

Part 5 Change of direction and stop signals

Division 1 Change of direction signals

44 Division does not apply to entering or leaving a roundabout

This Division does not apply to a driver entering, in or leaving a roundabout.

Note Part 9 deals with giving change of direction signals when entering or leaving a roundabout.

45 What is changing direction

- (1) A driver *changes direction* if the driver changes direction to the left or the driver changes direction to the right.
- (2) A driver *changes direction to the left* by doing any of the following:
 - (a) turning left;
 - (b) changing marked lanes to the left;
 - (c) diverging to the left;
 - (d) entering a marked lane, or a line of traffic, to the left;
 - (e) moving to the left from a stationary position;
 - (f) turning left into a marked lane, or a line of traffic, from a median strip parking area;
 - (g) at a T-intersection where the continuing road curves to the right — leaving the continuing road to proceed straight ahead onto the terminating road.

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

Note 2 For the meaning of *left*, see rule 351 (1).

- (3) A driver *changes direction to the right* by doing any of the following:
 - (a) turning right;

- (b) changing marked lanes to the right;
- (c) diverging to the right;
- (d) entering a marked lane, or a line of traffic, to the right;
- (e) moving to the right from a stationary position;
- (f) turning right into a marked lane, or a line of traffic, from a median strip parking area;
- (g) making a U-turn;
- (h) at a T-intersection where the continuing road curves to the left — leaving the continuing road to proceed straight ahead onto the terminating road.

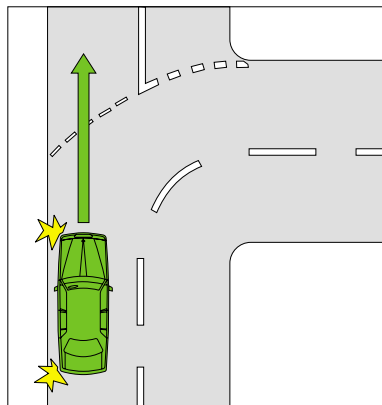
Note 1 **U-turn** is defined in the dictionary.

Note 2 For the meaning of **right**, see rule 351 (2).

Examples for subrules (2) (g) and (3) (h)

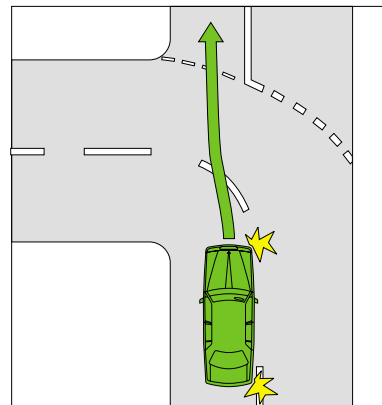
Example 1

Driver indicating change of direction at a T-intersection where the continuing road curves to the right and the driver is proceeding straight ahead onto the terminating road



Example 2

Driver indicating change of direction at a T-intersection where the continuing road curves to the left and the driver is proceeding straight ahead onto the terminating road



Rule 46

46 Giving a left change of direction signal

- (1) Before a driver changes direction to the left, the driver must give a left change of direction signal in accordance with rule 47 for long enough to comply with subrule (2) and, if subrule (3) applies to the driver, that subrule.

Offence provision.

Note **Changes direction to the left** is defined in rule 45 (2).

- (2) The driver must give the change of direction signal for long enough to give sufficient warning to other drivers and pedestrians.
- (3) If the driver is about to change direction by moving from a stationary position at the side of the road or in a median strip parking area, the driver must give the change of direction signal for at least 5 seconds before the driver changes direction.

Note **Median strip parking area** is defined in the dictionary.

- (4) The driver must stop giving the change of direction signal as soon as the driver completes the change of direction.

Offence provision.

- (5) This rule does not apply to a driver if the driver's vehicle is not fitted with direction indicator lights.

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

47 How to give a left change of direction signal

The driver of a vehicle must give a left change of direction signal by operating the vehicle's left direction indicator lights.

48 Giving a right change of direction signal

- (1) Before a driver changes direction to the right, the driver must give a right change of direction signal in accordance with rule 49 for long enough to comply with subrule (2) and, if subrule (3) applies to the driver, that subrule.

Offence provision.

Note **Changes direction to the right** is defined in rule 45 (3).

- (2) The driver must give the change of direction signal for long enough to give sufficient warning to other drivers and pedestrians.
- (3) If the driver is about to change direction by moving from a stationary position at the side of the road or in a median strip parking area, the driver must give the change of direction signal for at least 5 seconds before the driver changes direction.

Note **Median strip parking area** is defined in the dictionary.

- (4) The driver must stop giving the change of direction signal as soon as the driver completes the change of direction.

Offence provision.

- (5) This rule does not apply to:
 - (a) the driver of a tram that is not fitted with direction indicator lights; or
 - (b) the rider of a bicycle making a hook turn.

Note 1 **Bicycle** and **tram** are defined in the dictionary.

Note 2 Rules 34 and 35 deal with bicycles making hook turns.

49 How to give a right change of direction signal

- (1) The driver of a vehicle must give a right change of direction signal by operating the vehicle's right direction indicator lights.

Rule 50

- (2) However, if the vehicle's direction indicator lights are not in working order or are not clearly visible, or the vehicle is not fitted with direction indicator lights, the driver must give the change of direction signal by giving a hand signal in accordance with rule 50, or using a mechanical signalling device fitted to the vehicle.

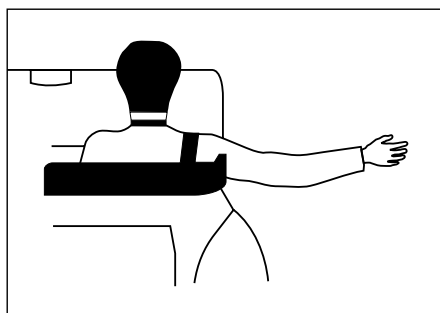
Note **Mechanical signalling device** is defined in the dictionary.

50 How to give a right change of direction signal by giving a hand signal

To give a hand signal for changing direction to the right, the driver must extend the right arm and hand horizontally and at right angles from the right side of the vehicle, with the hand open and the palm facing the direction of travel.

Example

Giving a hand signal for changing direction to the right



51 When use of direction indicator lights permitted

The driver of a vehicle must not operate a direction indicator light except:

- (a) to give a change of direction signal when the driver is required to give the signal under the Australian Road Rules; or
- (b) as part of the vehicle's hazard warning lights.

Offence provision.

Note Rule 221 deals with the use of hazard warning lights.

Division 2 Stop signals

52 Division does not apply to bicycle riders or certain tram drivers

This Division does not apply to the rider of a bicycle, or the driver of a tram that is not fitted with brake lights.

Note **Bicycle** and **tram** are defined in the dictionary.

53 Giving a stop signal

- (1) A driver must give a stop signal in accordance with rule 54 before stopping or when suddenly slowing.

Offence provision.

- (2) If the driver is stopping, the driver must give the stop signal for long enough to give sufficient warning to other road users.

Offence provision.

- (3) If the driver is slowing suddenly, the driver must give the stop signal while slowing.

Offence provision.

54 How to give a stop signal

- (1) The driver of a vehicle must give a stop signal by means of the vehicle's brake lights.
- (2) However, if the vehicle's brake lights are not in working order or are not clearly visible, or the vehicle is not fitted with brake lights, the driver must give the stop signal by giving a hand signal in accordance with rule 55, or using a mechanical signalling device fitted to the vehicle.

Note **Mechanical signalling device** is defined in the dictionary.

Rule 55

55 How to give a stop signal by giving a hand signal

- (1) To give a hand signal for stopping or suddenly slowing, the driver must extend the right arm and hand at right angles from the right side of the vehicle, with the upper arm horizontal and the forearm and hand pointing upwards, and with the hand open and the palm facing the direction of travel.
- (2) However, the rider of a motor bike may give the hand signal by extending the left arm and hand at right angles from the left side of the motor bike, with the upper arm horizontal and the forearm and hand pointing upwards, and with the hand open and the palm facing the direction of travel.

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

Example

Giving a hand signal for stopping or suddenly slowing

