

HOW TO MANEUVER ON TOP OF A MOVING TRAIN AND GET INSIDE

1 Do not try to stand up straight (you probably will not be able to anyway).

Stay bent slightly forward, leaning into the wind. If the train is moving faster than thirty miles per hour, it will be difficult to maintain your balance and resist the wind, so crawling on all fours may be the best method until you can get down.

2 If the train is approaching a turn, lie flat; do not try to keep your footing.

The car may have guide rails along the edge to direct water. If it does, grab them and hold on.

3 If the train is approaching a tunnel entrance, lie flat, and quickly.

There is actually quite a bit of clearance between the top of the train and the top of the tunnel—about three feet—but not nearly enough room to stand. Do not assume that you can walk or crawl to the end of the car to get down and inside before you reach the tunnel—you probably won't.



4 Move your body with the rhythm of the train—from side to side and forward.

Do not proceed in a straight line. Spread your feet apart about thirty-six inches and wobble from side to side as you move forward.

5 Find the ladder at the end of the car (between two cars) and climb down.

It is very unlikely that there will be a ladder on the side of the car—they usually appear only in the movies, to make the stunts more exciting.

Be Aware

The sizes and shapes of the cars on a freight train may vary widely. This can either make it easier or significantly more difficult to cross from one car to another. A twelve-foot-high boxcar may be next to a flatbed or a rounded chem car. If on this type of train, your best bet is to get down as quickly as possible, rather than to try a dangerous leap from car to car.