

# Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacons

## What Are They?

Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacons (RRFB) enhance safety by reducing the potential for crashes between vehicles and pedestrians at unsignalized locations. They consist of pedestrian safety signs with lights that, when activated, flash to attract motorists' attention.



### Pedestrians:

- Choose an appropriate gap in traffic, and push the pedestrian button.
- The beacons will flash.
- Ensure that motorists have stopped before entering the crosswalk.
- Walk defensively as you cross to be sure all motorists are stopping.

### Motorists:

- Look for pedestrians and bicyclists when approaching an RRFB, even when the beacons are dark.
- Always stop before the crosswalk. Never stop in or block a crosswalk.
- Wait for pedestrians and bicyclists to completely clear the lane before proceeding, regardless of whether or not lights are still flashing.

## Safety Tips

### Pedestrians:

- Use sidewalk or path when available; if none, walk on the left shoulder facing traffic. Be alert for oncoming vehicles.
- Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections where drivers expect to see you.
- Wear bright clothing. Wear reflective materials and carry a flashlight at night.
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing. Never assume a driver can see you. Do not text while crossing.

### Motorists:

- Watch for pedestrians, especially at intersections and driveways.
- If you have a green light, so do pedestrians. Yield to them before turning.
- Do not text while driving.



Department of Transportation

[www.ny.gov/pedsafety](http://www.ny.gov/pedsafety)

Office of Traffic Safety & Mobility  
50 Wolf Road  
Albany, NY 12232  
[www.dot.ny.gov](http://www.dot.ny.gov)

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## Guide for Pedestrians and Motorists

# Pedestrian Signals and How to Use Them

## Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons & Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacons



Department of Transportation

# Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons

## What Are They?

A pedestrian hybrid beacon is a traffic signal that requires motorists to stop when activated by pedestrians. It is usually used to control traffic at unsignalized locations.

### Pedestrians:

- Push the button to activate and wait for the “WALK” signal before crossing. The signal will appear once the overhead lights turn solid red.
- Before crossing, ensure that drivers are stopping.
- Do not start crossing if the “DON’T WALK” signal is flashing. Finish crossing if you are already in the crosswalk.
- Do not start crossing when the steady “DON’T WALK” signal is displayed.

### Motorists:

- The beacons are not illuminated until activated by a pedestrian. Proceed with caution during this phase.
- Flashing yellow signals indicate a pedestrian is preparing to use the crosswalk.
- When the flashing yellow signal turns steady yellow, prepare to stop.
- The solid double red signals indicate a pedestrian is crossing. Drivers are legally required to stop and remain stopped.
- Alternating flashing double red signals require drivers to come to a complete stop. Drivers may proceed once pedestrians and bicyclists have cleared the lane.

## What to do at a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon

