

Road Rules and Fines

Correct as of August 2006

Going through a red light.

Fine:
Motor vehicle \$110
Bicycle \$80

Insufficient lights at night (white front, red rear).

Fine:
Motor vehicle \$110
Bicycle \$80

Using a handheld mobile phone while driving/riding.

Fine:
Motor vehicle \$110
Bicycle \$80

Fail to give way to a pedestrian on a pedestrian crossing.

Fine:
Motor vehicle: \$250
Bicycle: \$110

Failing to give way to cyclist or pedestrian on footpath when entering roadway from road related area or adjacent land. Fine: \$110

Causing a hazard by opening a car door into the path of traffic (including into the path of a person riding a bike).
Fine: \$110

Overtaking too close to another vehicle. Fine \$110

Driving without reasonable consideration for other road users. Fine \$80

Driving with number plate obscured by bike rack.

Fine: \$110
(Special bicycle rack number plates can be purchased, phone 1300 851 225 or visit Service Tasmania to order one).

Cyclist or driver leading an animal while riding/driving.

Fine \$80

Not wearing a bicycle helmet. Fine \$80

Riding motorbike/bicycle 3-abreast or more. Fine \$80

Cyclist failing to give way to pedestrian on shared path.

Fine: \$50

Cyclists can overtake motor vehicles on the left, unless the vehicle is signalling and turning left.

Bike lanes are provided for the exclusive use of people riding bikes to increase their safety. It is illegal for motorists to drive in bike lanes unless you are making a turn, avoiding an obstacle on the road, passing a right turning vehicle, exiting the roadway or parking. Under these circumstances you may not drive in the bike lane for more than 50m. Fine \$80

Sharing the Road in Tasmania

Things you should know



A guide for drivers, cyclists & pedestrians

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

www.thelaw.tas.gov.au

Land Transport Safety
Phone: 03 6233 6643

Road Safety Task Force
www.rstf.tas.gov.au

CyclingSouth

PO Box 708, Glenorchy Tas 7010
Phone: 03 6273 4463

E: info@cyclingsouth.org
www.cyclingsouth.org

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Road Safety Task Force.



MAIB
An initiative of the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources, Tasmania Police and MAIB.

We have road rules to help us use the roads safely and cooperatively. The smooth functioning of our roads relies on people doing the right thing.

Good will, mutual respect and consideration go hand-in-hand with the road rules to make for safer and more enjoyable travel.

This pamphlet is designed to clarify the road rules for times when you are walking, cycling or driving and to help you to reach your destination safely.

Share the road. It is all road users responsibility to ensure their own safety and the safety of others.

When you go walking...

Remember



- **Obey road rules** as it is the best thing you can do to have a safe journey. This includes using pedestrian crossings where available, obeying signals and using footpaths unless impractical.

- **When walking past driveways you have priority** over vehicles entering or exiting. However, be wary of inattentive or inconsiderate drivers who fail to give way.

- **When walking on footpaths or shared paths** you have priority over people riding bicycles, who must give way to walkers. As a courtesy, keep left and don't walk more than two abreast to make it easier for joggers or people on bikes to pass safely.

- **Keep left and maintain a straight line** when you hear a bike bell when walking on a path. As a courtesy, cyclists should ring their bell when passing. Don't be startled or change direction – keep left to give them space to overtake on your right. If walking 2-abreast and the path is narrow, you may need to temporarily walk single file to provide space for the cyclist to pass.

- **Skaters must keep left on footpaths or shared paths** and must give way to pedestrians.

- **Give way to cyclists** when crossing shared paths or cycleways.

When driving your car...

Remember



- **Obey road rules** as it is the best thing you can do to have a safe journey. This includes adhering to speed limits, avoiding alcohol and fatigue, pulling over to answer the mobile phone and being courteous to other road users.

(In Tasmania in 2005, 73% of fatalities or serious injuries were caused by inattentive driving, speeding or drink driving)

- **Drive to the conditions and anticipate changes.** Our roads can be unpredictable. You may encounter traffic congestion, road repairs, ice, poor weather or slower moving vehicles such as tractors or bicycles. Wildlife, stock and people also cross the road. Be prepared to encounter them. Drive to the conditions, not just the speed limit.

- **Be patient.** When overtaking slow moving vehicles only pass when safe to do so.

- **Leave space when overtaking.** When passing bicycle riders, either riding single file or two abreast, give at least one metre clearance in urban areas and two metres clearance on the open road.



Remember that people on bicycles don't have a metal shell around them so they need extra care and consideration. They are also more susceptible to wind gusts and poor road surfaces.

- **Look before turning or changing lanes.** Some road users such as cyclists and motorbike riders are more difficult to see so be extra attentive when checking to see the road is clear.

- **Dip your high-beam headlights** when approaching or overtaking a cyclist because they too are dazzled by high-beams, just like people in cars.

- **Check before opening your car door** that no vehicles are approaching, including cyclists.

When riding your bicycle...

Remember



- **Obey road rules** as it is the best things you can do to have a safe journey. This includes stopping at red lights and riding on the left side of the road, just as you do in your car.

(A 2002 Bicycle Victoria study found that one-third of cyclist deaths were a result of cyclists breaking the road rules)

- **Wear bright clothing** that is easily seen such as vibrant colours or jackets with reflective strips.

- **Ride at least one metre out** from the kerb or parked cars to avoid debris, potholes and opening car doors. Don't weave in and out between parked cars. Ride predictably in a straight line.

- **Signal your intentions** so that other road users know what you plan to do. Making eye contact helps.

- **You can legally ride two-abreast.** This can help to improve your visibility and safety but on some roads single file may be better. Ride to the conditions.

- **Ride in the middle of the lane if you need to.** This will make you more visible to other road users, particularly on urban roads where the lane is not wide enough for other vehicles to overtake with adequate clearance within the lane. Using the whole lane is also useful when approaching intersections and roundabouts.

- **Light up at night.** You need a white front light and a red rear light visible for 200m to help other road users see you and identify you as a vehicle. Other coloured lights do not meet the legal requirements.

- **You can ride on footpaths** if there are no signs banning cycling. This is useful if the road conditions make you uncomfortable. You'll need to ride slower as you must give way to pedestrians, avoid obstacles (eg. poles) and take extra care crossing driveways and roads



- **Helmets are compulsory** and must be worn at all times, even on paths and tracks.

- **Hook turns are legal on a bicycle** unless signage prohibits it. They can be useful at busy signalised intersections.