

# CAN YOU MAKE THE GRADE?

TEST YOUR  
RAIL SAFETY  
KNOWLEDGE.



**OPERATION  
LIFESAVER<sup>®</sup>**  
Rail Safety Education

**OBEY ALL WARNING  
DEVICES AT RAILROAD  
GRADE CROSSINGS**

**KNOW  
THE  
FACTS:**

**IN THE U.S., A PERSON  
OR VEHICLE IS HIT BY A  
TRAIN EVERY 3 HOURS.**

**TRAINS ARE QUIETER  
AND FASTER THAN YOU  
THINK — ONLY TRAINS  
BELONG ON THE TRACKS.**

**THE AVERAGE FREIGHT  
TRAIN TRAVELING 55  
MILES PER HOUR CAN  
TAKE A MILE OR MORE  
TO STOP — THE LENGTH  
OF 18 FOOTBALL FIELDS.**

**SEE TRACKS?  
THINK TRAIN!**



## CAN YOU MAKE THE GRADE?

### TEST YOUR RAIL SAFETY

#### KNOWLEDGE.

DRIVING THROUGH A NEIGHBORING TOWN, YOU SEE A ROUND, YELLOW SIGN WITH AN X AND THE LETTERS RR.



#### 1. THE ROUND, YELLOW SIGN IS CALLED THE:

- a. Advance Warning sign
- b. Crossbuck
- c. Track sign

#### 2. IT TELLS YOU:

- a. There is a railroad yard nearby
- b. To slow down, you are approaching a railroad crossing
- c. There is only one railroad track ahead

AS YOU GET CLOSER, YOU SEE A SIGN WITH THE WORDS "RAILROAD CROSSING" ON TWO, CROSSED WHITE BOARDS.



#### 3. THE SIGN IS CALLED THE:

- a. Advanced Warning sign
- b. Crossbuck
- c. Track sign

#### 4. IT TELLS YOU:

- a. To hurry across the tracks
- b. There is only one railroad track ahead
- c. To slow down, look, listen and be prepared to yield to an approaching train

YOU NOTICE A SMALLER SIGN BELOW THE CROSSED, WHITE BOARDS. ON THE SMALL SIGN ARE THE WORDS "2 TRACKS."



#### 5. THIS SIGN TELLS YOU:

- a. The road ahead crosses two tracks
- b. To expect trains approaching from either direction
- c. Both a and b

AS YOU START DRIVING OVER THE TRACKS, YOU SEE THE RED LIGHTS BEGIN TO FLASH AND THE GATE STARTS TO COME DOWN.



#### 6. THIS MEANS:

- a. You tripped an emergency signaling device
- b. A train is approaching
- c. Someone is probably working on the signals

#### 7. YOU SHOULD:

- a. Keep going until you have cleared the tracks by at least 15 feet
- b. Stop and abandon the vehicle
- c. Back up to get off the tracks

#### 8. IF YOUR CAR STALLS ON THE TRACKS

##### AS A TRAIN APPROACHES:

- a. Keep trying to restart your car until you see the train
- b. Stand next to your car and wave at the locomotive engineer
- c. Get everyone out of the car IMMEDIATELY, move away from the tracks at a 45° angle, in the direction of the approaching train

THE NEXT DAY, YOU ENCOUNTER A RAILROAD CROSSING WITHOUT A GATE OR FLASHING RED LIGHTS. PLEASE BE VERY CAREFUL AS YOU CROSS THE TRACKS HERE.

#### 9. IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO JUDGE HOW

##### FAR AWAY A TRAIN IS BECAUSE:

- a. An optical illusion fools the eye in judging distance and speed
- b. You have not learned how
- c. The train may unexpectedly speed up

#### 10. AFTER FULLY APPLYING THE BRAKES, A 100-CAR FREIGHT TRAIN TRAVELING 55 MPH

##### TAKES AT LEAST \_\_\_\_ TO STOP.

- a. ¼ mile
- b. ½ mile
- c. 1 mile

#### 11. YOU CANNOT PREDICT THE ARRIVAL OF A FREIGHT TRAIN AT A CROSSING BECAUSE:

- a. Schedules are not published
- b. They do not keep regular schedules
- c. Published schedules may not be accurate

#### TRUE (T) OR FALSE (F)?

- 12. T F The biggest factor in vehicle-train collisions is train speed.
- 13. T F After fully applying the brakes, light rail trains take only 100 feet to stop.

1. a. The round, yellow sign is called the Advance Warning sign.

2. b. It tells you to slow down, you are approaching a railroad crossing.

3. b. This sign is called a Crossbuck.

4. c. The Crossbuck tells you to slow down, look, listen and be prepared to yield to an approaching train.

5. c. A number posted below the Crossbuck indicates the number of tracks at that crossing. Always expect a train from either direction!

6. b. When the red lights begin flashing, it means a train is approaching.

7. a. If the red lights begin flashing and the gate starts to come down as you cross the tracks, keep going even if it means breaking the gate.

8. c. Trains cannot stop quickly. If your vehicle stalls or gets stuck on the tracks, quickly get everyone out and move away from the tracks at a 45° angle, in the direction of the approaching train.

9. a. As you look down the tracks, you experience an optical illusion. The train is closer and traveling faster than it appears. Don't take a chance. Wait for the train to pass!

10. c. After fully applying the brakes, a 100-car freight train traveling 55 mph takes at least a full mile to stop.

11. b. You cannot predict the arrival of a freight train at a crossing because they do not keep regular schedules.

12. False At a highway-rail intersection, roadway vehicles are required to yield to trains.

13. False After applying the brakes, light rail trains can take up to 600 feet to stop, the length of 2 football fields.

## ABOUT OPERATION LIFESAVER:

OPERATION LIFESAVER IS A MISSION DRIVEN RAIL SAFETY EDUCATION NON-PROFIT POWERED BY DEDICATED PEOPLE. OUR GOAL IS TO END COLLISIONS, DEATHS AND INJURIES ON AND AROUND RAILROAD TRACKS AND TRAINS.

- **Free in-person and virtual safety presentations** across the U.S.
- **eLearning programs** for professional drivers, first responders and school bus drivers.
- **Visit [oli.org](http://oli.org)** to schedule a presentation, find safety materials, become a volunteer and share public awareness campaigns, videos and more.

## HELP STOP TRACK TRAGEDIES

Know the facts.

Make good decisions.

Share the message.

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