

How to Use a Roundabout

Sharing the Road



What is a Modern Roundabout?

A modern roundabout is a circular intersection where entering traffic yields to traffic circulating counter-clockwise around a centralized island. The modern roundabout is used to slow the speed of vehicles, to increase capacity and increase safety. It is designed to accommodate all road users and their individual needs. This ranges from the large turning radius of a truck to the safety of pedestrians.

Pedestrians

Roundabouts create a safer environment for pedestrians to cross by slowing traffic and dividing the crossing into two stages. When crossing the roadway, pedestrians should look for oncoming vehicles and bicyclists. They should be aware of vehicles and make sure drivers see them and are going to yield. When there is a sufficient gap in traffic or vehicles have yielded, the pedestrian should cross to the splitter island. The process is then repeated to finish the crossing of the roadway.

Walking Through a Roundabout

Walk the perimeter of the roundabout, and use the designated crosswalks.

Step 1: Look in the direction of traffic for oncoming vehicles and bicycles.

Step 2: Be aware of drivers already in the roundabout. Make sure they see you. Do not assume they are going to stop.

Step 3: Once there is a sufficient gap or drivers have yielded, cross the roadway to the splitter island.

Step 4: Repeat the process for the other direction of traffic and finish crossing.

What Not to do When Crossing a Roundabout

Do not assume drivers see you and are going to yield. • Do not cross to the central island. • Do not cross both directions of traffic in one attempt.

Bicycling Through a Roundabout



Step 1: Slow down and center yourself in the lane as you approach the roundabout.



Step 4: Slow down as you approach the yield sign. Look to the left to see if vehicles are traveling within the roundabout.



Step 2: Use the guide signs and lane designation markers to choose the appropriate lane for the intended destination.

Step 5: Once there is a sufficient gap in traffic, enter the roundabout. Position bicycle in the center of the lane so you are visible to vehicles and they will not try to overtake you. Do not stop or change lanes once in the roundabout.



Step 3: Look for pedestrians as you approach the roundabout. Yield to those in the crosswalk.



Step 6: As you approach the intended destination, signal your intent to exit. Look for pedestrians as you exit.

Bicyclists

Bicyclists can use the roundabout as a pedestrian or in the same manner as a vehicle. When crossing as a pedestrian, dismount the bicycle and cross using the same guidelines. When using the roundabout, bicyclists should center themselves in the lane so motorists are able to see them and will not pass them. They should then follow the same procedure as a vehicle.

Emergency Vehicles

If you have not yet entered the roundabout and see an emergency vehicle approaching, pull over to the right and allow the emergency vehicle to enter and clear the roundabout. If you are already traveling in the roundabout as an emergency vehicle approaches, exit at the nearest exit and then pull over to the right to allow the emergency vehicle to clear the roundabout. Do not stop within a roundabout.



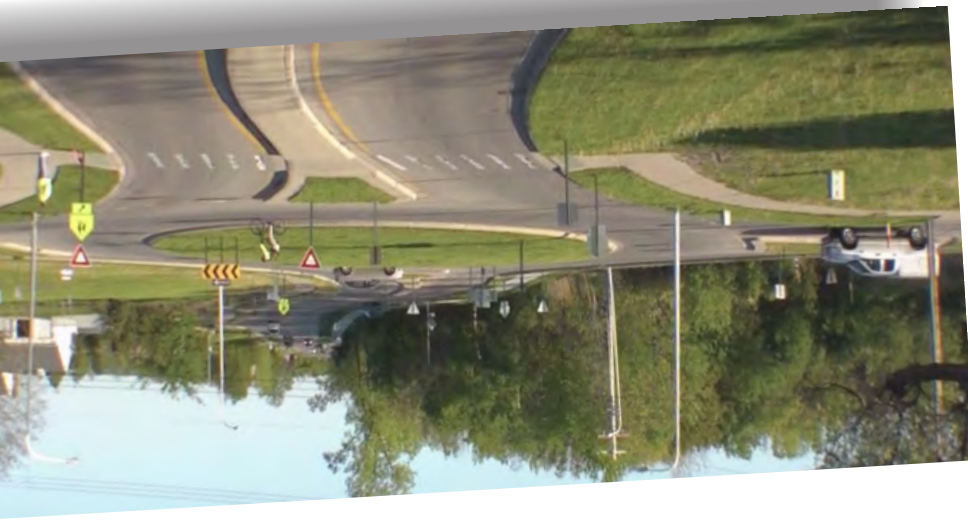
Trucks

Roundabouts are designed to accommodate trucks and other large vehicles. Trucks require more room to turn and may use the mountable truck apron, the raised pavement around the centralized island, for additional space. Drivers should be aware of large vehicles on the approach and within the roundabout. Do not drive next to a truck or try to pass a truck on the approach or while traveling in a roundabout.



What Not to do in a Roundabout

Do not stop inside the roundabout. • Do not change lanes once in the roundabout. • Do not pass another vehicle.



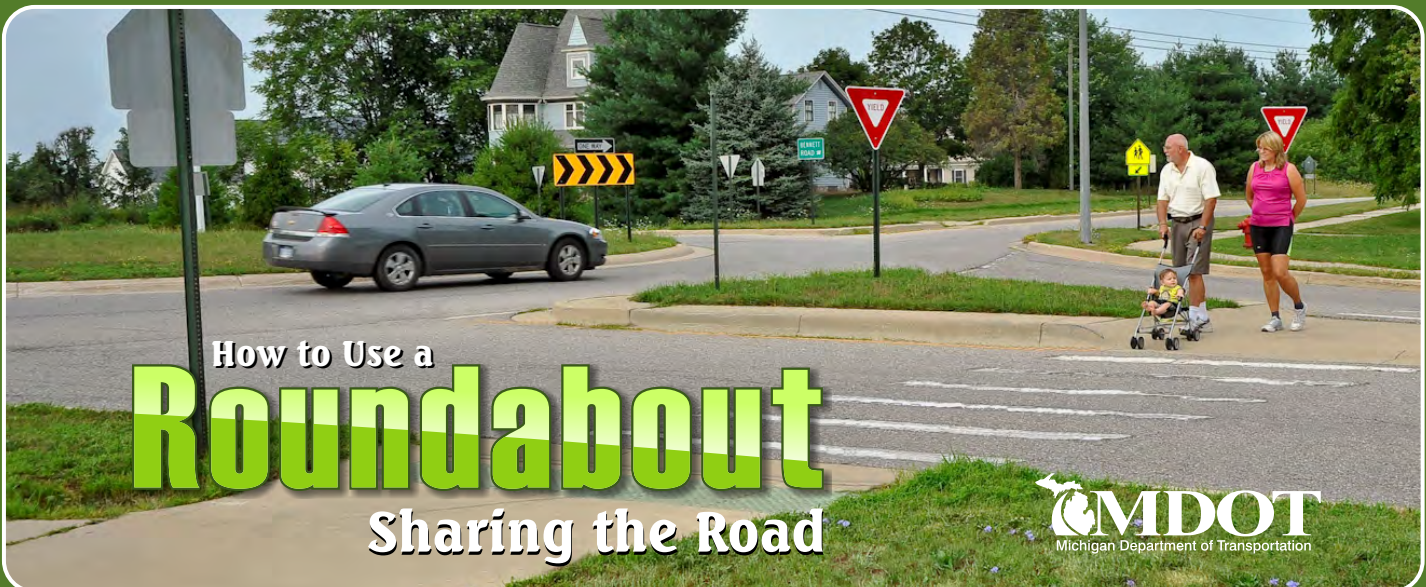
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Traffic&Safety/Roundabout Brochure



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For more information, please visit:
www.michigan.gov/roundabouts

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