionary.

Safety zone sign



## 163 Driving past the rear of a stopped tram

- (1) A driver must comply with this rule if:

- (a) the driver is driving behind the rear of a tram travelling in the same direction as the driver; and

**Rule 163**

---

- (b) the tram stops, except at the far left side of the road; and
- (c) there is no safety zone, dividing strip or traffic island between the tram and the part of the road where the driver is driving.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Dividing strip** and **traffic island** are defined in the dictionary, and **safety zone** is defined in rule 162.

- (2) The driver must not drive past the rear of the tram if a pedestrian is crossing the road between the tram and the far left side of the road.
- (3) The driver may drive past the tram at a speed not over 10 kilometres per hour (or, if another law of this jurisdiction provides for another speed, not over the other speed) if there are no pedestrians crossing the road between the tram and the far left side of the road and:
  - (a) if the driver is approaching or at traffic lights — the traffic lights are showing a green traffic light, or a green traffic arrow and the driver is turning in the direction indicated by the arrow; or
  - (b) the driver is directed to drive past the tram by an authorised person.

*Note 1* **Authorised person** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* Part 6 deals with traffic lights.

- (4) In this rule:  
**tram** includes a bus travelling along tram tracks.

## **164 Giving way to pedestrians crossing the road near a stopped tram**

- (1) A driver must comply with this rule if:
- (a) the driver is driving past, or overtaking, a tram travelling in the same direction as the driver; and
  - (b) the tram stops, except at the far left side of the road; and
  - (c) there is no safety zone, dividing strip or traffic island between the tram and the part of the road where the driver is driving.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Dividing strip**, **overtake** and **traffic island** are defined in the dictionary, and **safety zone** is defined in rule 162.

- (2) The driver must stop and give way to any pedestrian crossing the road between the tram and the far left side of the road.

*Note* For subrule (2), **give way** means remain stationary until it is safe to proceed — see the definition in the dictionary.

- (3) If the driver stops to give way to a pedestrian, the driver must not proceed until there is no pedestrian crossing the road between the tram and the far left side of the road.

- (4) If there is no pedestrian crossing the road between the tram and the far left side of the road, the driver may proceed to drive past, or overtake, the tram at a speed not over 10 kilometres per hour (or, if another law of this jurisdiction provides another speed, not over the other speed).

- (5) In this rule:

**tram** includes a bus travelling along tram tracks.