

Sharing the Road for Motorists and Cyclists

Motorists

1. Drive cautiously
 - Reduce speed when encountering cyclists
 - In inclement weather, give cyclists extra trailing and passing room
 - Recognize situations that may be potentially dangerous to cyclists and give them space
2. Yield to cyclists
 - Cyclists are considered vehicles and should be given the appropriate right of way
 - Cyclists may take the entire lane when hazards, road width or traffic speed dictate
 - Motorists should allow extra time for cyclists to traverse intersections
3. Be considerate
 - Scan for cyclists in traffic and at intersections
 - Do not blast your horn in close proximity to cyclists
 - Look for cyclists when opening doors
4. Pass with care
 - Leave at least three feet of space between your car and a cyclist when passing
 - Wait until road and traffic conditions allow you to safely pass
 - Check over your shoulder after passing a cyclist before moving back to normal position
5. Watch for children
 - Children on bicycles are often unpredictable - expect the unexpected and slow down
 - Most children don't have adequate knowledge of traffic laws
 - Children are harder to see because they are typically smaller than adults

Cyclists

1. Ride on the right
 - Always ride in the same direction as traffic
 - Use the lane furthest to the right that heads in the direction that you are traveling
 - Slower moving cyclists and motorists stay to the right
2. On the road
 - The same laws that apply to motorists apply to cyclists
 - Obey all traffic control devices, such as stop signs, lights, and lane markings
 - Always use hand signals to indicate your intention to stop or turn to motorists and cyclists
3. Always wear a properly fitting helmet
 - Make sure that the helmet fits on top of the head, not tipped back
 - Always wear a helmet while riding a bike, no matter how short the trip
 - After a crash or any impact that affects your helmet, visible or not, replace it immediately
4. Ride predictably
 - Ride in a straight line and don't swerve in the road or between parked cars
 - Check for oncoming traffic before entering any street or intersection
 - Anticipate hazards and adjust position in traffic accordingly
5. Be visible
 - Wear brightly colored clothing at all times
 - At night, use a white front light, red rear light or reflector and reflective tape or clothing
 - Make eye contact with motorists to let them know you are there

Source: League of American Bicyclists

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<http://www.bikeleague.org/educenter/factsheets/sharingtheroad.htm>