

# Yielding the Right of Way: Common Mistakes



**Right of way** is a traffic concept used to establish who has precedence over another when sharing a roadway. Most states have specific yielding the right of way rules codified into their traffic laws.

Failure to yield the right of way can result in traffic violations and a determination of fault in an accident. **Do not impede another driver's right of way!**

## Drive defensively

Having the right of way does not mean others will respect it! **Watch for others** who do not yield when they are require to.

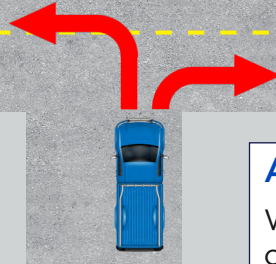


## Do not impede others

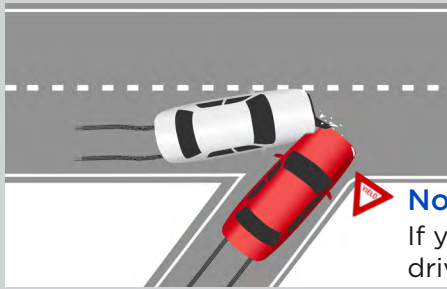
Traffic should not have to slow or brake due to your actions! **Wait for a larger gap** before pulling out or merging into traffic.

**Below are common failure-to-yield right of way mistakes that often result in severe accidents. Take precautions to avoid them.**

Pulling out from a driveway or side road without an adequate gap in traffic.



Traffic should not have to slow or brake due to your actions! Wait for a larger gap.



## Not yielding when merging

If you have a yield sign, other drivers have the right of way.

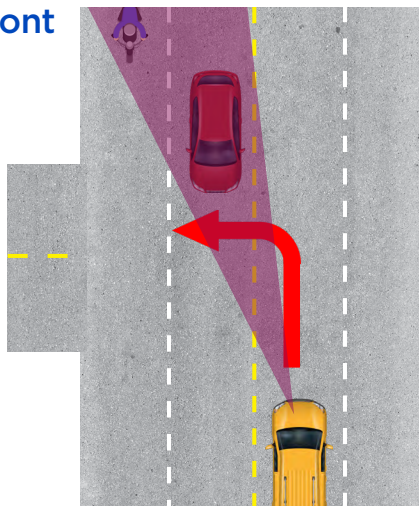
## Assuming others will yield

When you have a green light, always scan for other traffic that might not stop when required.



## Making a left turn in front of oncoming traffic

- Ensure an adequate gap
- Anticipate hidden vehicles
- Watch for motorcycles, which are often difficult to see



**Practice Patience!**

## Not yielding to pedestrians

Pedestrians have right of way in and around crosswalks. Away from crosswalks, drivers must yield to pedestrians they encounter. Pedestrians are rarely found to be at-fault no matter where the accident occurs.



**Always use caution around pedestrians**