

DMV Bicycle Safety QUICK TIPS

Share the Road

Bicyclists have the same rights and the same responsibilities as other drivers in Nevada. Cyclists must ride to the right unless they are preparing to turn left or are able to match the speed of traffic. Cyclists must obey all traffic signs and signals and use hand signals for turns and stops.

Rules for Motorists

- Yield to cyclists at intersections as you would for other vehicles and pedestrians.
- Do not drive or park in designated bicycle lanes or paths unless you are turning or in an emergency.
- Pass a cyclist only when it is safe. Cyclists may need to swing out to avoid holes, grass or other hazards. It is the motorist's responsibility to pass a cyclist safely. (NRS 484.324)
- Extend special courtesy and care to inexperienced riders, especially children.

Rules for Cyclists

- Always ride on the right and as far to the right as practicable. Ride single file in traffic.
- Obey all signs and signals. Know your road signs and teach them to children.
- Use hand signals for turns and stops.
- Always check behind you before changing lanes.
- Don't swerve or make sudden turns.
- Ride at least three feet away from parked cars and the curb.
- LISTEN for cars approaching from the side or rear.
- Don't follow cars too closely. You may be in their blind spot.
- Always be prepared to stop. Keep your hands on or close to the brakes.
- Check your bike's mechanical condition before every ride. Brakes are required under Nevada law.
- It is illegal to cling to another vehicle while riding a bicycle. (NRS 484.507)



Night Riding

See and be seen. Wear bright clothing during the day and reflective clothing at night. Bicycles ridden at night *must* have:

- A white lamp in the front visible from at least 500 feet away.
- A red tail reflector visible in a vehicle's low beams from 300 feet away.
- Reflective material on the sides of the bike visible in low beams from at least 600 feet away or a lamp visible from both sides from 500 feet away. (NRS 484.513)



Bicycle Safety Begins with the Proper Fit

Get the Correct Sizes

Big bikes and helmets to "grow into" are not safe.



Children: Sit on the seat with knees straight and feet flat on the ground.

Adults: Sit on the seat with knee nearly straight when foot is on the pedal in its lowest position.

Insist on Helmets

Bike helmets can reduce the risk of head injury by 85 percent when worn correctly. (NHTSA)



YES!



NO!

- Use foam pads inside to fit the helmet snugly so it doesn't move on the head.
- Fit the helmet so the front is just above the top of the eyebrows.
- Adjust the two side straps so they meet in a "V" right under each ear.
- Adjust the chin strap snugly. Make it tight enough so the helmet pulls down when you open your mouth.
- Replace a helmet which has been in a crash.

Local Resources

Nevada has an active bicycling community devoted both to safety and to enjoyment of the unique riding experiences in the Silver State.

Bicycle Nevada

Information on highways, tours, events, the Nevada Bicycle Advisory Board and State Bicycle Plan.

(775) 888-RIDE

www.bicyclenevada.com

Nevada Office of Traffic Safety

Bicycle education courses and instructor training.

(775) 687-4229

www.ots.state.nv.us/bikeped/



Revised November 2005



SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO ONLINE AT
WWW.DMVNV.COM

License and Registration Renewals | Duplicates | Handbooks
Driver History Printouts | Personalized Plate Checks | Forms