



# Keep your kids safe in traffic

Children might try to make safe decisions and follow the road rules but because of their age they are often unable to identify the dangers when walking in and around traffic.

**So what can you do to help keep your children safer while out walking? Here are a few tips.**

## Hold your child's hand

Explain why it is important for children up to 10 years of age to hold an adult's hand when walking near traffic and while crossing the road. Point out that adults are more familiar with the road rules and can also decide when a situation is dangerous.



## Show your child how to find a safe place to cross the road

Talk about where it is safer to cross the road – on straight stretches of road, away from corners and roundabouts, not on a hill, and at a crosswalk or traffic signals with pedestrian lights.

## Talk about the dangers

Point out some of the dangers that pedestrians need to watch out for. For example, cars coming out of driveways and laneways might not be able to see young children, or cars might not stop at pedestrian crossings.

## Let your child know when they are behaving safely

Praise your child when you notice them walking and crossing roads safely.



## Teach your child how to cross the road

1. **STOP** at least one step back from the kerb or edge of the road.
2. **LOOK** in all directions for approaching traffic (left, right, front and back).
3. **LISTEN** in all directions for sounds of approaching traffic.
4. **THINK** before deciding if it is safe to cross.

Tell your child to keep listening and looking for traffic while crossing the road.