

How does a HAWK signal work?

“HAWK” stands for **H**igh-intensity **A**ctivated cross-**W**alk. It is a new kind of signal designed to help pedestrians cross busy streets.

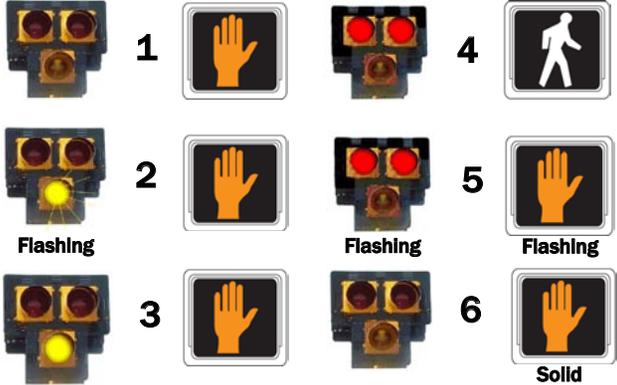
While different in appearance to the driver, to the pedestrian this signal works the same as any button-activated traffic signal. It stops traffic with a red signal allowing pedestrians to cross safely.

How to use as a Pedestrian:

Using a HAWK signal as a pedestrian is easy. Simply push the button and wait for the WALK signal to appear. It may take up to one minute for the signal to change, depending on the time of day. Be sure traffic has stopped before you enter the crosswalk.

The FLASHING DON'T WALK signal will appear as you finish your crossing. Countdown numbers will show how much time remains to cross the street.

HAWK - Pedestrian signal sequence:



HAWK - Motorist signal sequence:



During the double **FLASHING RED** signal indication, drivers are required to come to a full STOP, but may proceed when pedestrians have cleared the crosswalk and it is safe to proceed.



Side Street Traffic

Unlike a standard traffic signal, intersections with HAWK signals do not have any traffic signals facing the side street approaches. Any side street that is controlled by a stop sign will continue to be controlled by a stop sign when a HAWK signal is in place.





HAWK Signals

This type of signal has been safely and successfully tested in several areas in the United States, including Portland, Oregon.

The HAWK signal installed at Portland St. and Crater Lake Parkway is a pilot location and ODOT will gather data on its operation.

Oregon, like most states, requires motorists to stop and give the right of way to pedestrians legally within crosswalks.

However, ODOT research has shown that on high-volume, high speed streets, only about 1 in 4 drivers yields to pedestrians in the crosswalk.

The HAWK signal has been found to significantly increase motorist awareness.

Pedestrian Safety

ODOT places a high priority on pedestrian safety and is focusing efforts on unsignalized crosswalks on high volume streets. Often these crossings do not meet engineering standards for installation of a conventional traffic signal so ODOT may use other treatments instead.

While various treatments exist for these unsignalized crossings, there is growing concern that more should be done – especially on streets with high-volume, high-speed traffic.

Resident Questions & Concerns

If you have any questions about the HAWK signal or any traffic control device , please contact the Oregon Department of Transportation or visit our website at www.oregon.gov/ODOT.

HAWK (High-Intensity Activated crossWalk) Pedestrian Signal Guide



What You Need to Know