SAFETY TIPS FOR PEDESTRIANS
AT GRADE/LEVEL CROSSINGS
CROSSING SAFELY: GENERAL CONDITIONS TO BE OBSERVED

Be prepared to encounter a level/grade crossing.

Obey the road signs and signals.

Where there is a STOP sign: STOP, LOOK both ways and LISTEN carefully.

At protected crossings, stay before barriers, markings and signs.

Never stop on the tracks.
Be aware that a train extends over the rails. You could be hit by the passing train or lose your balance because of the blast effect.

Expect a train at any time from either direction, on any track. Don’t use previous experience to guess when trains are coming. They don’t always run on a set schedule.

Multiple tracks may mean multiple trains. Anticipate enough to cross safely.

An optical illusion makes it hard to determine a train’s distance from you, or its speed. Trains are usually a lot closer than they seem.
CROSSING SAFELY: GENERAL CONDITIONS TO BE OBSERVED

A train can’t stop immediately. At 100 km/h it can take 1000 metres or more for a train to stop.

Modern trains run fast and silently. Take off your headphone or turn off the sound. Don’t text, read messages or make phone calls while crossing.

Be patient. Barriers lowered and/or lights flashing = STOP. Impatience can lead to a risky decision and put your life at danger.

Don’t zigzag between lowered barriers.
Don’t jump over or crawl underneath lowered barriers.

Wait for all the warnings to stop and the barriers to open completely.

Don’t use the crossing as a shortcut to go onto a neighbouring railway platform. It is prohibited and dangerous.

Watch your step: Tracks and level crossing covering can be slippery when wet, icy or in snow conditions.
Evacuate the tracks as fast as possible.

In case of failure, the barriers remain closed, don’t cross.

Make an emergency call (use the phone posted at the level crossing or the emergency number valid in your country).
SPECIAL TIPS FOR: PHOTOGRAPHERS, FAMILIES AND DOG WALKERS

No photo, no selfie is worth the risk. Photo and videos shoots on or near tracks are illegal.

Keep your children close, take them by the hand.

Keep your dog on a lead. If your dog escapes your control and runs onto the tracks, don’t be tempted to run after it.
SPECIAL TIPS FOR: GROUPS

Don’t assume that someone else is looking out for you. Make sure there is enough time and space for everyone to cross safely.

At protected level crossings: As soon as the light and sound signal(s) get started, barriers get lowered, group members who haven’t crossed yet, must stay before barriers and signals and wait for the crossing to open again to cross safely.

At unprotected level crossings: Stop, look and listen.

Only cross if the tracks are clear in both directions.

Special safety arrangements shall be pre-arranged for large groups with the police forces and local authorities.
ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

You are in dangerous and prohibited zones.

Railway premises (tracks, stations, yards, tunnels, bridges) and trains aren't playgrounds.

Don’t take any shortcuts, don’t walk or ride on and along the tracks.

In addition the presence of vegetation on tracks doesn’t mean: no traffic.

Never climb on, under or through railway coaches or wagons when the train is still, it could start at any moment.

Never jump on or off a train while it is moving. You could fall.

Don’t put your life at risk. Stay away from the tracks.

TRESPASSING IS DANGEROUS AND ILLEGAL.
VISIT OUR WEBSITES:

- uic.org
- ole.ee/en/
- irfnet.ch
- uic.org/safety/safety-at-level-crossings/
- ilcad.org/ilcad/article/safety-tips