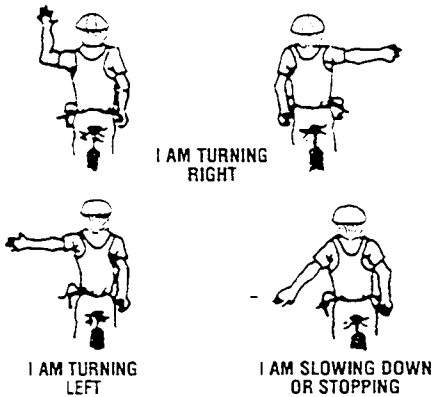


BIKE SAFELY! Here are the laws to live by.

1. Always bike on the right side of the road in the same direction as traffic. Motorists don't expect wrong-way traffic. Also, because wrong-way bicyclists and motorists come together head-on at the sum of their speeds, neither has much time to avoid the other.
2. When on roadways, consider yourself a driver. Obey all traffic laws.
3. When on crosswalks or sidewalks, consider yourself a pedestrian. However, yield to pedestrians. Follow all town ordinances about biking on sidewalks.
4. Always signal your intention to turn or stop by hand.



5. Always make an audible signal when overtaking a pedestrian or another bicyclist.
6. Never ride more than two abreast, but riding single file is safer. Keep in one lane and be careful not to block traffic.
7. Do not carry passengers on your bicycle unless it is built for two. Adults (18 and over) may carry children (under 4) in backpacks or slings.
8. Do not carry any package which prevents you from using both hands when needed.
9. Keep at least one hand on the handlebars at all times.
10. Never hold onto a moving vehicle.
11. Never allow your child to violate a traffic or bicycle law.

Keep your bike right. The law requires:

White front lamp after dark, visible for 500 ft.

Rear reflector and reflective material on all sides, all visible for at least 600 ft.

Brake able to stop your bike within 25 ft. on dry, clean and level pavement from a speed of 10 mph.

How to turn left at intersections

THE WALK-A-THON.

Get off your bike. Go up onto sidewalk. Heed pedestrian control signals. Walk bicycle in crosswalk. Stop. Wait for next signal. Continue walking. Get back on your bike.

THE BIKE-A-THON.

Before you reach the intersection, look behind for traffic. Signal your turn. Start to gradually merge left. Try to get a positive signal that approaching drivers will yield to let you merge. Once in the left-turn lane, turn like a vehicle driver.

How to make an emergency stop.

If a vehicle turns into your path, the only way to avoid an accident may be to stop as quickly as possible.

Here's how:

Apply front and rear brakes together.

Keep your weight as far back and low as possible. Maximum braking is achieved by resisting the natural back-to-front weight transfer.

Practice emergency stops in an off-road area.

Remember: Wet weather increases stopping distances.

WATCH OUT!

The most common biking accidents.

THE MERGER MISTAKE.

Watch for, and try to establish eye contact with merging motorists. Always bike on the right. If you bike on the left, there is less chance merging motorists will look in your direction.

THE SIDE STREET SWIPE.

Be extra aware of cars turning into side streets and driveways. If a car passes you, then slows down, the driver may be preparing to turn. Look for signal lights. Be ready to brake or, if possible, make an evasive right turn.

THE CROSSOVER CRISIS.

When a car is turning left at an intersection, the driver can often misjudge your speed. Or not see you at all because you are hidden by another car. Look ahead toward intersections. Be extra careful. Make yourself visible and/or audible.

THE PARKED CAR PANIC.

Be wary of pull-out signs like brake lights, movement of the driver inside the car, tail-pipe exhaust. Keep your hands on the brakes and be ready to stop when you are riding near a row of parked cars. If possible, ride beyond the reach of an open vehicle door.

