

Rules of the Road*

Ride on the right

Riding on the right doesn't mean hugging the curb or edge of the road. It means riding as far right as practicable and still being safe from debris, obstacles and traffic.

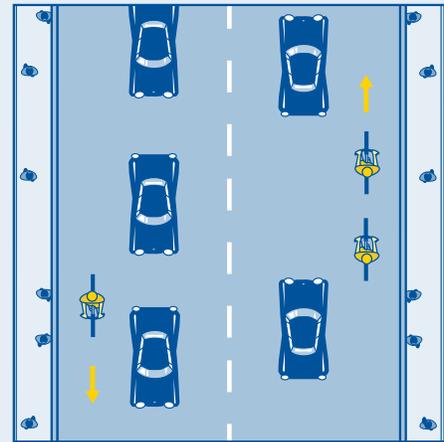
When to take a lane

A bicyclist may take the travel lane where traffic is slow and the lane is narrow, there is no shoulder or bike lane, when approaching an intersection, or if you are moving at the same speed as the flow of traffic. Moving to the center of the lane establishes your position and prevents motorists from passing until there's enough room.

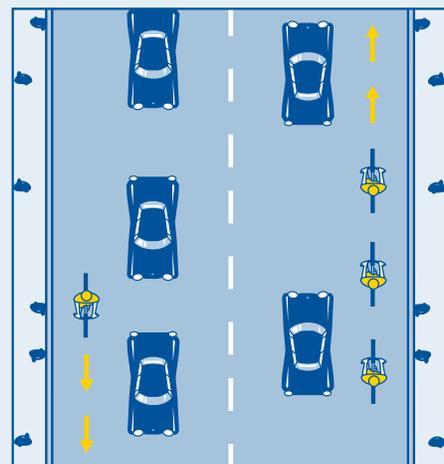
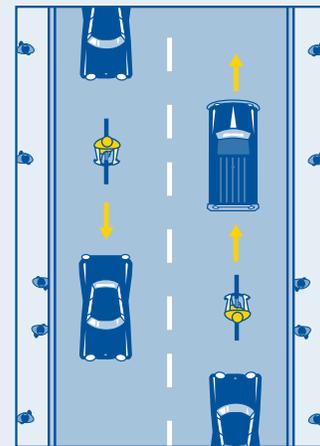
Ride Single File

Play it safe and ride single file. This provides more room to maneuver and allows other bicyclists and motorists to pass. However, you may ride two abreast if you're not impeding the normal flow of traffic; or when you're riding on a facility exclusive to bicycles.

*Complete Colorado Bicycling Statutes are listed on pages 42-44.



Ride in straight line. Don't weave in and out of parked cars.



Play it safe and ride single file.

Use Hand Signals

Use the proper hand signals for left or right turns and for slowing or stopping.

When turning, you must signal continuously at least 100 feet before the turn and while you are stopped waiting to turn, unless use of your hand is needed to control your bicycle.

Making Left Turns:

1) LIKE A MOTOR VEHICLE:

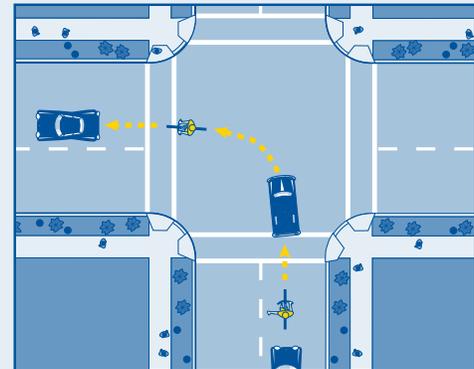
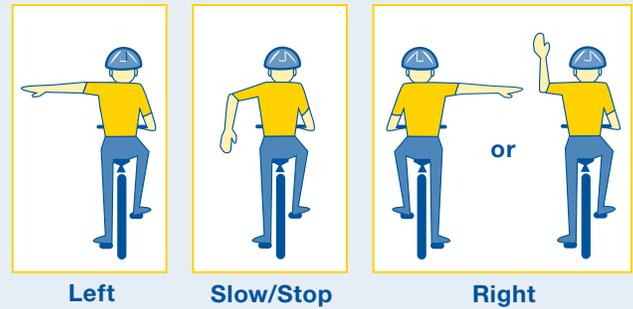
- Signal left
- Look behind you
- Move into the left lane, or the center turn lane
- Yield to oncoming cars before turning

2) LIKE A PEDESTRIAN:

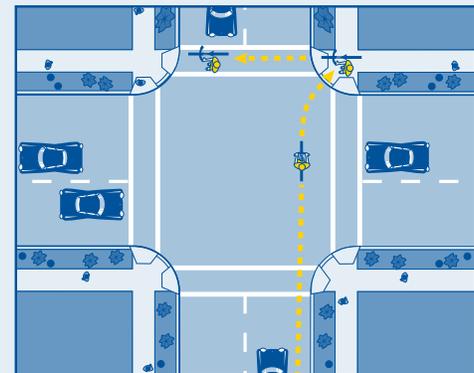
- Ride straight through the intersection to the far crosswalk
- Stop, dismount, and position your bike in the new direction
- Yield to oncoming traffic, or if you are at a signalized intersection, wait for the green or WALK signal
- Walk your bike across the intersection

3) 90 DEGREE OR INVERTED L:

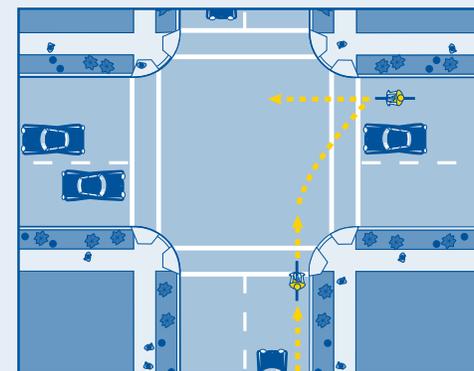
- Ride straight through the intersection to the far corner
- Stop and position your bike in the new direction
- Yield to oncoming traffic, or if you are at a signalized intersection, wait for the green signal
- Ride your bike across the intersection



Left turn like a motor vehicle.



Left turn like a pedestrian.



Left turn at 90 degrees or inverted L.

Follow Lane Markings

Like other vehicles when you approach an intersection with several lane choices, choose the lane appropriate to your travel direction and follow the markings.

Road Hazards to watch for:

1) SEWER GRATES

Your wheel can get caught in them.

2) RAILROAD TRACKS

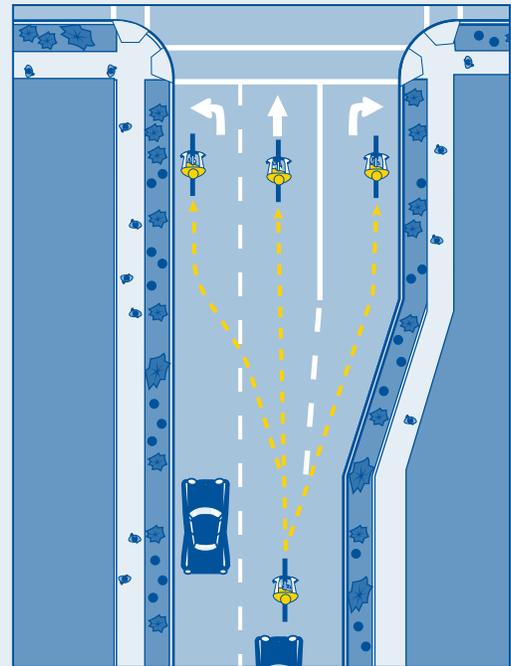
Always cross railroad tracks perpendicular to the rails (straight on).

3) PARKED CARS

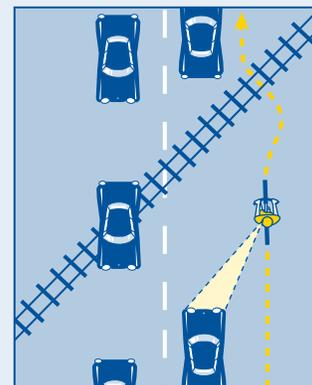
Ride a car door's width away from parked cars to avoid unexpected doors opening on you.

4) ROUNDABOUTS

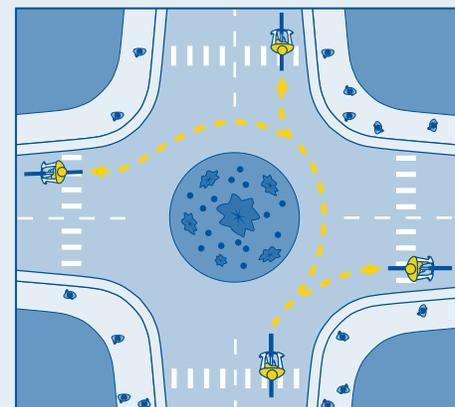
- When approaching the roundabout, bicyclists should merge to the center of the lane (take the lane).
- Vehicles and bicyclists entering the circle yield the right-of-way to traffic already in the circle.
- Traffic proceeds in a counterclockwise direction around the circle, even when making a left turn.
- All vehicles yield to pedestrians in crosswalks.
- Motor vehicles should not speed up to pass bicyclists.



Follow lane markings.



Cross railroad tracks at a 90 degree angle.



Navigating a roundabout.

Right-of-way

Never assume you have the right-of-way. Your first responsibility at all times is to avoid a crash. Right-of-way rules and regulations do not authorize negligent bicycle driving.

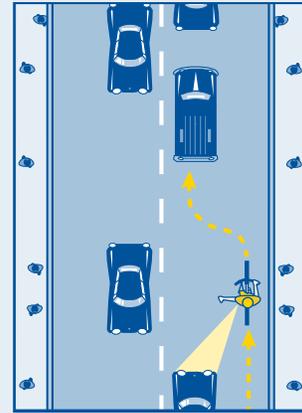
When approaching an uncontrolled intersection at approximately the same time as another vehicle, the operator of the vehicle on the left must yield the right-of-way to the vehicle on the right.

When changing lanes in traffic, you must yield to all vehicles in the other lane which are close enough to be a hazard. Don't change lanes if another vehicle must slow down for you. Always look behind you and signal before changing lanes.

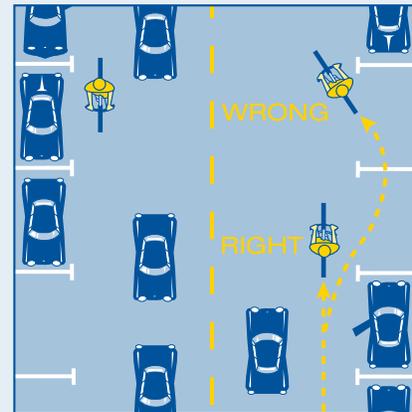
You should yield to pedestrians under all conditions. They have the right-of-way at crosswalks and intersections whether the crosswalks are marked or not.

Ride in a straight line

Riding predictably will make you more visible. Don't weave in and out of parked cars. At intersections, stay on the road. Don't ride in the cross walk and suddenly reappear on the road again.



Cyclists should signal and scan for traffic before merging into the lane.



Don't weave in and out of parked cars.

Bicycles & Traffic

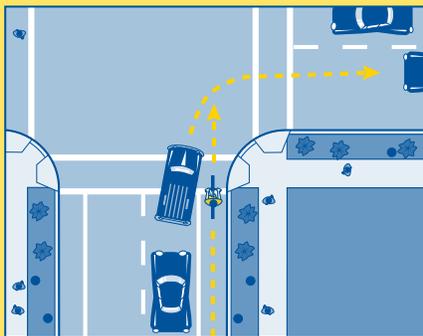
In Colorado, motorists and bicyclists share the road. Both have equal rights and responsibilities to obey all traffic laws.

Bicycle drivers who violate traffic laws will be subject to the same penalties as drivers of motor vehicles, except that no penalty points shall be assessed against the bicyclist's driver's license.

If a bicycle rider is stopped for a traffic violation and the officer has reason to believe that the bicyclist will not appear in court or the officer is unsure of the bicyclist's identity, the officer may arrest the bicyclist and require the bicyclist to post bond.

MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVING TIPS:

- Allow at least three feet between your vehicle and the bicycle to avoid blowing the bicyclist out of control or off the road.
- Be patient and wait until it is safe to pass, as you would any other slow-moving vehicle. Be aware that when a road is too narrow for cars and bikes to ride safely side by side, bicyclists can legally ride in or near the center of the lane for more visibility and safety.
- Please don't honk your horn. You could startle the cyclist into an accident.
- Look to your right before turning to avoid cutting off a cyclist.



Don't cut off a bicyclist when making a right turn.



Don't be a Road Hog. Share the Road.

Whether you're on a mission to get from Point A to Point B on foot, or in your car; or your mission is to soak up spectacular Colorado scenery on a Sunday bike ride, be respectful and considerate of everyone's rights to our roadways.

You can help cut down on Colorado's pesky Road Hog population.

ALL

Focus. Avoid using cell phones and other personal devices while driving, biking, or walking.

MOTORISTS

Keep your eye on cyclists and pedestrians. They have a right to use all the roads in Colorado unless expressly prohibited. Keep track of them in your rear and side mirrors. Slow down.

PEDESTRIANS

Cross in crosswalks. Make eye contact with drivers before crossing to ensure they see you. Walk against traffic.

CYCLISTS

Ride with the flow of traffic. Obey traffic laws – you're a vehicle too. Ride single file whenever possible.

We all walk, bike and drive. Let's all share the road.