

## New lines help you on your way

You will encounter new types of lines on many Dutch roads these days. They indicate more clearly how fast you may drive and whether you may overtake. The new lines should be considered reminders on the road. They are convenient because they are always in view. But for the rules to be applied correctly, it is still true that traffic signs have priority over markings.

## Continuous centre lines: overtaking not allowed

With regard to overtaking, the current rule is still the same. Double centre lines mean the same as the old single centre lines: if they are continuous, you may not cross them. Overtaking here is risky. If the white centre lines are broken, overtaking is permitted. However, it is still a dangerous manoeuvre, so overtake only if it is possible to do so safely.

## Signs have priority over lines

The lines show how fast you may normally drive. Sometimes, however, a lower speed is better suited to the situation, such as when approaching an intersection, on a curve or where there are road works. A lower speed is often compulsory in that case (e.g., 70 or 50 km/h), whereas the lines do not change. Traffic signs indicate how fast you may drive there. The traffic signs have priority over markings when it comes to overtaking as well. Broken centre lines mean that overtaking is permitted, but sometimes overtaking may be forbidden in an area for safety reasons. Traffic signs will indicate this clearly.

**Keep an eye on the signs, as they will continue to determine the maximum speed and overtaking.**

## Clearer = safer

The new lines offer additional security. You feel more secure and will be calmer behind the wheel. More clarity thereby makes traffic safer for everyone. The new lines also influence driving behaviour, often without people being aware of it themselves. For example, double centre lines mean that vehicles travelling in opposite directions give each other more space. The likelihood of a collision therefore decreases. There are no central lines on narrower country roads and dike roads. This means road users will drive more carefully and with more alertness. This is good for traffic safety as well.

## From old to new

Putting new lines on all roads outside built-up areas is a huge task. It often disrupts traffic as well. Therefore, a deliberate decision has been made to apply the lines during periodic maintenance or when new roads are built. It should be finished everywhere by 2015. Until then, you may sometimes encounter the old type of lines. The authorities involved will do their very best to keep the transition period as short as possible.

**For more information, visit [www.strepenopdeweg.nl](http://www.strepenopdeweg.nl)**

This brochure is a joint initiative by:

Ministerie van Verkeer en Waterstaat

**ip** Interprovinciaal Overleg  
The twelve Dutch provinces

**anwb**  
Royal Dutch Touring Club

# New lines on the road: easier and safer

**More and more often, you will see new types of lines on roads outside built-up areas. What do they mean for you?**



[www.strepenopdeweg.nl](http://www.strepenopdeweg.nl)

# New lines on roads outside built-up areas

## Double white centre lines with green



### Maximum speed?

This is a semi-motorway. You may drive at 100 km/h except when traffic signs indicate a lower speed.

### Overtaking?

- Continuous white centre lines: overtaking not allowed
- Broken white centre lines: overtaking is allowed, except if traffic signs forbid it. Overtake only if it is possible to do so safely.

### What type of traffic?

- Cars, lorries (80 km/h) and motorcycles
- Not: farm vehicles, microcars, mopeds, bicycles or pedestrians

## Double white centre lines without green



### Maximum speed?

You may drive at 80 km/h except when traffic signs indicate a lower speed.

### Overtaking?

- Continuous white centre lines: overtaking not allowed
- Broken white centre lines: overtaking is allowed, except if traffic signs forbid it. Overtake only if it is possible to do so safely.



### What type of traffic?

- Cars, lorries and motorcycles
- Sometimes: farm vehicles (25 km/h) and microcars (45 km/h)
- Not: mopeds, bicycles or pedestrians

## No centre lines



### Maximum speed?

- If there is a sign reading  or  by the side of the road, you may drive at 60 km/h.
- If there is no speed limit sign or 60 zone sign by the side of the road, you may drive at 80 km/h.

### Overtaking?

Overtaking is allowed, except if traffic signs forbid it. Overtake only if it is possible to do so safely.

### What type of traffic?

- Cars, lorries and motorcycles
- Farm vehicles (25 km/h)
- Microcars (45 km/h), mopeds (45 km/h), bicycles and pedestrians