

# PEDESTRIAN HYBRID BEACON/HAWK SIGNAL SEQUENCE



## DRIVER RESPONSE



## PEDESTRIAN RESPONSE

See This.	Do This.	See This.	Do This.
	<b>Proceed normally with caution.</b> This sign is normally dark.		<b>Push the button to cross street.</b>
	<b>Slow down and be prepared to stop soon.</b> A pedestrian has activated the push button. This sign will be flashing.		<b>Wait.</b> Traffic is preparing to stop.
	<b>Prepare to stop.</b>		<b>Continue to wait.</b> Traffic is beginning to stop.
	<b>Stop and remain stopped.</b> Pedestrians are in the crosswalk.		<b>Start crossing.</b> Look for traffic from both directions prior to crossing.
	<b>Proceed after coming to a full stop and checking that the crosswalk is clear.</b> Similar to a stop sign. This sign will be flashing.		<b>Continue crossing.</b> Pedestrians already crossing the street should finish. Pedestrians that have not started crossing the street, should not start.
	<b>Proceed normally with caution.</b> This sign is normally dark.		<b>Push the button to cross street.</b>

Contact the University Police Department  
with any questions at 903-886-5868.

## Public Service Announcement

### Texas A&M University-Commerce Police Department

### Pedestrian Safety Alert: Crosswalks and the HAWK Pedestrian Beacon System

At Texas A&M University-Commerce, your safety is our priority. With the HAWK Pedestrian Beacon system installed at key campus road crossings, it's essential to understand how to use crosswalks safely and avoid pedestrian accidents. We encourage all students, faculty, and visitors to familiarize themselves with this system and follow best practices when crossing the street.

### What is the HAWK Pedestrian Beacon System?

The HAWK (High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk) Pedestrian Beacon is designed to help pedestrians safely cross busy streets. The system operates as follows:

1. **Press the Button:** When you're ready to cross, press the button located at the crosswalk.
2. **Watch for the Signal:** The HAWK system remains dark until activated. Once pressed, it will flash yellow, then turn solid yellow, followed by a solid red, signaling drivers to stop. Pedestrians should wait until the signal indicates it is safe to cross.
3. **Cross Safely:** Once the walk signal appears, you may cross the street. Always stay within the designated crosswalk area.
4. **Flashing Red Lights:** As you cross, the red lights will begin to flash. Motorists must stop, but they are allowed to proceed if the crosswalk is clear.

### Best Practices for Crossing the Street

While the HAWK system increases pedestrian safety, it's still crucial to remain vigilant. Here are some best practices to follow to ensure your safety when crossing the street:

1. **Use Designated Crosswalks:** Always cross at marked crosswalks. Avoid crossing in the middle of the street or outside the crosswalk zone, as vehicles are less likely to anticipate pedestrians in these areas.
2. **Wait for the Signal:** Never start crossing until you see the walk signal. Even if the road seems clear, an approaching vehicle may not be able to stop quickly enough.
3. **Make Eye Contact:** Before stepping off the curb, make eye contact with drivers to ensure they see you. Don't assume drivers will stop just because the signal is red.
4. **Look Left, Right, and Left Again:** This classic rule remains vital. Always check for oncoming traffic, even if the HAWK system is activated. Be cautious of vehicles that might not stop.
5. **Stay Alert and Avoid Distractions:** Keep your focus on the road when crossing. Avoid using your phone, wearing headphones, or engaging in any activity that could impair your ability to observe your surroundings.

6. **Walk, Don't Run:** Crossing the street in a controlled and steady manner reduces the risk of tripping and gives drivers more time to react.
7. **Stay Visible:** Wear bright or reflective clothing, especially at night or during poor weather conditions, so that drivers can see you easily.
8. **Be Cautious of Turning Vehicles:** Even when you have the right of way, be mindful of vehicles making turns, as drivers may be focused on traffic and not pedestrians.

## Motorists: Help Keep Pedestrians Safe

If you're behind the wheel, it's important to:

1. Always stop for pedestrians at crosswalks and yield when the HAWK system is activated.
2. Be extra vigilant around campus, as pedestrians may be crossing unexpectedly.
3. Slow down and stay aware, especially during peak hours when campus traffic is heavy.

By following these guidelines, we can work together to ensure that Texas A&M University-Commerce remains a safe environment for everyone. Let's all do our part to prevent pedestrian vs. motor vehicle accidents.

## Stay Safe, Lions!

For more information on pedestrian safety or the HAWK Pedestrian Beacon system, contact the Texas A&M University-Commerce Police Department at **(903) 886-5868**.



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