Intersection Stopping Requirements

If you have a crosswalk or white stop bar, you are required to stop before it. If you cannot see, you ARE required to pull up and stop again at your point of vision. If you CAN see, do not pull up and stop again, just proceed into the intersection when it’s your turn.

If there is just a stop sign with no lines, you are required to stop at the point of vision - NOT at the stop sign. The stop sign is there just to tell you that you are required to stop before you may proceed.

The best source is ORC 4511.43—Driving in response to stop or yield signs. The text follows:

§ 4511.43. Driving in response to stop or yield signs.

(A) Except when directed to proceed by a law enforcement officer, every driver of a vehicle or trackless trolley approaching a stop sign shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or, if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering it. After having stopped, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching on another roadway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time the driver is moving across or within the intersection or junction of roadways.

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(B) The driver of a vehicle or trackless trolley approaching a yield sign shall slow down to a speed reasonable for the existing conditions and, if required for safety to stop, shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or, if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering it. After slowing or stopping, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle or trackless trolley in the intersection or approaching on another roadway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time the driver is moving across or within the intersection or junction of roadways. Whenever a driver is involved in a collision with a vehicle or trackless trolley in the intersection or junction of roadways, after driving past a yield sign without stopping, the collision shall be prima-facie evidence of the driver's failure to yield the right-of-way.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

The following is from the *Digest of Motor Vehicle Laws*:

**Stopping**

A driver must stop:

1. Behind the stop line or crosswalk at any "stop" sign or at a red traffic signal.

2. Behind the stop line or crosswalk at any red traffic signal where right or left turns on red are permitted. The driver may only proceed with a legal turn on red after coming to a full stop and yielding the right of way to all crossing traffic and to all pedestrians crossing the intersection.

3. At a flashing red traffic signal and yield to all traffic that does not have to stop.

4. At a sidewalk, or if there is no sidewalk, at a point prior to entering the roadway, when emerging from an alley, driveway or private road on a business or residence district. Drivers must yield the right of way to any pedestrian on the sidewalk.

5. Before entering an intersection, if there is not sufficient space on the other side to accommodate the vehicle. The law applies whether or not a traffic signal gives a driver the right to proceed.

6. At the approach of a public safety vehicle (such as a police car, fire engine or ambulance) displaying flashing lights and sounding a warning signal, unless the vehicle is traveling in the opposite direction on a divided highway. Drivers should move as far as possible to the right of the road and remain there until the emergency vehicle has passed.