

# MOTORCYCLISTS

## Protect yourself and your motorcycle:

- Get properly trained and licensed.
- Wear the appropriate safety gear.
- Know your limit and the laws for drugs and alcohol.



## Get properly trained and licensed



**Four out of every 10 crashes involve riders that do not have a valid driver's license or a motorcycle endorsement.**

- Take a motorcycle safety course.
- Get your "CY" motorcycle endorsement on your license before you ride. It is the law.
- Choose a bike that is suited to your size, experience and skill level.

## Wear the appropriate safety gear

**Most crashes happen on short trips of less than five miles or at speeds slower than 30 mph. The right gear can save your life.**

**Make sure to choose:**

- An approved helmet.
- Appropriate face or eye protection.
- Protective clothing, sturdy footwear and gloves. Bright colors and reflective materials will increase your visibility.



## Know your limit and the laws for drugs and alcohol



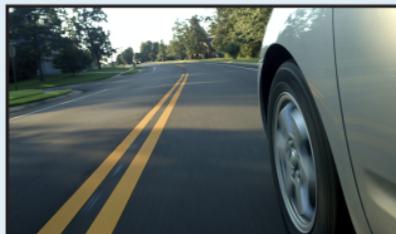
**About one out of every three motorcycle fatalities involve drugs or alcohol.**

- Riding sober is the best way to keep safe on the road. Alcohol and drugs (including prescription and over-the-counter medications) can adversely affect your riding.
- Having any alcohol in one's body increases the chance of crashing by five times.

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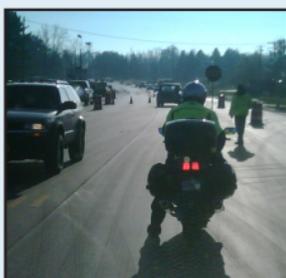
**You'll enjoy the drive even more when you:**

- ➔ Watch for motorcyclists.
- ➔ Don't follow a motorcyclist too closely.
- ➔ Share the road.



## Watch for motorcyclists

**Eighty percent of motorcycle crashes result in injury or death for the motorcyclist.**



- ➔ Intersections are the No. 1 spot for crashes with motorcyclists. Always look twice before proceeding.
- ➔ Left turns are a "danger zone." Look for approaching motorcyclists when turning.
- ➔ Look twice when changing lanes. Double check your blind spots and signal before changing lanes.
- ➔ Be extra careful at all times. A motorcycle is less visible due to its smaller size and single headlight.

## Don't follow a motorcyclist too closely

**Keep at least 3 to 4 seconds of time between you and a motorcyclist.**

- ➔ A motorcycle stops quicker than a car or truck. Tailgating a motorcyclist is dangerous and illegal.
- ➔ Traffic, weather and road conditions may force motorcyclists to react quickly.
- ➔ Road debris that doesn't affect you can topple a motorcycle. Gravel, oil, trash and other hazards can pose a special danger to motorcyclists.



## Share the road

**Treat motorcyclists with the same respect and courtesy you afford to other motorists.**

- ➔ Motorcyclists have the same rights as any other driver on the road and are legally entitled to a full lane.
- ➔ When a motorcycle is in motion, don't think of it as a motorcycle, think of it as a person.

