



Rules for the Road

Town Lake Trail, Austin, TX

In Texas, a bicyclist has the same rights and responsibilities as the driver of a motorized vehicle. Bicyclists, like motorists, can be ticketed or penalized for not obeying traffic laws.

- Wear a helmet
- Obey traffic signs and signals
- Ride with traffic, never against traffic
- Ride as far to the right as practicable
- Use paved shoulders and bike lanes when available and always be on the lookout for road hazards or debris
- On narrow roads without bike lanes or shoulders, play it safe and ride single-file
- Ride no more than two abreast when traveling in a shared roadway lane; return to riding single-file if riding two abreast impedes the flow of traffic
- Use hand signals to indicate what you intend to do
- Wear bright clothing; when riding early in the morning or at night, use a headlight, taillight and reflectors
- Use caution when riding at sunrise and sunset; the bright sunlight can make bicyclists difficult to see
- Make eye contact with drivers whenever possible; never assume motorists see you or that you have the right-of-way
- Never catch a ride by holding on to or attaching your bicycle to another vehicle
- Keep at least one hand on the handlebars at all times
- Do not wear headphones - they block other sounds you need to hear

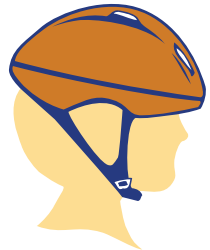
Make Sure Your Helmet Fits



Correct Fit



Wrong

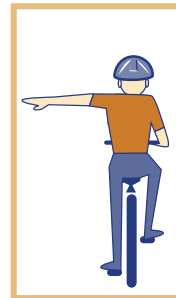


Wrong

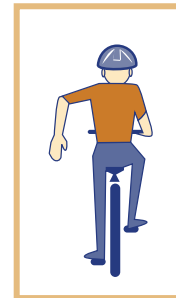
Remember a crash can happen at any time. Wear your helmet every time you ride.

Night Riding Equipment

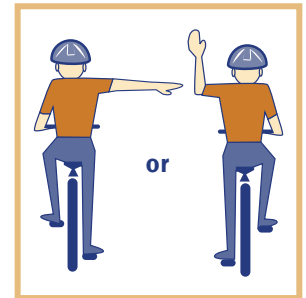
Lights and reflectors will help you see and be seen during night-time riding and times of poor visibility. Texas law states that if you are operating a bicycle at night you must have a lamp on the front of the bicycle that emits a white light that is visible at least 500 feet in front of you. The bicycle must also have either a rear red reflector or red light visible from at least 500 feet.



Left



Slow/Stop



Right



For more information on TxDOT's Bicycle Program, visit:
www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/modes-of-travel/bicycle.html