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Slow Down for All Intersections

The most dangerous point on any street or highway is where it intersects another road. The three major contributing factors to intersection accidents are: delayed perception, speed too fast for conditions, and false assumptions.

Delayed Perception

Delayed perception occurs when you are distracted, confused, or diverted by other competing hazards while the ultimate hazard is rapidly developing (e.g. watching pedestrians, looking for street signs, etc.).

Speed

Drivers who fail to slow down for intersections risk a serious accident. They are traveling so fast by the time they perceive the hazard—that they have already passed the point of escape.

False Assumptions

A large number of drivers who become involved in intersection accidents do so because they wrongfully assume the other driver will act in a certain way (e.g. a flashing turn signal is an indication that the vehicle will make a turn—if it doesn't.....will you be able to stop?!)

Avoiding Intersection Accidents

Here are some suggestions to help you avoid crashes at intersections.

1. Match speed with visibility at intersections. Always be able to stop your vehicle short of the intersection.
2. Resist distractions. Keep your eyes moving—look in all directions, then look again.
3. Don't assume anything. Just because you have the right of way, or think you do, doesn't mean the other driver will yield it to you.

Final Thoughts

Don't stake your life on the right of way... The stakes are too high and the odds are against you!

THINK PREVENTABILITY—
DRIVE DEFENSIVELY

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