

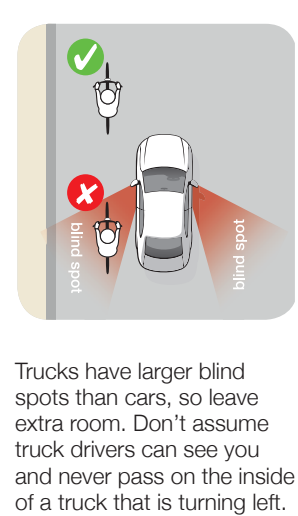
On road cycling

Bikes are classified as legal vehicles. This means that you have the same rights and responsibilities when riding a bike as driving a car.

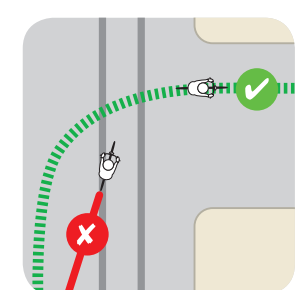
Cycling in traffic

When cycling in traffic, it's important to remain visible by wearing bright clothing and ride confidently at all times. Your bike must have a bell, horn or similar warning device in working order and you must wear a fastened helmet. Maintain a safe distance between you and any traffic hazards. Ride away from obstacles to increase your visibility to others. Not all bike lanes are green. Green paint is used to highlight problem areas and to encourage riders and drivers to take extra care.

Positioning in traffic
Be aware that drivers have blind spots to the side and next to their back doors.

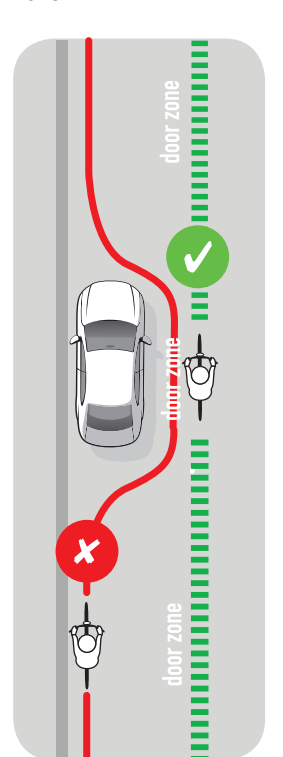


Trucks have larger blind spots than cars, so leave extra room. Don't assume truck drivers can see you and never pass on the inside of a truck that is turning left.

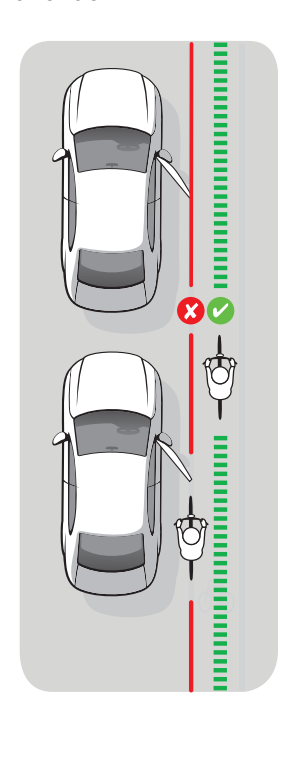


Cycling across tracks
Always cross over tram and train tracks at a wide angle to avoid getting caught in the track.

Don't hug the gutter
Hugging the gutter will get you squeezed out. Never weave in and out of parked cars to stay close to the gutter - keep in a straight line and avoid the car door zone.



Car doors
It is illegal to open doors into traffic. A person must not cause a hazard to any person or vehicle by opening a vehicle door, leaving a door open, or getting off or out of a vehicle.



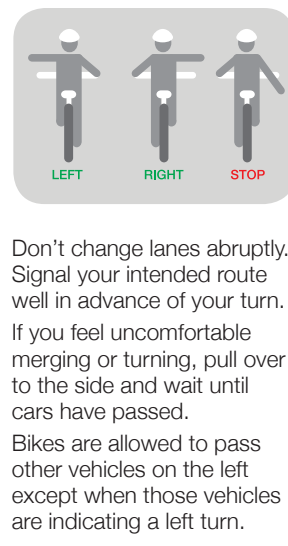
To avoid doors, look:

- through car windows for heads
- in mirrors of trucks and vans
- at cars that have just parked
- at cars tail lights

Watch the door zone
If you can't see into vehicles, ride slower and move out of the door zone. Be aware of what's behind you in case you have to move across. Take the traffic lane if you are being forced into the door zone. If the door opens use your brakes and slow down. Move out of the door zone but don't swing into traffic. If you get hit by a door and injury or damage results, it's a traffic accident and details must be exchanged. Report uncooperative motorists to the police.

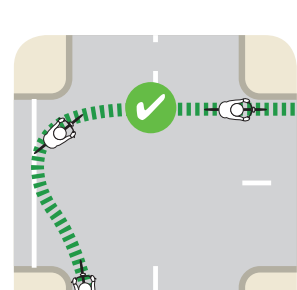
To avoid doors look out for heads
in car windows or mirrors, vehicles that have just parked and vehicle tail lights

Tips for turns
Look over your shoulder for cars and signal before making a turn or changing lanes. Double check! Use hand signals to tell drivers where you are going.



Don't change lanes abruptly. Signal your intended road well in advance of your turn. If you feel uncomfortable merging or turning, pull over to the side and wait until cars have passed. Bikes are allowed to pass other vehicles on the left except when those vehicles are indicating a left turn.

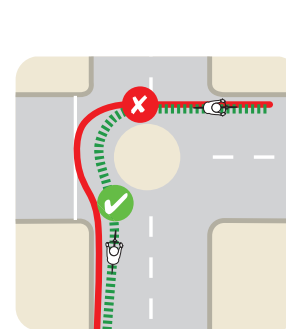
Use hook turns
If a normal right hand turn leaves you exposed at an intersection, use a hook turn.



Bike riders are entitled to use a hook turn at any intersection unless signage specifically prohibits it.

A hook turn is a right turn from a left lane.
You need to stop and wait for the green light to proceed.

Roundabouts
Take the lane as you approach the roundabout, move into the middle of the lane. This will make you more visible to other road users and less likely to be squeezed out when you exit the roundabout. Make sure you signal your intentions and where possible, make eye contact with drivers to ensure they have seen you.



Give way to cars already in a single lane roundabout.
Watch for cars travelling straight through who may be behind or beside you in a double lane roundabout.

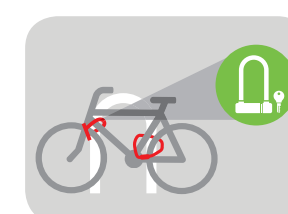
Night ride
If you are riding at night or in low-light conditions you must have a white light on the front of your bike and a red light and red reflector on the back. These lights may be flashing or static.



Riding in the wet
Watch out for slippery tram tracks, grates and metal covers, especially when turning. Squeeze your brakes gently before stopping to clear water off the rims. Beware of puddles as they may be deeper than they seem. You and others have a longer stopping distance in the wet.

Lock your bike

- lock your bike to designated hoops where available
- lock all quick release part
- lock your wheels to your frame
- use a D-lock or heavy chain



Whether on a path or a road, you must wear a **bicycle helmet** that is properly fastened and meets the Australian safety standards. It is also mandatory to have a bell, horn or similar warning device in working order.

Shared path rules

What is a shared path?
A shared path is designed to be used by both pedestrians and bike riders. Signage will indicate that the path is shared.

Who has the right of way on shared paths?
If you are riding a bike you are required to give way to all pedestrians. Do I need to keep to the left? Yes, it is a legal requirement

that you ride on the left unless it is impracticable to do so. Using shared paths is more about courtesy and common sense. Here are some tips to keep in mind.

On bike:

- Travel at a safe speed so that you can stop quickly if necessary. Take particular care when passing in case your bell was not heard.
- Keep an eye out for all



pedestrians especially children and dogs as their movements can be unpredictable.

- Pass other riders and walkers on the right and provide plenty of warning.
- It's a good idea to ring your bell about 30 metres before passing. You can also use your voice to provide a friendly warning - for example "passing on your right".



On foot:

- Keep to the left of the path and walk in a predictable manner.
- Keep your dog on a lead when walking along Maribyrnong's shared paths.
- Help children to keep to the left, explaining that bike riders can come from both directions