

General Rules for Drivers

- When approaching a roundabout, reduce your speed and yield to ALL traffic in the roundabout.
- If you are approaching a multi-lane roundabout, maneuver into the correct lane before entering the roundabout:
 - If you want to turn left or make a u-turn, use the left-hand lane.
 - If you want to turn right, use the right-hand lane.
 - If you want to continue straight, you may use either lane unless signing or pavement markings say otherwise.
- Move up to the entrance of the roundabout and wait for a gap in ALL lanes of traffic in the roundabout!
- When inside the roundabout, do not stop for entering vehicles, except to avoid a collision. You have the right-of-way over vehicles trying to enter the roundabout.
- Do not change lanes in the roundabout!**
- Use your vehicle's turn signal on approach to the roundabout, when approaching your exit and while exiting.
- Yield to pedestrians or bicyclists in the crosswalks.

Navigating as a Pedestrian

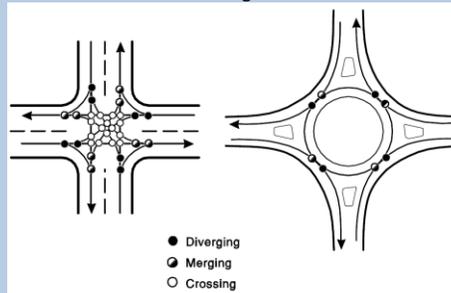
- Cross only at crosswalks and always stay within designated walkways.
- Never cross to the central island of the roundabout.
- Cross the roundabout one approach at a time and use the splitter islands to stop and check for oncoming traffic.

Navigating as a Cyclist

- Cyclists can either ride with traffic following the same rules as motor vehicles or they can use the crosswalks and navigate following the rules for pedestrians.
- Cyclists who ride with traffic must follow the same rules as motor vehicles and must yield upon entering the roundabout.

Why Do We Use Roundabouts?

- Safety**
 - Reduced Speeds**
Properly designed roundabouts force drivers to slow down to relatively low speeds, which reduces the potential for fatal and severe accidents.
 - Fewer Conflict Points**
Roundabouts have fewer vehicular conflict points in comparison to conventional intersections. This reduces the likelihood of accidents and greatly reduces the potential for right-angle and head-on accidents. The figure below from NCHRP Report 672 illustrates the number of conflict points for a single-lane roundabout and a conventional traffic signal.



- Pedestrian Safety**
Roundabouts increase pedestrian safety by allowing pedestrians to cross one direction of traffic flow at a time at each approach. Reduced vehicle speeds also increase pedestrian safety.
- Roundabouts have shown to reduce fatal and injury crashes by as much as 75 percent.**
- Reduced Delay**
By yielding before entering the roundabout instead of stopping and waiting for a green light as you would at a conventional traffic signal, vehicle delay is reduced.
- Environmental**
With a reduction in delay there is also a reduction in fuel consumption and air pollution.
- Low Maintenance**
Roundabouts do not have the maintenance and electricity costs associated with traffic signals since they are virtually equipment free, aside from signs.
- Aesthetics**
Depending on the design of the roundabout, the central island may provide an opportunity to beautify the intersection.

MULTI-LANE ROUNDABOUTS



HOW DO I DRIVE THEM?
HOW DO PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS NAVIGATE THEM?
WHY DO WE USE THEM?

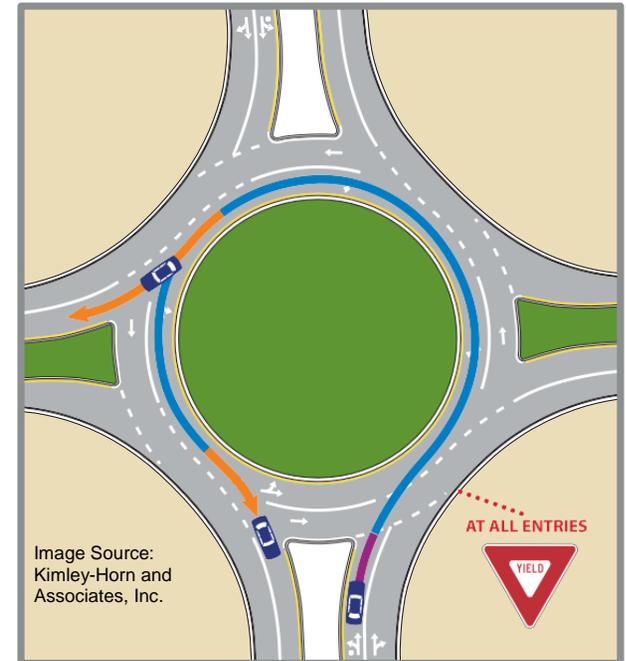
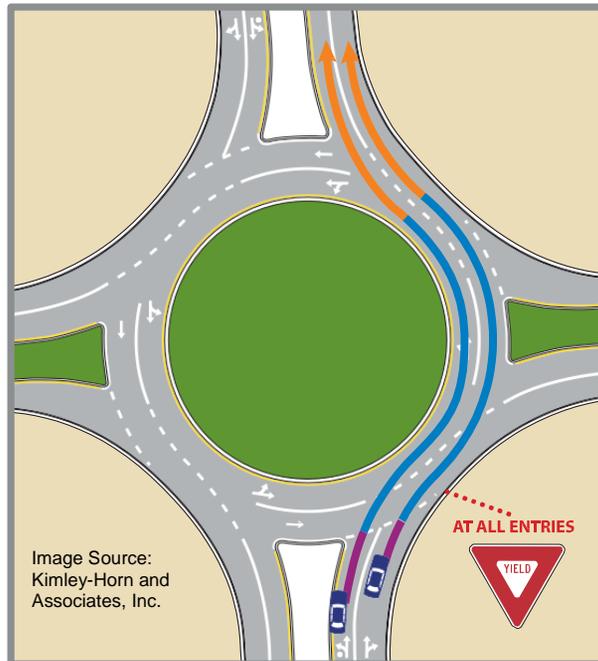
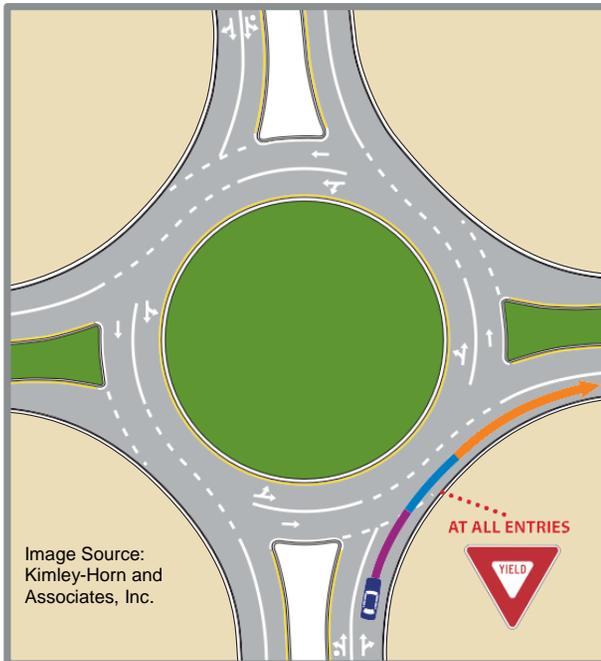


Image Source:
Google Earth.

The roundabouts pictured above are located in Brighton, Michigan.

An informational brochure created by Beaufort County Traffic & Transportation Engineering

DRIVING MULTI-LANE ROUNDABOUTS



Want to Turn Right?

- 1. Approaching the roundabout:**
Be in the right-hand (outside) lane and use the vehicle's right-turn signal. Remember to yield to all vehicles already in the roundabout before entering! This includes vehicles approaching from the left and exiting on the right!
- 2. Circulating the roundabout:**
After yielding to all vehicles in the roundabout, you may enter the roundabout. **Stay in the right-hand (outside) lane and do not change lanes.** Continue using the right-turn indication while in the roundabout.
- 3. Exiting the roundabout:**
Stay in the right-hand (outside) lane as you exit the roundabout.

Want to Go Straight?

- 1. Approaching the roundabout:**
You can be in either lane, unless otherwise marked on the pavement. Remember to yield to all vehicles already in the roundabout before entering! This includes vehicles approaching from the left and exiting on the right!
- 2. Circulating the roundabout:**
After yielding to all vehicles in the roundabout, you may enter the roundabout. Stay in the lane that you entered the roundabout in. For example, if you entered in the left-hand (inside) lane, stay in that lane until you have exited the roundabout. **Do not change lanes while inside the roundabout.**
- 3. Preparing to exit the roundabout:**
When you have passed the last exit before the exit you want to take, use the vehicle's right-turn signal and stay in your lane as you exit the roundabout. For example, if you are in the right-hand (outside) lane and want to exit, stay in the outside lane.
- 4. Exiting the roundabout:**
As you exit the roundabout, be aware of any vehicles traveling in the outside lane that may want to continue circulating.

Want to Turn Left?

- 1. Approaching the roundabout:**
Be in the left-hand (inside) lane, unless otherwise marked on the pavement and use the vehicle's left-turn signal. Remember to yield to all vehicles already in the roundabout before entering! This includes vehicles approaching from the left and exiting on the right!
- 2. Circulating the roundabout:**
After yielding to all vehicles in the roundabout, you may enter the roundabout. Stay in the left-hand lane until you are ready to exit. **Do not change lanes while inside the roundabout.**
- 3. Preparing to exit the roundabout:**
When you have passed the last exit before the exit you want to take, use the vehicle's right-turn signal and stay in the inside lane as you exit.
- 4. Exiting the roundabout:**
As you exit the roundabout, be aware of any vehicles traveling in the outside lane that may want to continue circulating.