

# RAILROAD CROSSINGS

## ➔ Overview

There are two primary types of railroad crossings that truck drivers must be familiar with: passive crossings & active crossings.

- **Passive Crossings:** Have no type of traffic control device. It's up to you to determine that the tracks are clear of any oncoming trains.
- **Active Crossings:** Have a traffic control device, such as a gate, that regulates when vehicles can cross.

As you approach a railroad crossing, you'll be warned with a round yellow sign with black markings. This lets you know that you should slow down and look for an oncoming train.

CDL drivers are required to stop before driving over railroad tracks if they are carrying passengers or hazmat cargo.



## QUICK TIPS

- Your truck is loud when running, so you can't count solely on your ability to hear a train coming.
- Don't ever race a train to the crossing!
- If you must evacuate your vehicle on the tracks as a train approaches, run toward the train at a 45° angle. This will reduce the chances that you are hit by debris.
- Take note of your landing gear and know your ground clearance.

*Don't EVER attempt to shift gears while driving over a railroad crossing! If you miss the gear, your truck could stall and get stuck on the tracks.*

