



For more information on  
Merge Left  
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# MERGE LEFT

## MERGE EARLY



A New Idea to Improve  
Tennessee Work Zones

Tennessee Department of Transportation  
Tennessee Department of Safety

In Tennessee, we're always trying to make things better. That's why we have a new way to travel through our interstate highway work zones to improve flow and safety: **MERGE LEFT** and **MERGE EARLY**.



## Here's how Merge Left works.

**1** At the very first highway sign advising of a work zone, begin merging to the left lane as quickly as possible. Do not try to gain position by speeding ahead in the right lane.



**2** Get in single file with all other vehicles in the left lane.

**3** Stay in single file until you are through the work zone.

**4** Begin to merge back into all traffic lanes.



## A few important things to remember:

- ✦ You must have completed your merge when you reach the sign that reads, "Do Not Pass In Right Lane" or you can be ticketed.
- ✦ For every second that one car is forced to slow or stop for a last-chance merger, the entire line of traffic behind it is delayed multiple times over.
- ✦ A last-chance merger can increase delays and may cause collisions resulting in injuries or death.
- ✦ A late merger can be ticketed by a Tennessee State Trooper or other law enforcement officer for violation of the "No Passing Zone".
- ✦ You may also be ticketed for following too closely, speeding, failure to obey a required traffic control device or failure to use lanes properly.

