JAPAN AUTOMOBILE FEDERATION

RULES OF THE ROAD





(3) If you are in the outer right lane to overtake another vehicle, you should return to the left-hand lane as soon as you have finished overtaking.

2-3 Do not change lanes indiscriminately

On a road with lanes, do not drive off lane or straddle two lanes, except when overtaking another vehicle or under other unavoidable circumstances. Do not change lanes unnecessarily, as it may disturb traffic approaching from the rear, causing a traffic accident at worst.

2-4 Observing height limits

Compared to regular vehicles, large, medium and semi-medium vehicles have taller bodies. Ensure that the height of your vehicle is less than the specified limit before traversing a particular place with a height limit. The height of any cargo on a load-carrying platform should be within the height limit.

2-5 Giving priority to emergency vehicles

When an emergency vehicle is approaching, pull over to the left side of the road to stop and give way to the emergency vehicle. When your vehicle is near an intersection, avoid stopping in the intersection. If pulling over to the left side on a one-way street would in fact obstruct the path of the emergency car, you must pull over to the right side.

2-6 Giving priority to buses for public transportation

- (1) When a bus signals to move away from a bus stop with its blinkers/winkers, vehicles approaching from the rear must not interfere with the starting of the bus. This rule does not necessarily apply, for example, when the driver of the vehicle would have to slam on the brakes or turn the wheel sharply to give way to the bus.
- (2) Vehicles except for light-duty special vehicles, mopeds, and lightweight vehicles must not use exclusive bus lanes as indicated by a traffic sign (Fig. 1) or traffic markings (Fig. 2). When exclusive lanes for regular bicycles indicated by traffic signs (Fig. 1, Fig. 3) or traffic marking (Fig. 2) are designated, vehicles other than lightweight vehicles must not use the lanes. Vehicles may pass using the designated lanes when they need to approach the center, left side or right side of the road to make a left or right turn, or under unavoidable circumstances such as road construction.



Vehicles, except for certain vehicle types, must not use exclusive bus lanes.

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(3) Vehicles traveling on priority lanes for buses or similar vehicles, indicated by a traffic sign (Fig. 4) or traffic marking (Fig. 5), must give way immediately when such a vehicle is approaching.

If you think traffic congestion could make it difficult for you to give way, avoid using that lane. This rule does not apply when you need to approach the center, left side or right side of the road to make a left or right turn, or under unavoidable circumstances such as road construction.

2-7 No passage zone

- Do not use roads where the traffic signs "Road Closed," "Closed to Vehicles," "Cyclists and Pedestrians Only," or "Pedestrians Only" (Fig. 6 through Fig. 9) prohibit vehicles from passing.
- (2) Do not drive on sidewalks, along the side strips of roads, or on bicycle lanes. This rule does not necessarily apply, for example, when you cross such a zone to enter or exit a place facing the road.
- (3) Do not enter safety zones or "No Entry" zones designated by traffic markings (Fig. 10, Fig. 11).
- (4) Do not drive on the shoulder of a road (0.5 m from the edge of a road) when passing a road without a sidewalk or side strip.
- (5) Do not drive on streetcar/tram tracks. This rule does not apply when approved vehicles as indicated by the traffic sign "Passage on Track Permitted" (Fig.12) pass, or when making a right turn.
- (6) If you are driving on a streetcar/tram track and see a streetcar/tram approaching from the rear, you must get off the track immediately or keep a sufficient distance from it so as not to interfere with its operation.

