

After a car crash, the first question you're probably asking yourself is:

"How am I going to get around now?"

We totally get it – your car is your freedom. It's the key to how you're able to live your life the way you're used to.

And when it gets taken away from you? You're stuck, waiting until the insurance company figures out a way to get you a vehicle.

Unfortunately, you might not be able to afford to wait. You might have to get to work, get your kids to school or even just get to and from the grocery store.

If you feel like you don't have options, we want to help. We put together this guide for public transportation options in the Denver metro area that should hopefully help you to get back out there and get your life back on track.

UBER & LYFT



Rideshare apps like Uber and Lyft are best suited for people who have plenty of disposable income and who want the most custom, comfortable experience possible.

Unlike the other transportation options, rideshare apps allow you to select a precise location to be dropped off at. This makes it easily the most convenient of all the options and best for those who don't want to worry about routes or departure times.

However, it's also the most expensive option on this list. Depending on your situation, it may be best used for the occasional trip, while the bus or light rail may be better suited for your everyday commute.



First, you'll need to have the Uber or Lyft app downloaded to your smart phone. Both apps are free and can be found wherever you get your smartphone applications.

Once you have the app downloaded, you'll need to create an account. Your account will feature your name and photo, and will make it easier for drivers to connect with you when they're coming to pick you up.

Once your account is made and you're ready to take a ride, you'll open the app and enter your ideal destination into the search bar. From there, the app will show you different ride options that vary on price point and how long it will take for the driver to arrive to you.

Once you've selected your ride option, the app will pair you with a driver. You'll get their name, car type and license plate sent to you so that you know what to look for, as well as their estimated time of arrival to how long it'll take them to get to you. If you choose, you can also look at the app's GPS system to track your driver and see how far away they are.

Once they arrive, it's best to confirm with the driver that they are actually your driver. Ask them what their name is and see if it matches up with the name on your app. If it's correct, then all you need to do is get into the backseat and the driver will take care of the rest!

When you arrive to your destination, you can leave the car without leaving a cash tip or anything like that. After the ride ends, the app will prompt you to rate your driver out of five stars and will ask you to leave a tip (which is optional).



How much does it cost?

The cost of an Uber of Lyft ride in the Denver area varies based on several factors.

These factors include:

- The time of day
- The distance traveled
- The type of service you select (UberX, UberXL, etc)
- Demand at the time (which can lead to surge pricing)

As of 2024, the data shows that a ride costs are made up of:

- Base fare: Typically around \$1-\$2
- Cost per mile: Approximately \$1-\$2
- Cost per minute: Around \$0.15-\$0.35
- Booking fee: Usually \$1.50-\$3.00

Because of this data, you can expect a 10-mile, 20-minute ride to cost between \$20-30 before surge pricing or additional fees, such as tips.

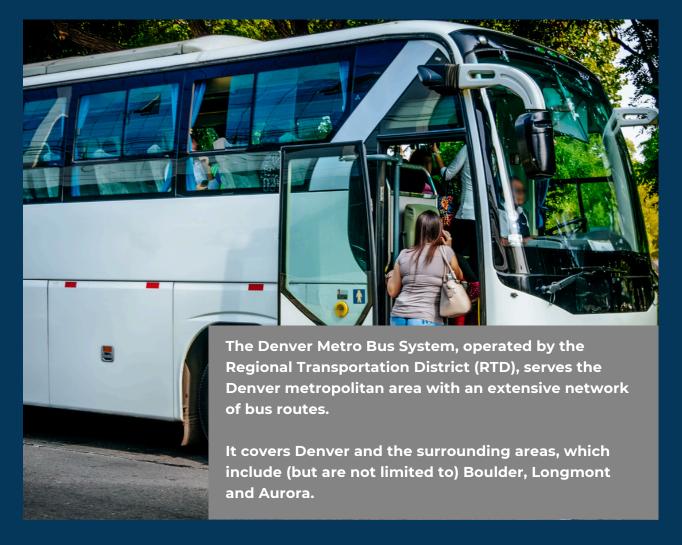
However, these prices are always changing, so it's best to just check the app directly.

How to get a cheaper ride?

To get a cheaper Uber or Lyft ride, consider the following tips:

- Compare Prices: Check both Uber and Lyft apps for the best rate.
- **Use Shared Rides**: Opt for Uber Pool or Lyft Shared to split the fare with other passengers.
- **Avoid Peak Times**: Ride during nonpeak hours to avoid surge pricing.
- **Apply Promo Codes**: Look for and use promotional codes for discounts.
- **Subscribe to Passes**: Join Uber Pass or Lyft Pass for ongoing discounts.
- **Utilize Ride Credits**: Earn and use ride credits through referrals, promotions, or loyalty programs.
- Check for Discounts: Use student, military, or other available discounts.
- **Plan Ahead**: Schedule rides in advance to lock in lower prices.
- Use Alternative Pickup Points: Walk a few blocks to a less busy area to reduce fare.

BUS



The Denver Metro Bus System is the best option for people who are traveling on a budget and need the most accessible option possible.

With routes covering the entire metro area and new buses coming to each stop on a regular basis, it's a great resource for everyone to utilize, not just those without a vehicle.



Plan Your Trip:

- Use RTD's trip planner on their website or the RTD Mobile Tickets app.
- Google Maps and other transit apps can also help you find routes and schedules.

Find Your Route:

- Identify your starting point and destination.
- Look for the bus route number and schedule that best fits your travel time.

Buy a Ticket:

- Purchase tickets via the RTD Mobile Tickets app, ticket vending machines at major stops, or pay with exact change on the bus.
- Options include single ride tickets, day passes, and monthly passes.

Go to the Bus Stop:

- Arrive a few minutes early at the designated bus stop.
- Check the bus stop sign for route numbers and times.

Board the Bus:

- When the bus arrives, check the route number displayed on the front.
- Board the bus, pay your fare, and take a seat.

During the Ride:

- Follow along with the route using maps or GPS to know when your stop is approaching.
- Pull the cord or press the stop button to signal the driver when your stop is near.

Exiting the Bus:

• Exit through the rear door if possible, and ensure you have all your belongings.



Here are the general fare categories as of the most recent data:

Local Service:

Single Ride: \$3.00Day Pass: \$6.00

Regional Service (includes longer routes and commuter buses):

Single Ride: \$5.25Day Pass: \$10.50

Airport Service (SkyRide to Denver International Airport):

• Single Ride: \$10.50

Discounted Fares:

- Seniors (65+), Individuals with Disabilities, Medicare Recipients: 50% off regular fares
- Youth (ages 6-19): 70% off regular fares

Passes and Tickets:

- Monthly Pass: Varies by service type, e.g., \$114 for Local, \$200 for Regional/Airport
- MyRide Card: A reloadable smart card offering a 25¢ discount per ride

These prices are subject to change, so it's a good idea to check the RTD website or contact RTD directly for the most current fare information.





LIGHT RAIL



The Denver Light Rail System, operated by the Regional Transportation District (RTD), is a key component of public transit in the Denver metropolitan area.

It features multiple lines (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, L, N, R and W) that connect downtown Denver with the suburbs and major areas, including the Denver International Airport.

There are over 50 stations, many with park-and-ride facilities, which makes it easy for commuters to access.

The train runs frequently and is fully accessible, with features like ramps, elevators and designated spaces for wheelchairs.

It also uses a shared fare system with the RTD buses, which makes it easy to go from bus to rail.



Planning Your Trip:

Use RTD's trip planner or mobile apps to find routes and schedules.

Buying Tickets:

Purchase tickets from vending machines at stations, via the RTD Mobile Tickets app, or use a reloadable MyRide card.

Boarding:

Wait at designated areas on the platform; trains arrive frequently and display their line and destination.

How to make it easier?

Use the RTD app to plan out your trip and get the optimal route possible. You can also load money to your account so that you can scan a code on the train to quickly and efficiently pay your wages.



The cost of riding the Denver Light Rail, operated by the Regional Transportation District (RTD), is based on the type of service and distance traveled. Here are the general fare categories as of the most recent data:

Local Service:

Single Ride: \$3.00Day Pass: \$6.00

Regional Service:

Single Ride: \$5.25Day Pass: \$10.50

Airport Service (A Line to Denver International Airport):

• Single Ride: \$10.50

Discounted Fares:

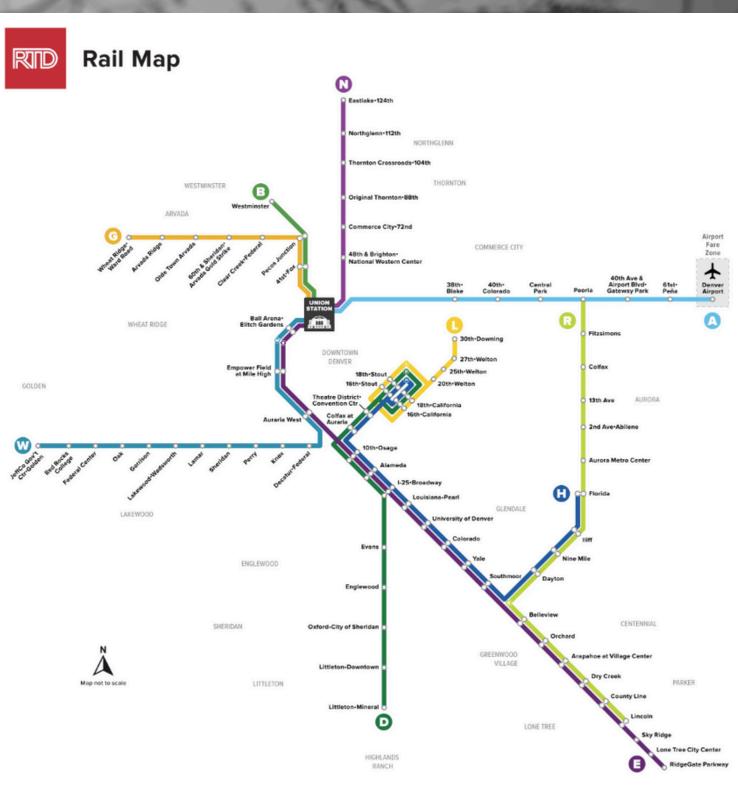
- Seniors (65+), Individuals with Disabilities, Medicare Recipients: 50% off regular fares
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Passes and Tickets:

- Monthly Pass: Varies by service type, e.g., \$114 for Local, \$200 for Regional/Airport
- MyRide Card: A reloadable smart card offering a 25¢ discount per ride

These prices can change, so it's best to check the RTD website or contact RTD for the most current fare information.

Where is it?



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