

How To Avoid Street Car Accidents

<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Boarding a Car</h2> <p>GRASP the forward hand-hold with your right hand; face slightly towards the front of the car and step up onto the step with the left foot first; retain hold with your hands until you are safely on the platform. It is always better to wait until the car stops and then step lively.</p> <p>Never under any circumstances attempt to board the front platform of a moving car, as a mis-step here is almost certain to throw you under the wheels, and death or a crushed limb will be the result.</p> <p>If you board a car properly, there is not much danger of accident, even if the car should start before you are fully on.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Riding On the Platform</h2> <p>THIS is not particularly dangerous if one keeps away from the trolley rope, the brake handle and the step, refrains from leaning over the rail towards the parallel track, and steadies oneself by holding onto some part of the car to avoid being thrown down while rounding a curve. But riding on the step should be tabooed as being too dangerous.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Sticking your Head or Arm Out of the Window</h2> <p>MOST street cars nowadays are provided with screens on the side nearest the parallel track, and thus passengers are prevented from sticking their arms or heads out of the window and having them smashed by a passing car; but when you ride upon a car not provided with such screens, or if such screens only partially prevent the possibility of doing this, remember that this is an extremely dangerous thing to do.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Alighting From a Car</h2> <p>WAIT until the car stops. Step squarely down onto the step or running board, holding to upright hand-hold in front of you with your left hand, then step to the ground with your right foot first, facing direction car is headed, and release your hold as soon as your foot reaches the ground.</p> <p>Always look out for passing vehicles before you step to street, and it is also well to look where you are stepping, as a depression in the street, or irregularity in the paving, may cause a bad fall.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Riding on the Running Board</h2> <p>THE RUNNING board of an open car is not the safest place in the world to ride upon. In the first place, there is the danger of falling or being pushed off, and, in the next place, there is the danger of being "raked" off by some vehicle driving or standing too close to the track to permit of safe passage, or by a pile of building material which may be piled close to the track. Therefore, always take a seat in the car when there are any vacant; or, if you are obliged to ride upon the running board, hold firmly to the upright hand-hold or the back of a seat and keep a lookout for vehicles and other objects along the track.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">In the Face of Danger</h2> <p>WHEN a collision is imminent, or takes place; when a trolley wire breaks or any of the electrical apparatus of the car goes wrong and causes alarm to the passengers; in short, in the face of any kind of danger—KEEP YOUR SEAT! DON'T JUMP! In ninety-nine cases out of one hundred you will fare better if you remain quietly in your seat than if you undertake to jump or otherwise attempt to escape the danger.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Passing Behind a Car</h2> <p>WHEN passing behind a car always make sure that a car is not approaching from the opposite direction on the parallel track. Failure to take this precaution may result in fatal injuries or instant death. Never pass too closely behind a standing car, as it may back unexpectedly and come in collision with you. Our most serious accidents result from people stepping from behind one car directly in front of another.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Riding on the Bumper</h2> <p>ANICE, snug lunatic asylum is the proper place for any man who will ride on the "bumper" of a street car. He deserves to have his accident policy canceled and a guardian appointed.</p> <p>For the benefit of those who do not know what the "bumper" is, it may be explained that it is the projection back of the rear platform dash, upon which foolish persons sometimes ride.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Following Closely Behind Car in an Automobile</h2> <p>AUTOMOBILES frequently fall in behind a swiftly moving car and follow so closely behind that when the car stops they are compelled to turn either to the right or left to prevent a collision. If they turn to the right, they are liable to run down some passengers who have just alighted from the car, while if they turn to the left they are apt to crash into a car coming from the opposite direction. When following a car, therefore, they should allow a sufficient distance to intervene to permit making a stop without the necessity of turning out to prevent a collision.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Crossing Tracks</h2> <p>WHEN crossing a street on which there are street car tracks, whether you are walking or driving, it behooves you to look up and see that the tracks are clear before you attempt to cross. Don't ever run across the track in front of a moving car in your eagerness to save a second or two—a slip or stumble and the car is upon you before you can regain your feet. Do not allow yourself to become absent minded on the streets. It is too dangerous.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Standing Up In the Car</h2> <p>WHEN compelled to stand, always hold to strap or to the back of a seat, if the car has cross seats. The reason for this rule is that the rounding of a curve, or a sudden stop or collision with another car, may throw you to the floor or against some other portion of the car with such force that a broken bone, dislocation of a joint, or a bad concussion may result.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">A Word in conclusion</h2> <p>WHEN getting on or off the car, passing behind a car, crossing the tracks or riding on the platform or running-board of a car, HAVE YOUR WITS ABOUT YOU. Remember that the modern electric street car weighs from fifteen to twenty-five tons, and while it is not the juggernaut it is sometimes painted, it can crush the life out of a human being in an instant.</p>

Omaha & Council Bluffs Street Railway Company