



Cloverleaf and Diamond Interchanges



A **cloverleaf interchange** is a four-leg interchange that uses loop ramps to accommodate left-turning movements.

Interchanges with all four loops are referred to as “full cloverleaves” and all others are referred to as “partial cloverleaves”.

A **diamond interchange** has two intersections, two diagonal entry ramps and two diagonal exit ramps. This interchange will oftentimes have traffic signals to control vehicle flow and safety.

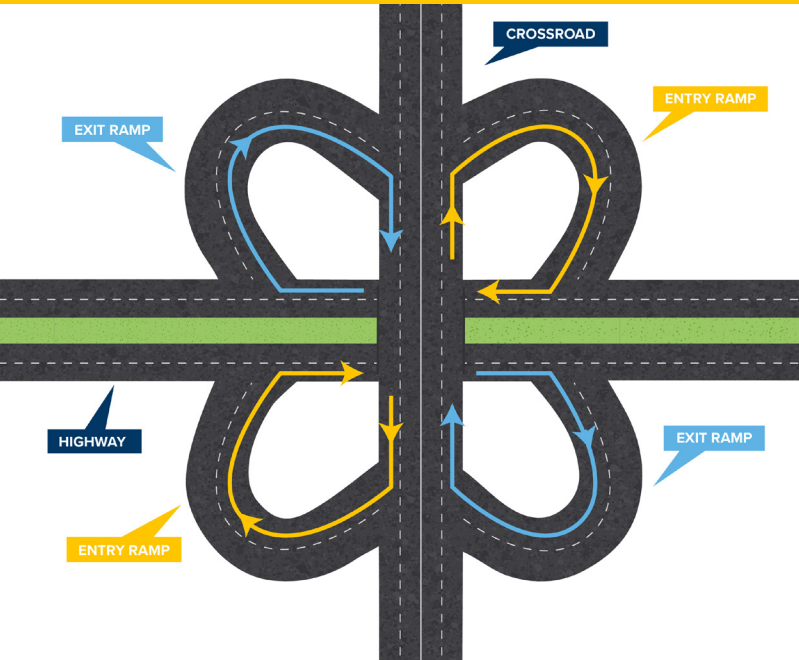
BENEFITS

- **Increased efficiency** — Interchanges keep traffic moving and allow for traffic to flow between major roadways and crossroads.
- **Familiarity** – Cloverleaf and diamond interchanges are the most common type of interchanges, making them highly recognizable.

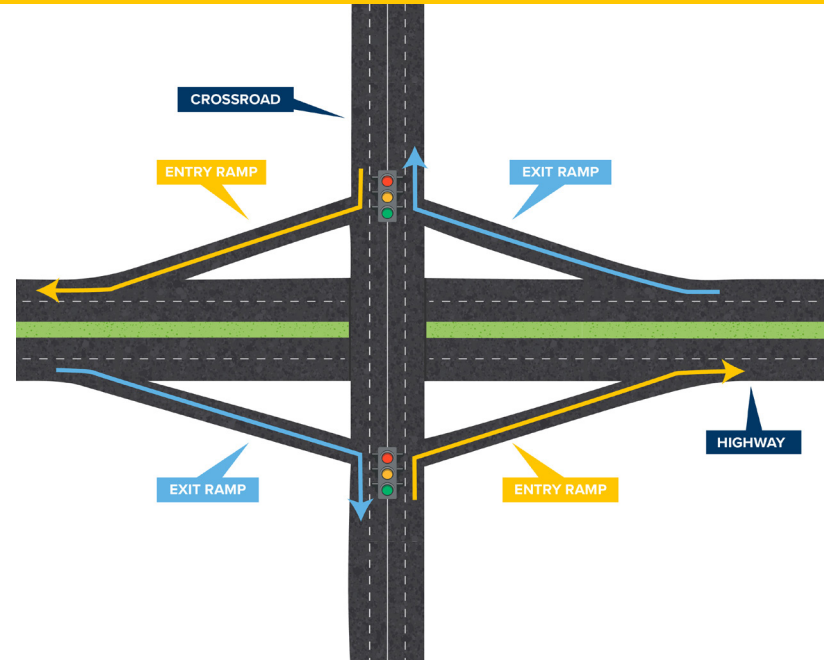




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CLOVERLEAF INTERCHANGE



DIAMOND INTERCHANGE

WHEN TO USE CLOVERLEAF OR DIAMOND INTERCHANGE

- Cloverleaf and diamond interchanges should be used when connecting two roadways that have low left turn volumes.
- Cloverleaf designs are typically used in rural environments with low traffic volumes and minimal weaving.

WHEN NOT TO USE CLOVERLEAF OR DIAMOND INTERCHANGE

- A cloverleaf interchange should not be used in areas with frequent large vehicle traffic. Some larger vehicles have trouble navigating smaller cloverleaf turns.
- Cloverleaf and diamond interchanges should not be used on roadways with high traffic volumes.