





Rail Safety Tips for Passenger and Commuter Rail Users

Every day, hundreds of thousands of Canadians depend on passenger and commuter rail to get them where they're going. Regardless of whether you are taking a passenger train across the country, or a commuter train to work, getting there safely is a priority. Be sure to follow these tips—they could save your life.



STAY OFF THE TRACKS

Never walk on railway tracks. Trains can come at any time, from either direction. It's also hard to judge how far away a train is or its speed. Trains can travel as fast as 160 km/h and take up to 2 kilometres to come to a complete stop —that's the length of 18 football fields. Passenger and commuter trains also run more frequently than freight trains and can use adjacent tracks at the same time, with trains running in either direction.



KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM THE PLATFORM EDGE

Not all trains slow down or stop at every station, so always stand well behind the platform's edge or the safety line painted on the platform. Keep a close eye on children. When boarding, be careful of any gaps between the platform and the train. Always enter and exit stations at designated areas, and never cross in front of or behind a stopped train—it is both against the law and dangerous.



OBEY ALL RAILWAY SIGNS AND SIGNALS

When approaching a train station, be sure to obey all railway signs and warning devices, such as lights, bells and gates. Some commuter rail services may have unique traffic control devices, such as gates across the lanes of an intersection in both directions, median barriers or pedestrian gates. Heed them all! Whenever you're approaching a designated crossing, look and listen for trains before proceeding.

REMEMBER:

- An optical illusion makes it hard to determine a train's distance from you, and its speed. Trains are usually a lot closer than they seem—and travel a lot faster.
- Train movements may be unpredictable. They can move in either direction, regardless of whether they have a locomotive at each end or not.

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