
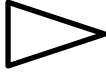











Traffic Signs


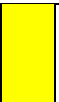




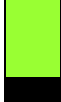





Shapes and Colors

Traffic signs help drivers know what can and cannot be done; find your way to places, and to warn you about areas of hazards. Different shapes and colors are used to help drivers easily understand traffic and roadway signs.

Traffic and roadway signs use the following shapes:

| | | | | | |
|---|----------|--------------------------|--|----------------------|--------------------------|
|  | octagon | Stop Sign |  | pennant | No Passing Zone |
|  | pentagon | School Zone or Crossing |  | horizontal rectangle | Regulatory & Guide Signs |
|  | diamond | Warning Signs |  | vertical rectangle | Regulatory & Guide Signs |
|  | square | Regulatory & Guide Signs |  | trapezoid | Park and Recreation |
|  | round | Railroad Crossing Ahead |  | crossbuck | Railroad Crossing |
|  | triangle | Yield Sign | | | |

Traffic and roadway signs use the following colors:

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
|  | RED – used for yield and stop signs, multi-way plates, wrong way, do not enter signs, and for legend or symbols on regulatory signs |  | YELLOW – background color for warning signs and old school zone/crossing signs |
|  | ORANGE – background color for roadwork maintenance signs |  | GREEN – background color for distance, direction, and guide to locations |
|  | BROWN – background color for park, recreation, and cultural and points of interest signs |  | WHITE – background color for most regulatory signs such as Speed Limit signs |
|  | FLUORESCENT YELLOW-GREEN – background color for pedestrian and school warning signs |  | BLUE – background color for motorist services signs such as gas, lodging, food, medical, bus stop |
|  | BLACK – background color for one-way street signs, truck weight station, and night speed limit signs |  | FLUORESCENT PINK – background color for incident management signs |
|  | CORAL – for future use |  | PURPLE – for future use |

WARNING SIGNS: These signs warn or inform you of hazards or things you need to be on the lookout for. They are yellow and black on a diamond shape sign. Some common warning signs are:



No Outlet

Height
ClearancePedestrian
CrossingPedestrian
Zone

Children at Play



Hill



Dead End



Bump Ahead



Intersection

Side Road
Ahead (Right)Intersection
Ahead with
RailroadRoadway Ends
AheadSlippery When
WetUneven Road
Surface

Right Lane Ends

Two Way
TrafficDivided
Roadway
AheadDivided
Roadway EndsSnowmobile
Crossing

Fire Station



Stop Ahead

Stop Ahead
(old)

Yield Ahead

Traffic Signal
Ahead

Deer Crossing



Cattle Crossing

Gradual Curve
AheadSharp Curve
Ahead

Multiple Curves



Multiple Curves

Roundabout
AheadRoadway
Surface Change

Merg



Lane Ends

Added Lane
from Left

Road Narrows

WARNING SIGNS: Not all warning signs will be diamond shaped and yellow and black in color. Here are some other warning signs you need to be alert for:



Chevron alignment



Sharp Turn (left)



This lane Exits Only



Distance Indicator



Rail Road Crossing Ahead



Runaway Truck Ramp

ROAD WORK OR MAINTENANCE WARNING SIGNS: These signs will be placed prior to and in the roadwork or maintenance area. You need to be alert for workers, equipment, and road condition changes when you see these signs. *Traffic fines DOUBLE in work zones.*



Flagger Ahead



Survey Crew In Area



Road Workers Ahead



Bridge Out



Earthquake Retrofit

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT WARNING SIGNS: These signs will warn you of a major incident in the area and that you should use extreme caution when driving in this area. Some of these signs are:



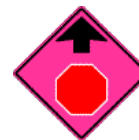
Road Closed Ahead

The road ahead is closed due to a major incident. Find a different road to drive on.



Right Lane Closed Ahead

The right lane is closed ahead due to a major incident, move to other open lane.



Stop Ahead

You are required to stop ahead due to a major incident. Be prepared to stop.

Incident Management signs are fluorescent pink in color and used in areas that a major incident such as a natural or manmade disaster has occurred. These signs may also be used during major highway crashes that will disrupt traffic for an extended time.

REGULATORY SIGNS: These signs will be rectangular, square, or other shapes that tell you about traffic laws, rules, and what is or is not permitted. They will be red, white, black, green, and yellow in color.



4-WAY

ALL WAY

Stop signs tell you that you must come to a full stop and wait for any vehicles or pedestrians that are crossing your path. You may proceed only when your path is clear and safe. Even if the other traffic has a stop sign, wait and make sure the other vehicles are going to stop, before you proceed. Some stop signs may have a smaller sign under it to indicate how many directions of the intersection have stop signs.



Yield signs require you to let other vehicles and pedestrians to proceed first. You should slow down, check, and give the right-of-way to others before you cross or turn at the intersection. Yield signs are mainly found in residential areas.

Regulatory signs that have a red circle with a red slash over a symbol prohibit you from doing certain actions. If the sign has a green circle around the symbol, the action is allowed. Some of these signs are:



No Left Turn



No Right Turn



No Thru Trucking



No Trucks Permitted on this Road



No Hazardous Materials



No Hitchhiking



No Parking



No U-Turn



Trucks Permitted



Hazardous Materials Permitted

Regulatory Signs for Parking: These signs will tell you when you can or cannot park in certain areas.



Parking is permitted at all times. You may only park for 2 hours between times posted on sign.



Parking is not permitted between times posted on sign. All other times parking is permitted.



Parking is not permitted. Parking is permitted on Sundays and Legal Holidays.



Parking is not permitted at any time in this area.

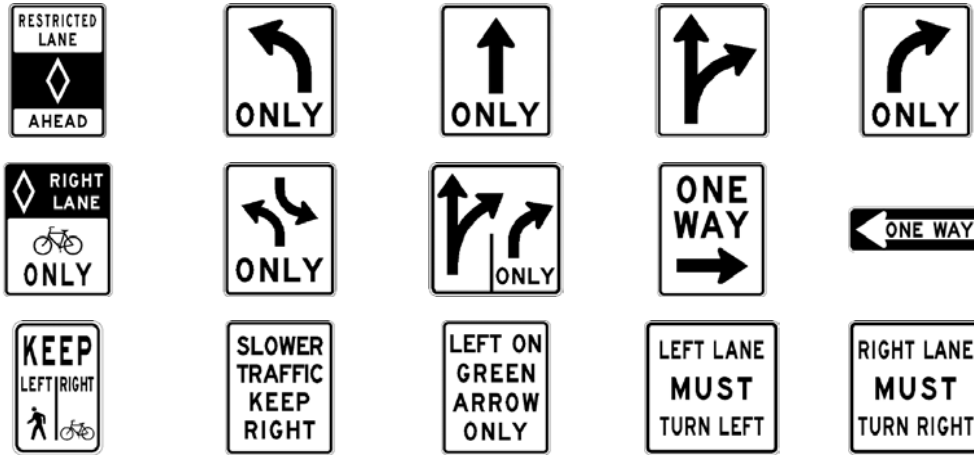


This parking space is reserved for individuals with a disability. You must have a Disabled Parking Permit to park in this space.



Traffic Signs with solar powered LED Flashing Lights indicate it is a high risk area for the information on the sign. When encountering these signs, be extra alert for hazards and problems.

REGULATORY SIGNS: Lane use or control signs tell you where you can turn or what lane you can turn from. They will most often have an arrow symbol on them and will be located either on the side of the road or above the travel lane it is directing. You may also find arrows painted on the roadway.



This sign means that you cannot enter or go past this sign. If you pass this sign, you are going in the wrong direction. You will find this sign by areas that you should not enter.



Stop at the directed spot. Used at traffic actuated traffic signals.



If you see this sign, you are going the wrong direction on the roadway. You should pull to the right, **STOP**, and get your vehicle turned around when it is safe.



While waiting to cross or turn, do not wait in the intersection.



This yellow pennant sign will be placed on the left side of the roadway facing you and indicates the start of a no passing zone. If you are passing, you must be done with your pass before you reach this sign.



This sign will be placed on the right side of the roadway.

School Zone signs tell you that you are close to a school and need to be alert for children. These signs may be placed 2 – 3 blocks from the school. You will find these signs in yellow and fluorescent yellow/green color.



School Crossing signs will be located by crossing areas to let you know that you must watch for and yield to school children that will be crossing the roadway. You will find these signs in yellow and fluorescent yellow/green color.



Remember that traffic fines double in school zones.

GUIDE SIGNS: Direct you to places and services you may need.

Brown guide signs are used for information about park, historical, and recreation areas.



Distance to Park



Waterway Dam



Park Office



Showers



Boat Launch



Swimming



No Smoking



Tunnel



Tent Camping



Winter Activities

Blue guide signs are used to direct you to motorists' services such as food, fuel, and lodging.



Food



Fuel



Hospital



Lodging

Civil Defense signs can be found in many different places such as inside buildings, along waterways, and hiking trails. These signs direct you where to go in case of a natural or manmade disaster.



Evacuation Route



Information Center

Green guide signs help you find places such as airports, libraries, and parking. These signs also guide you to cities and highway exits/entrances.



Airport



Library



Park & Ride



Public Parking



Direction



Distance



Junction Ahead



Mile Marker

Route guide signs direct you to or along county, state, U.S., and Interstate Highways. There are also some that tell you which direction you are traveling on that highway.



NORTH



EAST



JCT



TO

Speed Limits

Most streets have speed limit signs posted to let you know what the maximum legal speed you can go during good road, weather, traffic, and light conditions. Going any amount over the posted speed limit is illegal and may result in a speeding ticket. Speed limits are determined by the number of hazards, width of the roadway, and other safety factors. Speed limits are put in place for the safety of everyone.

The speed limit signs do not mean you must go that speed. At times it may be necessary to go slower than the posted speed limit sign. If you drive so slow, that you interfere with the normal and reasonable movement of traffic, you may receive a ticket for impeding traffic.

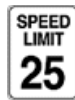
Unless otherwise posted, the maximum speeds in Wisconsin are:



Within school zones or by school crossings when children and/or crossing guard is present, in alley ways and by areas where a school or city bus has stopped to load and unload.



This sign indicates that there is a school zone ahead. Be prepared to reduce speed to 15 mph.



On residential streets (streets with homes on) and business streets.



In outlying areas of cities or villages, or semi-urban areas outside city or village limits. On rural roadways that are not county, state, or U.S. highways.



On any County or WI State highway that is not posted.



On any U.S. or Interstate Highway that is not posted.

Some areas may have special speed limit signs such as:



Maximum speed limit for trucks travelling on this roadway.



Maximum speed limit for all traffic during the hours of darkness.



Fastest and slowest speed you must go on this roadway during good conditions.



Advisory speed limit signs recommend or suggest a speed for areas such as hills, curves, and other hazardous areas.



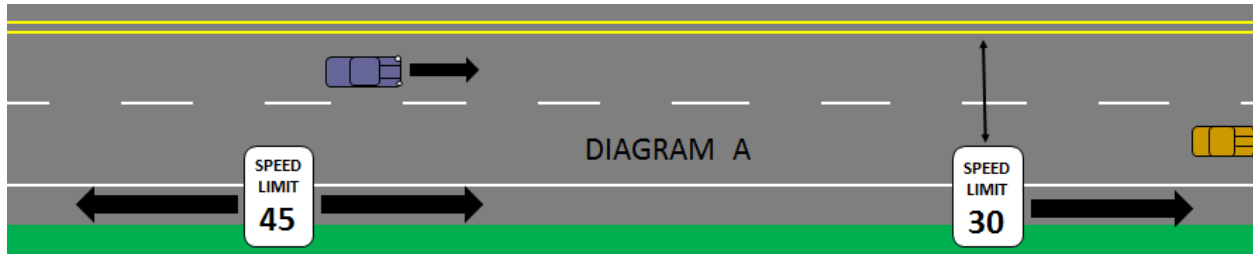
Slow Moving Vehicle Sign – will be found on farm equipment, animal drawn vehicles, construction equipment, or other vehicles that may be going slower than normal traffic. This sign means that the vehicle it is on is going 25 mph or less on WI roadways.

Absolute Speed Limit: Highest legal speed you can go during ideal conditions. No more than the posted speed limit. Any amount over may result in a speed ticket.

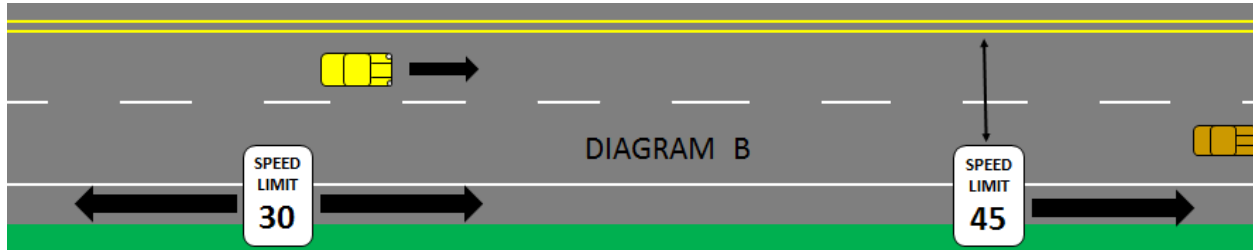
Basic Speed Limit: The speed according to conditions. Must reduce your speed when conditions are not good.

Common Speed Limit: The speed according to other traffic as long as you are not exceeding the posted speed limit. If most of the traffic is going 30 mph in a 45 mph zone, you must go 30 mph for safety.

Advisory Speed Limit: The suggested or recommend speed for certain areas such as hills, curves, or where going faster may be dangerous. Sign will be yellow and black in color.

Speed Limit Change –

When you are going 45 mph and the speed limit changes to 30 mph ahead, you must be going the new posted speed limit or less by the time you reach the speed limit sign. (Diagram A) Once you reach and pass the 30 mph speed limit sign you must be going that speed or less. Slow down as you approach the new posted speed limit.



When you are going 30 mph and the speed limit changes to 45 mph ahead, you must not increase your speed unit you have reached and passed the 45 mph speed limit sign. (Diagram B) You may not be going the new speed limit until you have reached and passed the speed limit sign. Do not increase speed until the new posted speed limit.

Traffic Signals

A solid or steady green traffic signal indicates that if the way is clear and safe you may proceed with caution. If the way is **not clear and safe**, you must wait until the intersection is clear and safe before you may proceed. Be sure to check for cross traffic and pedestrians prior to entering, crossing, or turning at the intersection. Vehicles must yield to emergency vehicles, funeral & military processions. Green lights that have been green for a while are known as “stale green lights” and are about to change to yellow. Cover the brake and be ready to stop when approaching “stale green lights”.



A solid or steady yellow traffic signal indicates that the signal is about to change to RED. If you can do so safely, you must stop at the designated stop area. If you are unable to safely stop, slow and cautiously proceed through the intersection. If you are unsure if the light is about to change to yellow, take your foot off the gas pedal and hold it over the brake to prepare to stop.



A solid or steady RED traffic signal indicates that traffic facing the light must come to a complete stop at the designated stop area. The vehicle must remain stopped until the light changes to a GREEN signal. If there is no sign posted, a vehicle may make a right turn on the red signal if they first yield to any pedestrians and vehicles that the turn would interfere with and the turn is made from the lane closest to the right curb.



A flashing YELLOW traffic signal indicates that you should slow down and proceed with caution through the intersection. *(Cross traffic will normally have a flashing RED signal.)*



A flashing RED traffic signal indicates you need to come to a complete stop and then proceed with caution when the intersection is clear and safe. *(Cross traffic will normally have a flashing YELLOW signal.)*

Flashing traffic signals will be found during non-busy times or when the traffic signals are not working properly.



A steady GREEN arrow indicates you may proceed in the direction of the arrow when it is safe and clear without stopping.



A steady YELLOW arrow indicates you must stop, if it is safe to do so, if you are turning in that direction.



A steady RED arrow indicates you may not turn in the direction of the arrow.



A flashing YELLOW arrow permits you to make the left turn when it is safe and clear of oncoming traffic.

WI LAW – requires drivers to come to a complete stop and treat the intersection as an all-way stop if the traffic signals are not working or properly working. If a traffic or police officer is in the intersection directing traffic, drivers must obey the signals of the traffic or police officer.

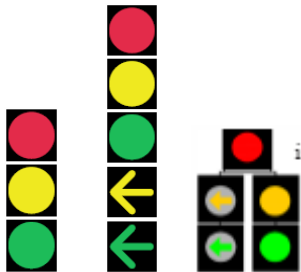
TRAFFIC SIGNAL ORDER:



Traffic Signals are put in a certain order to help drivers know which light is on in case of colorblindness.



The RED light will always be the top (on vertical bars) or left (on horizontal bars) most light.



The GREEN solid light will be the bottom (on vertical bars) or right (on horizontal bars) most light except for when there is a YELLOW and GREEN arrow on the vertical bars.

The arrow lights will vary from vertical to horizontal bars.

PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS:

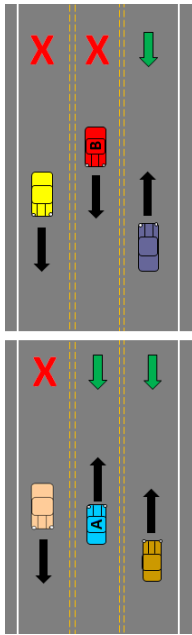


Pedestrian Walk/Don't Walk signals direct when a pedestrian should cross or not cross the roadway. Drivers need to be alert for pedestrians at all intersections. When the Don't Walk signal facing you is flashing, you should be ready for the traffic signal facing you to change to YELLOW.



Don't Walk signals with number countdowns, are a good indication that the signal facing you will change to YELLOW when it reaches zero or near zero.

LANE SIGNALS will be used to direct the flow of traffic in each lane. Lane signals are used in larger cities that use reverse traffic flow during busy traffic times.



GREEN ARROW indicates this lane is open to traffic.



SOLID YELLOW X tells you to exit this lane, a RED X will follow shortly.



FLASHING YELLOW X indicates this lane is used of making left turns only. This is a shared left turn lane.



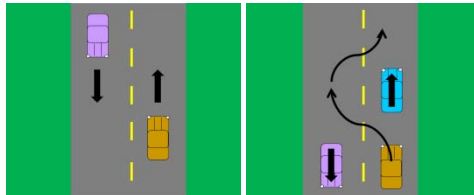
SOLID RED X indicates that lane is closed to traffic in your direction. Oncoming traffic will be using this lane. If you are in this lane, exit this lane immediately.

During reverse traffic flow, the center lane(s) which will be divided by double broken yellow lines, will switch traffic flow direction during certain times of the day. To the left is a diagram of what reverse traffic flow lanes may look like.

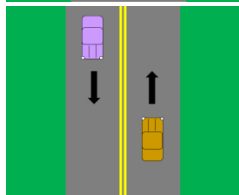
Before entering the center lane(s), be sure to check the lane signal above that lane.

Roadway Markings

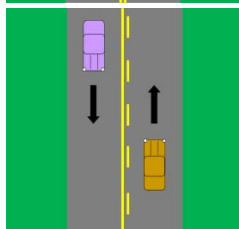
LANE MARKINGS



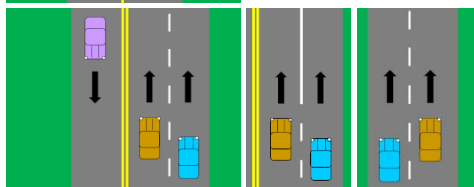
Broken YELLOW lane markings separate traffic going in opposite directions and indicate that passing other traffic is permitted when safe. Even though you have a broken YELLOW lane marking, passing is not permitted during bad weather or reduced visibility.



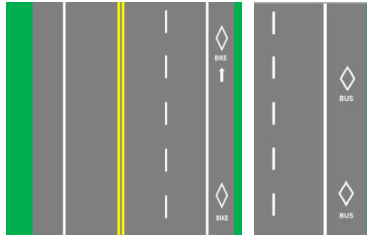
Double solid YELLOW lane markings separate traffic going in opposite directions and indicated that passing is not permitted in either direction.



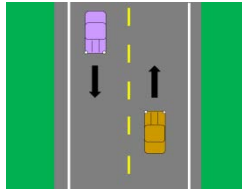
Solid YELLOW with a broken YELLOW lane marking separate traffic going in opposite directions and that the lane with the solid YELLOW lane marking is not permitted to pass while the lane with the broken YELLOW lane marking is permitted to pass when it is safe to do so.



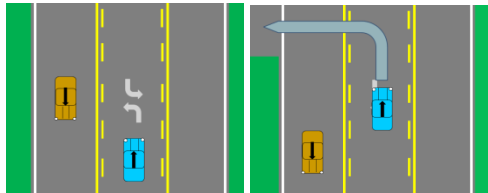
WHITE broken lines separate lanes going in the same direction and that lane changing is permitted between lanes. SOLID WHITE lines prohibit changing lanes. One-way streets will only have white lane lines which separate lanes going in the same direction.



WHITE solid lines, along the right side of your lane with a white diamond, indicate that there is a special use lane such as a bicycle, bus, or pedestrian lane. You are not permitted to drive in this lane. You may get into this lane to make a right turn into a driveway or onto another roadway as long as it is clear of other users.

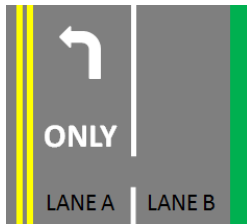


WHITE solid lines along the right edge of the roadway outline the driving lane. These WHITE solid lines are called “fog lines” or “right delineator” by some. They help you determine where the right edge of your lane is. If you do have to stop on the side of the roadway, attempt to park your vehicle as far to the right of the line as possible.

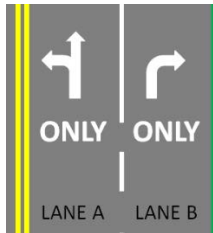


Shared Center Turn Lanes: Some roadways have a lane in the middle that is used by traffic going in both directions to make a left turn off the roadway. Caution must be used when pulling into this lane.

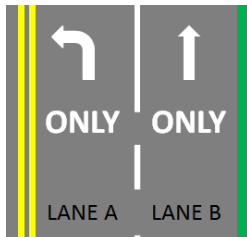
ROADWAY MARKINGS



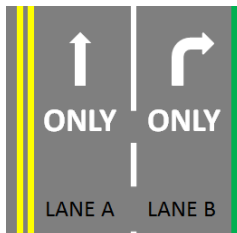
Lane A must turn Left.
Lane B may go forward or turn right.



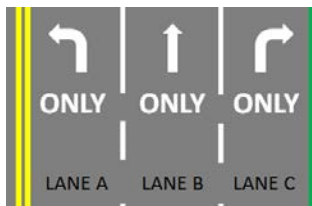
Lane A may turn Left or go forward.
Lane B must only turn Right.



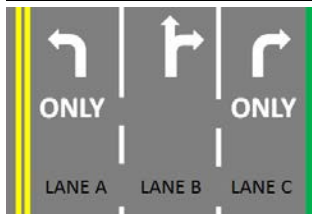
Lane A must turn Left.
Lane B must go forward
No Right turns are permitted.



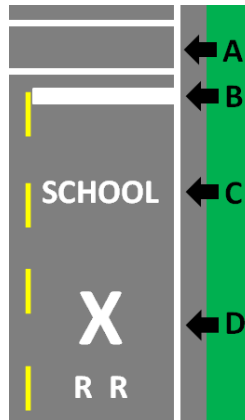
Lane A must go forward.
Lane B must only turn Right.
No Left turns are permitted



Lane A must turn left.
Lane B must go forward.
Lane C must turn Right.



Lane A must turn left.
Lane B may go forward or turn right.
Lane C must turn Right.



Other Roadway Markings:

- ← A Crosswalk
- ← B Stop Line, stop vehicle before line.
- ← C School Crossing Ahead
- ← D Railroad Crossing Ahead

TRAFFIC SIGN CLASSIFICATION

Classify each of the following 15 traffic signs.

Circle your choice of guide, regulatory, or warning under each sign.



1.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



2.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



3.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



4.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



5.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



6.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



7.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



8.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



9.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



10.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



11.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



12.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



13.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



14.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING



15.
GUIDE
REGULATORY
WARNING

Can you identify the following signs?

Write the name of the sign on the line provided.



1.



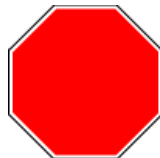
2.



3.



4.



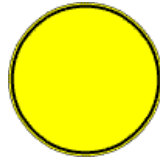
5.



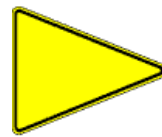
6.



7.



8.



9.



10.



11.



12.



13.



14.



15.