

Walkabout

Walkability Scores

Walking is good for everyone, and offers lots of benefits. It improves fitness, builds community, and if you walk to go to school it means less cars on the road and cleaner air. But some neighbourhoods aren't friendly places to walk.

Explore your neighbourhood, and see if it's good or bad for walking.

PART 1: Go for a walk

Getting Started

Find a route that you want to walk. Start by picking a destination, like a friend's house, a library, or to your favourite park. Then map a route to get there!

Get going

Put on your shoes and get walking! Use this checklist to assess your neighbourhood. Check off everything you see or experience on your walk. Pay close attention to things you SEE, HEAR, and FEEL.

The POSITIVES

- Crosswalk
- Pedestrian signal, with countdown
- School Zone (30km/h speed limit)
- Sidewalk, that's smooth and straight
- Braille sidewalk squares
- Pedestrian crossing chirps
- Not many cars or no traffic
- Quiet / not much noise
- Trees
- Easy to cross the street
- Other people walking or riding bikes
- Short street block
- Wide sidewalk
- Lots of houses or stores
- Feeling safe / happy

The NEGATIVES

- Traffic lights with no pedestrian signal
- High speed limit / fast cars
- Cracks or broken sidewalk
- Really high curb
- Lots of cars and traffic
- Loud / noisy
- No trees
- Hard to cross the street
- No other people around
- Big truck
- Long street block
- Narrow sidewalk / no sidewalk
- No houses or stores
- Unsafe drivers (did not stop, speeding, etc.)
- Feeling unsafe / scared / nervous

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PART 2: What is your neighbourhood's walkability score?

Find out if your neighbourhood is good or bad for walking. Add up all your check boxes, from what you SAW, HEARD, or FELT on your walk.

How many POSITIVES? _____

How many NEGATIVES? _____

Score your neighbourhood

Subtract negatives from positives to find your score.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{Total \# of Positives} \\ - \text{Total \# of Negatives} \\ \hline = \text{Walkability score} \end{array}$$

- _____

= _____

This is your score!
Compare it below.

Your score is...

0 to +17 = So good

Your neighbourhood is a good place to walk! You've got good infrastructure, quiet streets and you can feel good while you're walking. It's probably good for bike rides too.

0 to - 5 = Okay

Your neighbourhood could use some improvements. Things that could help include: new sidewalks, repairing sidewalks, creating places to cross the street, slower speed limits for cars.

-5 to -15 = Uh Oh

Your neighbourhood could use LOTS of improvements. But don't worry! There's things you can do.



TAKE ACTION for safer and better walking

What can I do right now?

Pick a safe walking route. If you experienced some issues on your walk, choose different streets.

Get a sign for your lawn or window to support safe speeds, at love30on30.org.

Learn more about safe walking, like how to safely cross a street or how to read road signs.

What can communities do?

Set safe speed limits. Did you know that the only safe speed limit where people drive, bike and walk on the same street is 30km/h? The City of Winnipeg is doing a pilot of safe speed limits; talk to your councillor!

Request infrastructure changes for traffic calming in your neighbourhood. Start by calling 311, then talk with your neighbours.

Get safety patrols at the school, with support and training from CAA. Talk with your school administrators.