

To Share the Road more co-operatively:

Drivers should:

- 1** Be patient and give cyclists a clearance of at least 1 metre when passing them,
- 2** Watch out for cyclists at intersections and roundabouts, and
- 3** Check behind you for cyclists before opening your car door.

Cyclists should:

- 1** Obey the Road Rules, such as stopping at all red traffic lights, and wear a bicycle helmet,
- 2** Wear brightly coloured clothing and use lights when cycling at night, and;
- 3** Ride predictably and indicate to motorists before changing direction or turning.



Some other ways that we can Share the Road

Bicycle lanes

Bicycle lanes are provided for the exclusive use of cyclists to increase their safety.

Generally, drivers are not permitted to drive in a bicycle lane except to pass a right turning vehicle or to enter/leave a car parking space or side road. Drivers may not drive in a bicycle lane for more than 50 metres.

Roundabouts

When entering a roundabout, it is important that motorists look out for cyclists already in the roundabout and allow the cyclists enough time to ride through safely.

Shared paths

When riding on shared paths, cyclists should ride in a manner that is courteous to other path users, keep to the left of the path and give way to pedestrians.

Further information

Further information on Sharing the Road and on other bicycle related matters can be obtained from:

VicRoads' Bicycle Information Service on

1300 133 979

VicRoads' website at:

www.vicroads.vic.gov.au

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SHARING the ROAD

*A Guide for Drivers
and Cyclists*



Introduction

Cycling is an effective, healthy and environmentally friendly form of transport. The more people who ride their bicycles to work, to school and for recreation, the better for everyone.

Just like motorists, cyclists are permitted to ride on the road. In doing so, however, cyclists are expected to obey the Road Rules, just as motorists are.

Unfortunately, many people are reluctant to ride their bicycles on the road because they feel vulnerable and unsafe.

Sharing the Road – we are all responsible

The purpose of this brochure is to highlight some simple things that motorists and cyclists can do to share the road more co-operatively.

Complementary brochures, “*Sharing the Road with Cyclists*” and “*Sharing the Road with Drivers*”, have also been developed to encourage safer practices amongst motorists and cyclists.

Attention motorists!

Cyclists are legitimate road users and are as entitled to use the road as you are.

Cyclists are vulnerable on the road and you need to be patient and give them room.

Did you know that:

- Cyclists are allowed to ride two abreast when riding on the road.
- Cyclists may have to use the whole lane to make themselves more visible to you, especially through intersections and at roundabouts.
- Cyclists can travel faster than you think (30 km/h or more).
- Cyclists can crash into a car door that is suddenly opened in front of them.

When driving you should:

- 1** Be patient and give cyclists a clearance of at least 1 metre when passing them.
- 2** Watch out for cyclists at intersections and roundabouts, especially when you are turning.
- 3** Check behind you for cyclists before opening your car door.



Attention cyclists!

Just like motorists, you must obey the Road Rules.

Cyclists who wear dark clothing can be difficult to see, especially at night.

Did you know that:

- Cyclists who fail to obey the Road Rules, such as riding through red lights, annoy other road users and put themselves at great risk of serious injury.
- Cyclists who wear dark coloured clothing or do not use lights at night can be very difficult for motorists to see.
- Motorists need plenty of warning if you intend to change direction or make a left or right hand turn.

When cycling you should:

- 1** Obey the Road Rules, such as stopping at all red traffic lights, and wear your bicycle helmet
- 2** Wear brightly coloured clothing and use lights when cycling at night
- 3** Ride predictably and indicate to motorists before changing direction or turning.

