

203 - Locomotive Bell and Horn

203.1 Ring the locomotive bell before moving a locomotive that has been stopped one minute or more, and while:

1. Approaching and passing passenger stations,
2. Approaching and passing over public crossings at grade,
3. Moving through tunnels,
4. Approaching persons on or around the track structure, and
5. Approaching and passing roadway workers identified by white or orange hard hats.

203.2 Sound the horn signals as follows:

0 = Short Sound - = Long Sound	When Required
(a) - - 0 -	Approaching public highway grade crossings. Sound the horn for at least 15 seconds, but no more than 20 seconds, before the lead locomotive enters the crossing. Trains or locomotives traveling at speeds greater than 45 MPH shall begin sounding the horn at or about, but not more than, one-quarter mile in advance of the nearest public crossing, even if the advance warning provided by the horn will be less than 15 seconds in duration. This signal is to be prolonged or repeated until the train or locomotive occupies the crossing or, where multiple crossings are involved, until the last crossing is occupied.
(b) - - 0 -	Approaching and passing: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Roadway workers identified by white or orange hard hats, or b. Roadway maintenance machines or high-rail equipment on an adjacent track.
(c) - - 0 -	Approaching tunnels, yards, or other points where railroad workers may be present.
(d) - - 0 -	Meeting and passing standing trains.
(e) 0	Approaching passenger stations.
(f) Succession of sounds	Warning to people and/or animals on or near the track.
(g) - -	Proceeding or reversing after being stopped for one minute or more. (Does not apply to switching movements.)
(h) 0 0	Acknowledging any signal not otherwise provided for.
(i) - 0	When running against the current of traffic: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approaching stations, curves, or other points where view may be obscured; and 2. Approaching and passing passenger or freight trains.

203.3 The locomotive horn must:

1. Be sounded with intensity and duration to convey the intended warning, and
2. Not be used unnecessarily.

203.4 When the lead locomotive horn fails en route, notify train dispatcher or yardmaster, and:

- a. Move another locomotive with a working horn to the lead, or
- b. Stop and protect all highway-rail crossings at grade.