

Hand signals



Stop



Left



Right

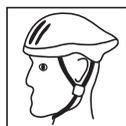


Right (alternative)

Biking basics

Ride **predictably** on the right side of the road in single file. Obey all traffic laws and signs.

Always wear your **helmet**.



Wear bright clothing with **reflectors**.

Keep **pant legs** and **shoelaces** out of moving parts.



Use **bike lanes** when available. Bike lanes provide a space just for bicyclists so they can travel safely.

Now that you're ready to ride...

Always wear your helmet - every time you ride.

- Ride in the same direction as other vehicles. Bicyclists and drivers follow the same rules of the road.
- Pay attention to traffic. Do not use headphones or cell phones while you bike.
- Be visible. Wear bright clothing and reflective materials when you ride.

And, above all, obey all traffic laws, signs, and signals.

" Safe Biking: Quick Tips" was developed by the Bicycle Transportation Alliance, through the support from the Oregon Department of Transportation, the City of Portland Office of Transportation, NikeGO, Giant Bicycles, and other local sponsors.

ODOT is an Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer.



Transportation Safety Division

Oregon Department of Transportation

Ride Safely. The Way To Go.



Bicycle Transportation Alliance

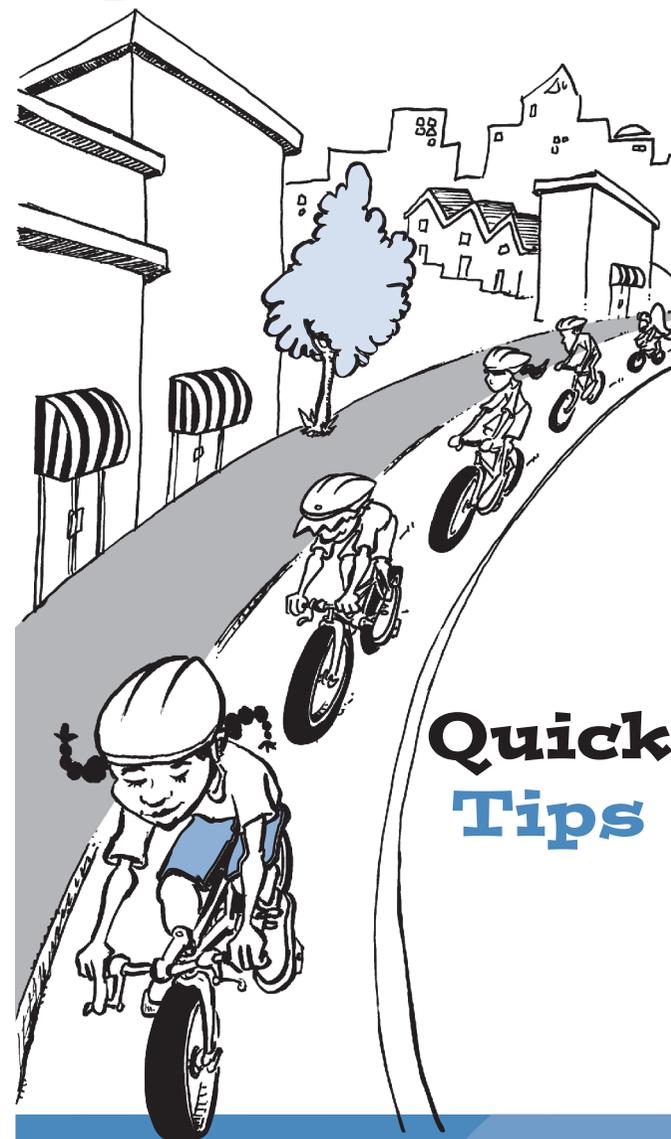
503-226-0676
info@bta4bikes.org
www.bta4bikes.org

ILLUSTRATIONS BY JUSTIN SHORT AND TOM FRISCH

737-3473 (8/11)

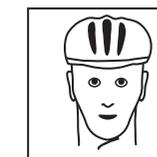
SIC 330435

Safe Biking



Quick Tips

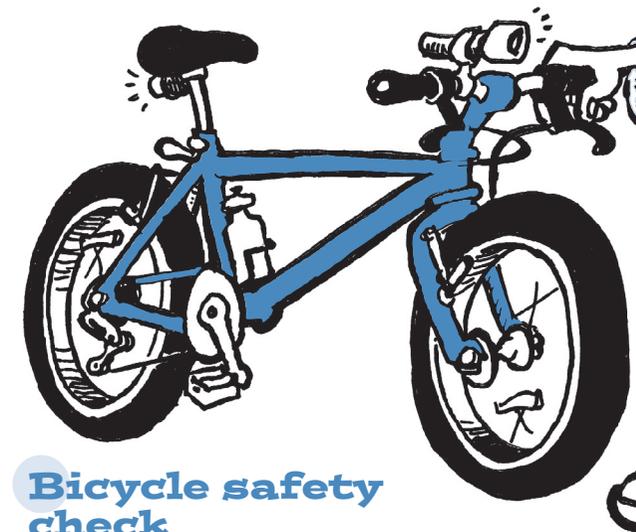
Check your helmet fit



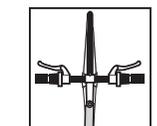
• Before you ride, check that your helmet covers your **forehead**. When you look up you should see the helmet's front edge.



• Straps should form a "V" shape with the **sliders below ears**. The **chinstrap** should be tight with only two fingers' width between neck and strap.



Bicycle safety check



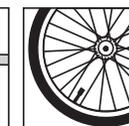
Handlebars are tight and straight.



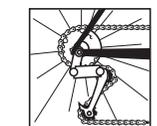
Brakes in front and back work smoothly.



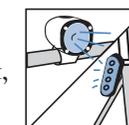
Seat is straight and at the right height.



Tires are properly inflated.



Chain is clean, lubed and runs smoothly.



Use a white front **light**, red rear light, and **reflectors** at night.

Biking basics

Before you ride

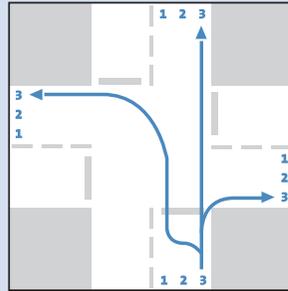
Road positions

Proper road position is essential to get where you are going safely and predictably.

Position 3 - Right side of the lane, 3 feet from the curb and 3 feet from parked cars. Used for the majority of riding.

Position 2 - Center of the lane. Ride in position 2 to avoid road hazards. Use a shoulder check before moving to position 2.

Position 1 - Far left of the lane. Use this position to turn left.



Signs



Stop sign
Come to a complete stop.



Yield sign
Slow down and watch for traffic.



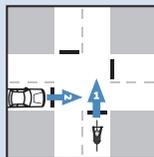
Traffic signal
Green=Go
Yellow=Stop
Red=Stop



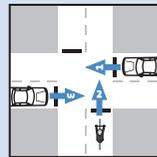
RR sign
Slow down, look and listen. Stop for trains.

Right-of-way

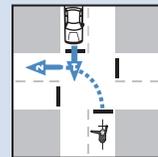
All vehicles must follow right-of-way rules. Right-of-way decides **who goes first** at an intersection. At an intersection with four stop signs—



If two vehicles arrive at different times, the vehicle that arrives **first** goes first.



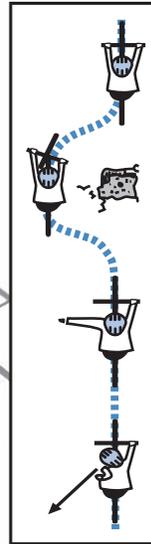
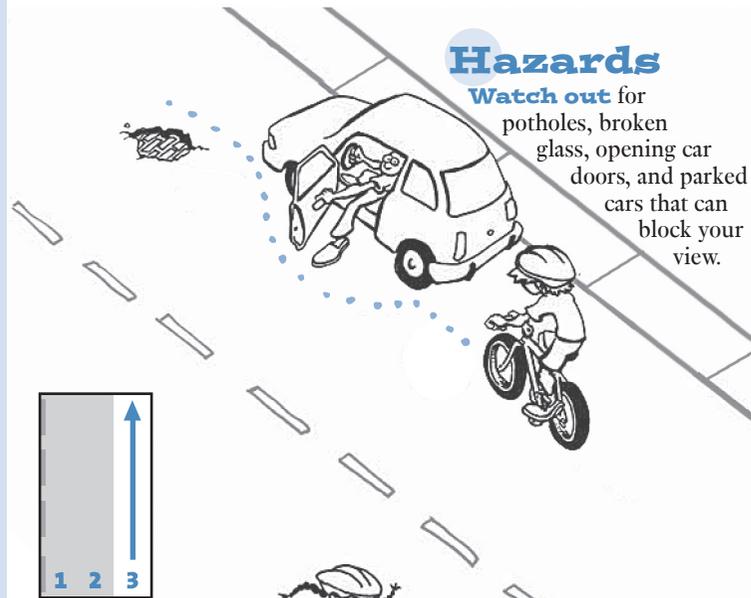
If two or more vehicles arrive at the same time, the vehicle on the **right** goes first.



If two vehicles moving in opposite directions arrive at the same time, the vehicle going **straight** goes first.

Hazards

Watch out for potholes, broken glass, opening car doors, and parked cars that can block your view.



Going straight

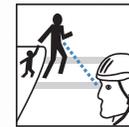
Stay in **position 3** as you ride up to the stop sign. Stop at the stop sign and look left, right and left again for traffic. Continue riding in **position 3** through the intersection.



Intersections

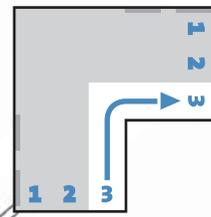
Make **eye contact** to communicate with drivers. Before moving into the intersection, **make sure** all motorists see you!

Let pedestrians cross the street safely before proceeding.



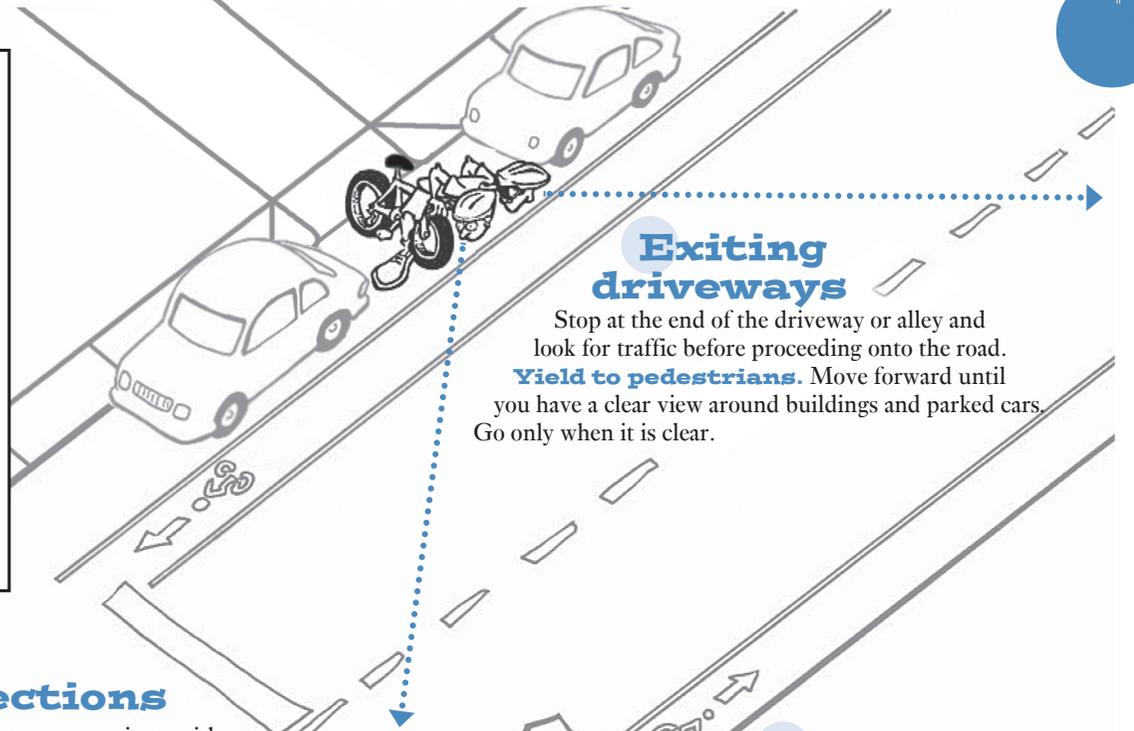
Turning right

Stay in **position 3** as you ride up to the intersection. Stop at stop signs and look left, right and left again for traffic. Give your right turn signal and ride into **position 3** on the adjacent street. Make a tight turn and continue riding in **position 3**.



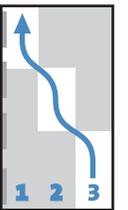
Exiting driveways

Stop at the end of the driveway or alley and look for traffic before proceeding onto the road. **Yield to pedestrians.** Move forward until you have a clear view around buildings and parked cars. Go only when it is clear.



Left turn

Shoulder check behind to look for a break in traffic. Signal left to change positions. Move into **position 1**. Stop at the stop sign and look left, right, and left again for traffic. Give another left turn signal and ride into **position 3** on the adjacent street.



Shoulder checks

Looking back over your shoulder for traffic is an important skill. Cyclists use shoulder checks when preparing for left hand turns, lane changes, and to be aware of traffic. Here are some pointers for easy shoulder checks.

Ⓔ Ride with your right hand on the handlebars and your **left hand on your hip.**

Ⓕ Sit up tall and **look back** over your left shoulder.

Ⓖ Practice until you can ride and look back for traffic **without swerving.**



Ride Safely. The Way To Go.