



Smart Trips Austin is a City of Austin and Capital Metro program here to help you explore Austin by foot, bike, bus and shared car!

# Smart Trips Austin: Walk Smart

**SAFETY TIPS FOR PEOPLE  
WALKING, TAKING TRANSIT  
AND DRIVING**

## WE ARE ALL PEDESTRIANS

Walking is our most basic form of transportation. Even when taking transit or driving, we begin and end each trip as pedestrians. Walking can also be a great way to exercise, relax and build community.

This brochure offers you and your family tips for staying safe while enjoying all that Austin has to offer by foot, transit and car.



### Questions?

[smarttrips@austintexas.gov](mailto:smarttrips@austintexas.gov)  
(512) 974-7853  
[smarttripsaustin.org](http://smarttripsaustin.org)  
[facebook.com/smarttripsaustin](https://facebook.com/smarttripsaustin)  
[twitter.com/smarttripsatx](https://twitter.com/smarttripsatx)



PEDESTRIAN SAFETY BROCHURE

## SAFETY TIPS FOR Walking



### BE PREDICTABLE

- » Walk on the sidewalk when available. If there is no sidewalk, walk facing *oncoming* traffic and as far from traffic as possible.
- » Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections. Do not cross high speed highways.
- » Use pedestrian signals where present. *Many signals won't activate unless pushed by a pedestrian.*
- » Obey crossing signals and gates.

### BE AWARE

- » Avoid texting, looking at your phone or wearing headphones while crossing streets or driveways.
- » Be attentive to car noise and lights.

### SEE AND BE SEEN

- » Never assume a driver sees you. Attempt to make eye contact with drivers as they approach.
- » Stand clear of obstacles like parked vehicles and landscaping before crossing, so drivers can see you.

## SAFETY TIPS FOR Taking Transit



### PREPARE

- » To plan your trip, visit [www.capmetro.org](http://www.capmetro.org), call Capital Metro's GO-Line at (512) 474-1200 or download the CapMetro App.
- » Have your fare ready before the bus or train arrives.
- » Free bike parking is available on a first come, first served basis at most stops and stations and all Park & Rides.

### KEEP CALM AND CARRY LIGHT

- » Never dart across the street to catch a bus or train.
- » Let passengers exit before boarding.
- » When boarding and exiting, do not cross in front of the vehicle.
- » Stand back from the curb or platform edge while waiting.

### ON BOARD ETIQUETTE

- » Be considerate of your neighbors by keeping your voice down.
- » If no seats are available, look for a pole or a strap to hold while standing.
- » Offer your seat to those who need it.

## SAFETY TIPS FOR Driving



### BE ATTENTIVE

- » Look out for people walking at all times.
- » Use extra caution at night and in bad weather.
- » Slow down and prepare to stop when turning or entering an intersection or crosswalk.
- » Check side mirrors and blind spots for people walking and biking before turning right and opening car doors.

### DID YOU KNOW?

**15,378** CRASHES WERE CAUSED BY "DRIVER INATTENTION" between 2010 and 2014.



*Keep your eyes on the road and hands on the wheel.*

Source: TxDOT

### BE CAUTIOUS

- » Never pass stopped or slowing vehicles at crosswalks.
- » If you might end your night tipsy or buzzed, designate a driver, hire a ride or phone a friend.
- » Adhere to the speed limit. The difference between 20 and 30 miles per hour can save a life.

### IT'S THE LAW!

- » Never use an electronic hand-held device while operating a vehicle.
- » Keep your vehicle clear of intersections and marked crosswalks when stopped.
- » When passing pedestrians and bicyclists, keep a distance of at least three to six feet of space.

