

The Benefits of Roundabouts

Roundabouts channel traffic around a central island without traffic signals, which reduces driver delay by allowing motorists to yield rather than stop. They can also handle higher traffic volumes, especially at intersections with many left turns, which helps vehicles get through more quickly.

Roundabouts, as a whole, are much safer than similar intersections with signals. In 2012, the Federal Highway Administration identified roundabouts as one of their nine proven safety measures. This determination was made by studying roundabouts on urban and rural roadways and determining that roundabouts had 78 percent fewer severe crashes and nearly half as many crashes as intersections with signals. In addition, FHWA is currently studying if roundabouts move traffic as efficiently as a signalized intersection.

Two-Lane Roundabouts



Missouri Department of Transportation

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*The Ins and Outs
of Two-Lane Roundabouts*

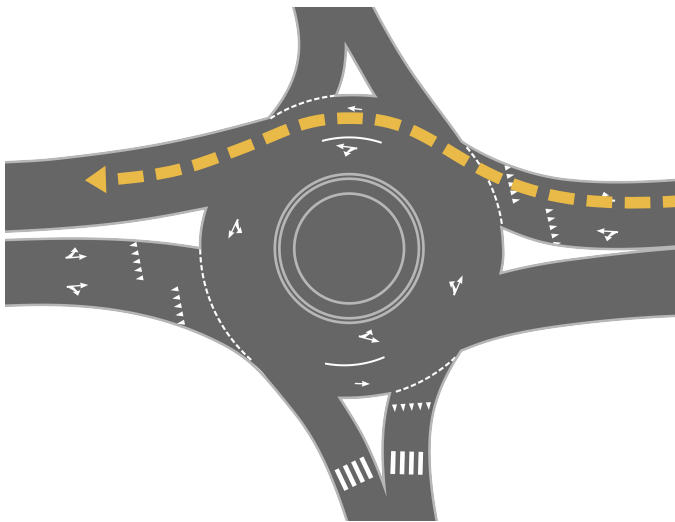
www.modot.org

Using a two-lane roundabout is fairly simple. Here are some common traffic movements and how to make them using the two lane roundabout.

How Are Two-lane Roundabouts Different?

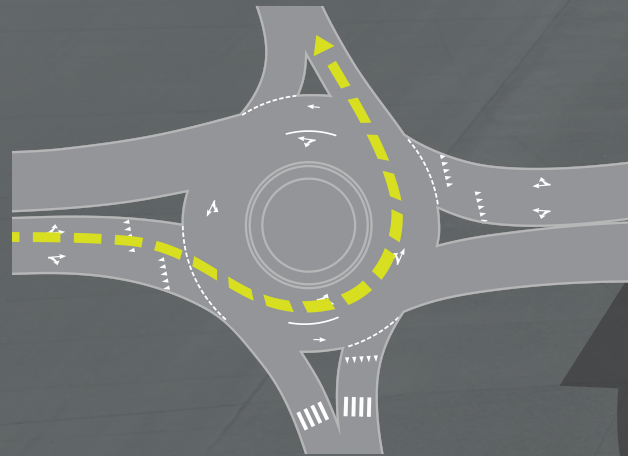
Although slightly different than a one-lane roundabout, two-lane roundabouts operate the same way. Drivers approaching the intersection need to yield to traffic currently in the roundabout. Traffic slows down as vehicles proceed through the roundabout. The main roadway is often the only roadway that is truly two lanes.

Drivers entering the roundabout from the side roads need to make sure they stay on the inside lane of the roundabout until they make it completely through to their turn.



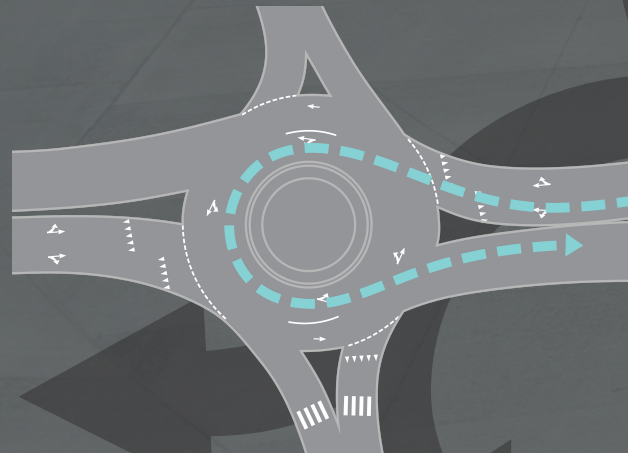
Driving Through the Roundabout

- Approach the roundabout from any open lane and yield to traffic in the roundabout. Be aware that traffic may be crossing through your lane to get to the roadway to your right
- When you get a break in the traffic flow, enter the roundabout and stay in your lane.
- Proceed through the roundabout.



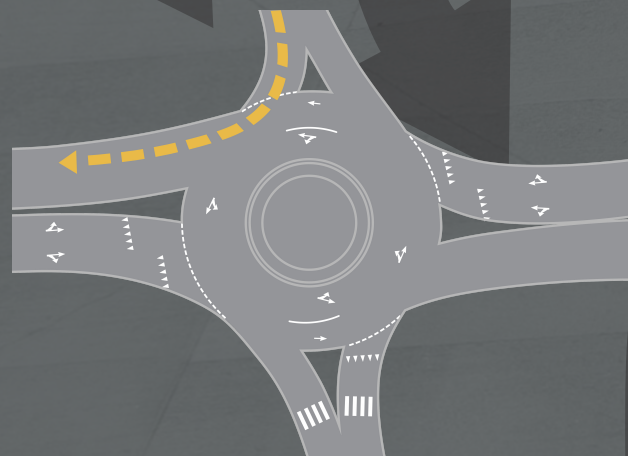
Making a Left Turn

- Approach the roundabout from the left lane and yield to any traffic in the roundabout.
- When you get a break in the traffic flow, enter the roundabout and stay to the left. Continue around the roundabout and onto the side road.
- Cyclists who feel comfortable riding in the traffic lanes may use the roundabout in the same manner.



Making a U-turn

- Approach the roundabout from the leftmost lane and yield to traffic in the roundabout
- When you get a break in the traffic flow enter the roundabout and stay left.
- Travel around the roundabout and exit in the opposite direction.



Turning Right

- Approach the roundabout from the rightmost lane and yield to traffic in the roundabout.
- When you get a break in the traffic flow, turn right.