



SANTA FE SOUTHERN RAILWAY

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RAILROAD SAFETY RULES PASSENGER & FREIGHT TRAINS

The following rules are for your safety. Become familiar with them and be aware of your surroundings at all times. Expect a train on any track, in any direction, at any time!

General Safety Rules

1. PROPER FOOTWEAR: It is recommended that you wear ankle support work boots/shoes with sturdy soles and firmly attached heels. Ensure that heels are not excessively worn. **Shoes with open toes and sandals should never be worn.**

2. WALKING NEAR TRACK: Be careful when walking across or near track. Pay attention to footing and other conditions which affect your safety. It is easy to slip on the rock ballast and many items of hardware are concealed in the rock and nearby dirt.

When referring to paperwork, using a cell phone or radio, do so while standing still and clear of tracks. You are **NOT** clear of tracks unless you are **AT LEAST 4 feet beyond each rail!**

Do not walk on top of rails. If you slip or fall, you are most likely to hit your head on the adjacent rail.

When walking and it is necessary to turn your head or look backwards, **stop before proceeding.**

Keep a sharp lookout in both directions for approaching train cars. **Never walk or stand between the rails.** Avoid standing on the ends of ties.

Always keep a safe distance (as far away as possible) from passing railcars to avoid being struck by falling or projecting objects.

3. WALKING BETWEEN OR CROSSING TRACKS: To avoid being struck by moving cars, determine that the track is clear by looking both ways before fouling, walking between or crossing tracks. Perform your task quickly and get in the clear. Step over the rails, not on them!

4. PASSING CARS: When standing, walking, or working on train cars, between or near tracks, keep a careful lookout for any moving equipment and expect movement at any time, on any track, in either direction. Do not rely on others to notify you of an approaching train. **Stop, look, and listen.** Remember, be alert and look out for your safety at all times.

5. CROSSING OVER STANDING EQUIPMENT: Never place any part of your body on or between couplers or the ends of cars.

6. RIDING ON EQUIPMENT: Do not ride on the outside of any railcar, nor step on or off of moving equipment. If the train is moving, radio the train to stop if it leaves without you. Do not chase it. No running is permitted, unless in an emergency.

7. SEATED OR STANDING IN RAILCAR: Be alert for conditions that can cause slack action, such as braking, changes in grade or speed. Protect yourself from slack action by remaining seated and with both feet on the floor. When duties require you to stand, keep your feet shoulder width apart, one foot slightly ahead of the other, with hands braced on a seat, wall, or grab iron.

8. ASCENDING OR DESCENDING FROM STATIONARY EQUIPMENT: Observe condition of equipment. Avoid grabbing defective safety devices such as bent, loose or missing stirrups, steps, ladder rungs and brake platforms. Always face equipment and use side ladder or steps. Be alert for unexpected movement of the train before disembarking. **Don't jump off!**

9. CROSSING THROUGH EQUIPMENT: Unless duties require and you have been cleared through a railroad safety officer, personnel must not get on, cross through, crawl, sit or lie under cars, regardless of whether cars are standing or moving.

10. STANDING EQUIPMENT: To avoid being struck by unexpected movement, be alert and give yourself at least twenty-five (25) feet of clearance when walking around equipment.

11. OBJECTS ON RAIL: Personnel must not place objects on track, i.e., coins, nails, wire, etc. The objects can be ejected from under the wheel and strike someone, causing injury.

12. SMOKING PROHIBITED: Smoking in locomotives and railcars is not permitted.

13. WHISTLE SIGNALS: The whistle signals below are illustrated by ----- for long sound and “o” for short sound.

(a) ----- ----- A standing train or engine is preparing to move forward.

(b) o o o A standing train or engine is preparing to move backward, or reverse.

(c) ----- All clear, train is stopped, personnel are clear to get on or off the train.

(d) o o o o o Succession of short whistle blasts are used when an emergency exists, or as an warning for personnel on the track.

14. BLUE FLAG RULE: Blue Flag Rules are special rules to protect personnel working on, near, underneath, on top of, a railcar, train, engine, or track.

Any department member can request Blue Flag Protection to be set by the designated Railroad Safety Officer. This means a blue light or signal (metal or cloth flag) will be placed in the control cab of the engine at eye level to the engineer, thereby rendering the engine inoperative. The car, train or engine **cannot be moved for any reason** when a Blue Flag is set.

Department members calling for a Blue Flag must notify the Railroad Safety Officer when it is safe to remove the Blue Flag. If more than one department has requested a Blue Flag, each such flag must be lifted by the department before the train is safe to move.

The Railroad Safety Officer is the **only** person authorized to remove the Blue Flag and light.

The engineer of each and every train may never move a train without first notifying the Railroad Safety Officer in charge of train movements, regardless of whether a blue flag is visible in the cab of any train or not. There will be times when the designated RR Safety Officer will be the actual conductor of the train.

15. CELL PHONES AND DISTRACTIONS: While using cell phones or other distracting devices, stay 25 feet away from railroad tracks or equipment. While using these devices, it is recommended that you stand in one (safe) location and not walk while being distracted. **Be aware of your surroundings.**

16. DRUGS AND ALCOHOL: The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while on duty or on company property is prohibited. Employees must not have any measurable alcohol in their breath or in their bodily fluids when reporting for duty, while on duty, or while on company property. The use or possession of intoxicants, over-the-counter or prescription drugs, narcotics, controlled substances, or medication that may adversely affect safe performance is prohibited while on duty or on company property, except medication that is permitted by a medical practitioner and used as prescribed. Employees must not have any prohibited substances in their bodily fluids when reporting for duty, while on duty, or while on company property.



Always take the safe course when in doubt or uncertainty.