

Looking out for your safety

Important information for cyclists (updated for Second City Crossing)



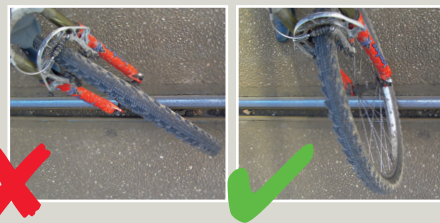
Cycling along roads on which trams also travel can be made safer by following the guidelines set out in this leaflet. This leaflet contains advice on sharing the road with the tram and refers to some of the new highway signs you will come across.

It also offers guidance about how to position yourself at Advanced Stop Lines along the tramway which may differ from what you have previously been advised to do. In areas where cycles and trams share the same space, we recommend you take up the positions shown in the images on Page 7.



Your safety as a cyclist...

- Avoid entering a road, lane or other route reserved for trams. These are indicated by signs, changes in the road surface and road markings.
- Using cycle lanes, where available, can make your journey safer.
- Take care when cycling close to or crossing the tracks, especially if the rails are wet or icy.
- At all times, cross the tracks at a right angle where possible. If you are not able to do this, please dismount and cross the tramway on foot.
- Be extra careful where a track crosses the road as tram drivers have their own traffic signals and may be permitted to move when you are not.
- When crossing the tracks, always assess your surroundings and consider dismounting and crossing on foot.
- Use off-carriageway cycle facilities and toucan crossings, particularly at junctions, to avoid potential conflict with tram rails. Toucans are signal-controlled crossings which allow cyclists to navigate junctions without the need to cross tram lines at an angle where wheels might get trapped in the rail gap.



- Don't cycle on top of the rails as your wheels may get stuck in the rail gap.
- Where trams run along the road, you should avoid following the rails to make sure they do not lead you onto a route reserved for trams.
- Make sure tram drivers are aware of your intentions when moving out from the side of the road by using clear hand signals.



Example of a toucan crossing.

Cycle parking

Cycle lockers or stands are provided at most Metrolink stops to encourage people to combine cycling with public transport for longer journeys. Some larger transport interchanges will have cycle hubs providing secure parking. For more information about cycle parking please visit www.tfgm.com/cycling

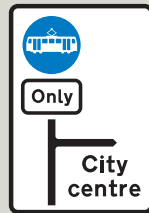
Cycles on trams

Cycles are not permitted on trams except folding cycles which are fully folded and covered. Cycling is not allowed on platforms.

Signs that relate to you and the tramway:



Look both ways
before crossing
the tracks



Trams only
Routes where
other traffic is
prohibited



Watch out for
trams crossing
ahead



The lights flash
when a tram is
approaching

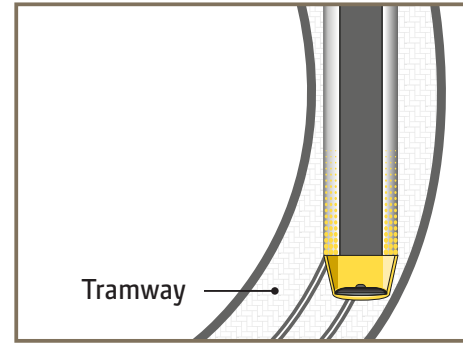


Route for
trams and
cycles only



No entry
except for
trams

Things you should know about your Metrolink trams



- **Trams are much wider than the tracks they run on** and in most places there are no barriers separating the trams from the pavement.
- Trams often run on streets.
- Because they run on tracks, **trams can't swerve** to avoid obstacles.
- Trams are large and make very little noise.
- When sharing the highway with other vehicles, trams travel at speeds up to the permitted speed limit.
- Trams have a **warning horn** which is sounded to alert nearby pedestrians and cyclists who may be about to cross the track.

Second City Crossing and cyclists

The construction of the new Second City Crossing tramway through Manchester city centre has created areas where only trams and cycles are allowed to go. The restricted space available on the highway in the city centre requires that cycles share the tram route with trams and, in these locations, cyclists should use the space between the kerb and the nearest rail. Tram drivers are trained not to overtake a cyclist in these areas, and to follow at a safe distance.

The introduction of these tram and cycle only areas means that cyclists should take extra care. At the Corporation Street/Withy Grove junction, for example, the layout of the junction requires that all other traffic, except cycles and trams, turns left (see photo 2 on facing page). When travelling ahead, cyclists therefore need to take care in locations such as these where such movement is contrary to that of other traffic, which may not anticipate your movement correctly.

Cycling and the Second City Crossing

- As with cycling elsewhere, when in the city centre cycle in a manner appropriate to the conditions, for example take extra care and cycle more slowly in wet or icy conditions or when lighting levels are low.
- In mainly pedestrianised areas such as Exchange Square, where all other traffic except cycles and trams has been excluded, cyclists should proceed with extreme care, and at a speed that enables them to have a short stopping distance. Cyclists should also not wear earphones when in close proximity to the tram tracks.
- When turning right across tram tracks, position yourself in an appropriate position to cross the tracks at a right angle where possible. If you are not confident, use the Toucan crossing. If in doubt, dismount and cross the tramway on foot.
- Cyclists should not try to overtake a tram while it is stationary. They should wait behind the tram until it begins moving again, before re-commencing their bike ride.

Typical Manchester city centre junctions Points to note

The following guidance on how cyclists should position themselves at Advanced Stop Lines may differ from advice you have previously received. However, where cyclists share junctions with trams, we recommend you take up the positions advised below:



1. Exchange Square/Withy Grove junction

“Straight ahead” move only allowed. If possible, cyclists to place themselves in the advance stop line box between the kerb and the rail when the signal is on red.

2. Corporation Street/Withy Grove junction

All traffic turns left here except trams and cyclists heading through Exchange Square, with an advance stop line and cycle lane provided. Note the traffic mirror on the signal head (top left in photo) which allows buses and HGVs to see cyclists coming up on the inside.



3. Exchange Square stop

Cyclists travelling through the tram stop should stay between the kerb and the rail, but should be aware that pedestrians are more likely to step out due to the absence of motor vehicles other than trams.

Further information

For comprehensive accessibility information and the full details of the facilities available at every stop, please visit the Metrolink website.

For more information about cycling and the free adult cycle training available from Transport for Greater Manchester please contact the Cycling Team by email **cycling@tfgm.com** or telephone **0161 244 1000** or visit our website **www.tfgm.com/cycling**. The website also offers maps and other support to help you plan your journey.

For further safety guidance, please refer to the Highway Code, which can be accessed via the following link: **www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code**. In particular, please note rules 59-82 and 306.



For more information contact:

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If you would like this information
in other formats, please phone
0161 244 1000.

7am – 8pm Mon to Fri, 8am – 8pm Sat, Sun
& public holidays.