DONUT KNOW THE METRO

by young chan lim

ZOOM IN ON EACH SECTION!!

fyi
1. Text with a yellow background are external links
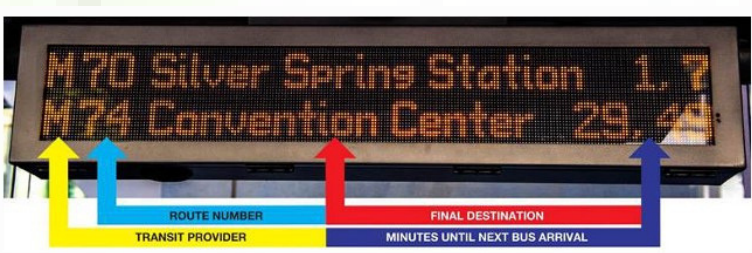2. This is high resolution PDF so you can zoom in/out on pictures!

how to ride the bus

- Figure out your transit path using Google Maps or WMATA's Trip Planner.
  - Trip Planner shows fare. (but you don't have to worry about that, you cool cat with a UPass card)
- Get to your starting bus station.
  - Some bus stations have digital displays to show wait-times, but some stations don't.
  - Google Maps and Trip Planner both show when the next bus is coming.
- Get on the right bus. Some bus stops accommodate multiple bus lines/routes.
- Tap your metro card to the card reader when you board the bus. If you have cash, insert the cash next to the card reader.
- Take seat or stand to wait until your stop.
  - There's a digital display that shows the next stop. It is located at the front of the bus, towards the ceiling. It helps to pay attention to this display so you don't miss your stop.
- Pull the string (often yellow) that's strung up right above the windows on both sides of the bus. That will signal that you want to get off on the next stop. The red button on one of the poles near the back exit will also signal the bus driver.
- Exit the bus when it stops at your desired station. No need to tap out like the metro.
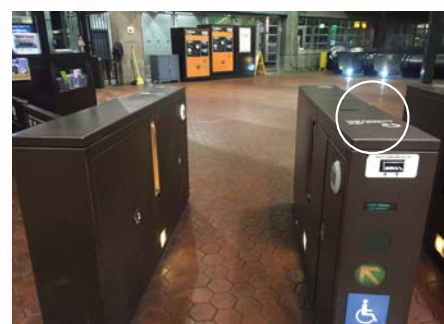- Thank the bus driver!

bus stations all have this sign

M70 Silver Spring Station 1.7
M74 Convention Center 29.4

ROUTE NUMBER / FINAL DESTINATION
TRANSIT PROVIDER / MINUTES UNTIL NEXT BUS ARRIVAL

misc bus tips

- **Circulator buses** are cool to use! Look up the routes at the link.
  - Circulator buses are red buses with yellow-arrow-in-circle logo and yellow lettering on the side. Circulator buses run their route in a circle.
  - When Google Maps refer to the codes below, it's a Circulator line.
    - WP-AM
    - RS-DP
    - GT-US
    - EM-LP
    - CH-US
    - NM

how to ride the metro

- Figure out your transit path using Google Maps or WMATA's Trip Planner.
- Get to your starting metro station and enter the station.
- If you don't have a metro card yet,
  - Head to one of the machines against the wall to buy your metro card. This is also where you refill your metro card.
- If you have a metro card, head over to one of the gates that has a **green arrow**.
- Tap your metro card on the card scanner. It is a black rectangle on your right.

fyi WMATA calculates your fare based on distance between your starting and destination metro stations. If you don't "tap into" the metro correctly, you will not be able to "tap out" when you attempt to leave your destination metro station.

- Head to the correct platform to wait for your metro.
  - The platforms are labeled using stations: that is the final station of that metro's "line" (i.e., red, orange, blue, etc), AKA the metro is heading towards that direction. Use this information to find which platform you're supposed to be on.
- Once at the platform, the digital display will tell you how long you need to wait, under the column "MIN."
- When your metro arrives, let passengers out first and then step into the car.
- Sit or stand to wait until your destination.
  - There are several metro station maps and digital displays in each car in case you forget. Also, it's a good practice to look outside the window each time the metro stops at a station, just to double-make-sure that you're not gonna miss your stop!
  - Read all the Rules and Manners to be respectful of others.
- When the metro stops at your destination, step outside and locate the stairs/escalator to head to the exit.
- Same as above, find a gate with a green arrow. Tap your metro card to the card reader.
  - The digital display will show the amount of the fare and the remaining balance on your metro card.
- Head out the station and continue your journey!

this is a handicap gate so the card tapper/reader is on the right inner wall. non-handicap gates will have the card reader where the white circle is!

Other columns:
LN: Line. Some station platforms have different-color metros.
CAR: Number of cars. Some metrorails have 6 and some have 8 cars. If your metro is 6-car, make sure you read the painted signs on the floor so you're not standing too far back and miss the metro!
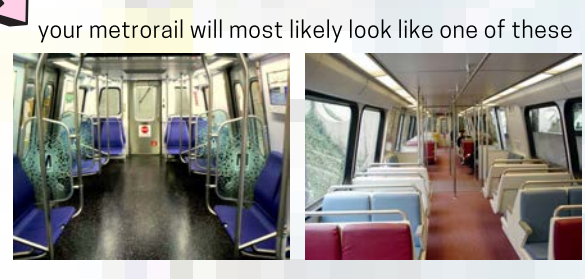**DEST**: Destination shows the metro's last stop.

for example, when you enter any "red line" station, the platforms will be named "shady grove" and "glenmont." that means each platform's metro is heading to that respective station.

so if you entered farragut north station and you want to go to friendship heights station, you would go to the platform labeled "shady grove," because friendship heights is on the way to shady grove.

on the other hand, if you're heading to friendship heights from rockville, then you'd go to the "glenmont" platform

your metrorail will most likely look like one of these

misc metro tips

- **When using escalators, WALK LEFT & STAND RIGHT.**
  - During rush hour, people *will* push you and yell at you if you block the way.
- **Your belongings don't need a seat.**
- **When in doubt, ask the station managers.** They staff the glass booth by the gates.
- **Use apps or visit wmata.com's Alert page often to stay updated on any Alerts.**
  - Alerts show any changes in routes and constructions
- ONCE YOU HAVE THE BASICS DOWN...
  - **Pay more attention to each station's exits/entrances.** Some stations have more than one exits, so choosing the right exit can save you you ~10 minutes of walking once you leave the station.

suggested transit apps

Transit

Citymapper

DC Metro and Bus

Washington DC Metro Route Map

"4 Best Washington DC Subway Map App for iPhone"