



Stock on the road

If you're driving in regional South Australia, particularly on quieter back roads, it's possible you might come across a farmer moving livestock. If you've never encountered stock on a road before, you might not know how to pass them safely. It's a potentially hazardous situation because animals are unpredictable, so it's important to slow down and take extra care.

What to look out for

When travelling along roads in regional areas, be aware of any temporary signage along the side of the road. These signs are put in place to warn road users about livestock on or near a road. The recommended sign has the words 'STOCK ON ROAD' in bold black letters on a fluorescent orange background (see right).

An orange flag may also be used to improve the visibility of the signs.

This sign will normally be displayed up to 250 metres before you reach the stock on the road, giving you enough time to adjust your speed. When you see a sign like this, slow down to a speed that will reduce the risk of hitting or spooking any animals.

In some cases, there'll be permanent warning signs (see right). These signs are used to indicate that:

- stock is moved across or along a section of road on a daily basis
- the road is unfenced and the stockowner can show that a crossing point is regularly used by wandering stock.

In these circumstances, you should slow down and look out for any wandering animals.

Some examples of permanent warning signs alerting you to slow down and look out for any wandering livestock and other animals.





How do I drive through livestock?

If livestock are on or beside the road, travel at a speed that will allow you to safely stop if an animal were to suddenly move into the path of your vehicle.

If animals are on the road in front of you, brake slowly and try to pass smoothly, while being aware that animals could be behind you as well. If there's someone managing a stock crossing and controlling the movement of the animals, follow their advice. They might suggest you move to one side of the road to slowly pass the animals.

Don't increase your speed until you've safely passed all the animals on the road.

To report a hazard on a major road, contact the Traffic Management Centre on 1800 018 313.

Things to remember

- Look out for 'stock crossing' warning signs and other advisory signs.
- Don't sound your horn near animals because it'll frighten them, causing them to move unpredictably.
- Look out for working dogs that are watching the stock.
- Slow down to a speed that will allow you to react quickly and brake without skidding, especially in wet weather and poor visibility.
- Never swerve to avoid an animal – this could cause you to lose control or even crash your vehicle. It's always best practice to brake smoothly so you can keep control of your vehicle.

If you hit an animal, it's important you remove it from the road, or take action to have it removed as soon as you can safely do so. An animal left on the road creates a dangerous obstruction for other drivers.

We're here to help

If you've broken down and need Road Service, call **13 11 11**

For more information on road safety, visit **raa.com.au/roadsafety**

If you have a question about road rules or road safety, call our Road Safety team on 8202 4570 or email motoringroadrules@raa.com.au **raa.com.au/roadrules**