

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)
2003 Edition

Section 3B.17 Crosswalk Markings

Support:

Crosswalk markings provide guidance for pedestrians who are crossing roadways by defining and delineating paths on approaches to and within signalized intersections, and on approaches to other intersections where traffic stops.

Crosswalk markings also serve to alert road users of a pedestrian crossing point across roadways not controlled by highway traffic signals or STOP signs.

At nonintersection locations, crosswalk markings legally establish the crosswalk.

Standard:

When crosswalk lines are used, they shall consist of solid white lines that mark the crosswalk. They shall be not less than 150 mm (6 in) nor greater than 600 mm (24 in) in width.

Guidance:

If transverse lines are used to mark a crosswalk, the gap between the lines should not be less than 1.8 m (6 ft). If diagonal or longitudinal lines are used without transverse lines to mark a crosswalk, the crosswalk should be not less than 1.8 m (6 ft) wide.

Crosswalk lines, if used on both sides of the crosswalk, should extend across the full width of pavement or to the edge of the intersecting crosswalk to discourage diagonal walking between crosswalks (see Figures 3B-15 and 3B-16).

Crosswalks should be marked at all intersections where there is substantial conflict between vehicular and pedestrian movements.

Marked crosswalks also should be provided at other appropriate points of pedestrian concentration, such as at loading islands, midblock pedestrian crossings, or where pedestrians could not otherwise recognize the proper place to cross.

Crosswalk lines should not be used indiscriminately. An engineering study should be performed before they are installed at locations away from highway traffic signals or STOP signs.

Because nonintersection pedestrian crossings are generally unexpected by the road user, warning signs (see Section 2C.41) should be installed and adequate visibility should be provided by parking prohibitions.

Support:

Section 3B.16 contains information regarding placement of stop line markings near crosswalk markings.

Option:

For added visibility, the area of the crosswalk may be marked with white diagonal lines at a 45-degree angle to the line of the crosswalk or with white longitudinal lines parallel to traffic flow as shown in Figure 3B-16.

When diagonal or longitudinal lines are used to mark a crosswalk, the transverse crosswalk lines may be omitted. **This type of marking may be used at locations where substantial numbers of pedestrians cross without any other traffic control device, at locations where physical conditions are such that added visibility of the crosswalk is desired, or at places where a pedestrian crosswalk might not be expected.**

Guidance:

If used, the diagonal or longitudinal lines should be 300 to 600 mm (12 to 24 in) wide and spaced 300 to

1500 mm (12 to 60 in) apart. The marking design should avoid the wheel paths, and the spacing should not exceed 2.5 times the line width.

Option:

When an exclusive pedestrian phase that permits diagonal crossing is provided at a traffic control signal, a marking as shown in Figure 3B-17 may be used for the crosswalk.

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Figure 3B-16. Examples of Crosswalk Markings

