How do you avoid hitting a hidden pedestrian? When you see a car, truck or bus slow, stop or remain stopped, ask yourself, “Why is that vehicle slowing or stopping?” Be ready for a hidden pedestrian (or bicyclist) by slowing your vehicle and looking carefully. Slow down, be prepared to stop and look for what’s in front of any vehicle you are about to pass. It’s one good way to avoid accidents, and...

YOU MAKE IT WORK

YOU AND YOU

SHOULD NEVER MEET LIKE THIS

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

WALKING THROUGH THE YEARS
YOU
THE PEDESTRIAN
When crossing in front of a stopped vehicle, look around it to see if a car is coming.

You’d never knowingly walk right out into the path of an oncoming vehicle whose driver couldn’t see you. But sometimes you forget that a driver overtaking a stopped car, truck or bus can’t see people crossing in front of it. Sure it seems safe when cars stop for you at a crosswalk or when cars stay stopped at a light to let you cross. The problem is that these vehicles hide you from overtaking motorists. What’s the answer?

Simple. Whenever you cross in front of or between stopped vehicles, stop at their outside edge and LOOK AROUND THEM. Look around them to be sure there are no cars coming that could hit you as you walk past the vehicle that’s hiding you. Remember, when you cross in front of a stopped vehicle, look around it. It’s one good way to keep walking safely through the years, and you make it work.

YOU
THE DRIVER
When approaching a stopped vehicle, slow down. It may be hiding a crossing pedestrian.

You have to avoid hitting pedestrians, even the ones you can’t see. Like those crossing in front of a stopped bus. Or a pedestrian crossing in front of cars stopped at a light. Or someone crossing in front of a slowing vehicle. In each of these situations you may not see or expect a pedestrian, but one could be there ready to step right out into your path.