



Legend

- Walking Track
- Off Road Shared Path
- On-Road Bike Lane
- Informal Bike Route
- Bus Route
- Tram Route
- Train Route
- Public Transport Zone Boundary
- Shops
- Traffic Light or Roundabout
- Bike Shop
- CarShare Pod
- Midway Street Directory map grid & number

Zone 2

Zone 1

Zone 3

Scale

Mapway Travelsmart

Cycling

Cycling in traffic

When cycling in traffic, it is important to remain visible and confident at all times. Always look ahead for gaps in traffic and be prepared to take evasive action.

Take or share the lane

Depending on lane width and traffic speed, keep left or take the lane.

Always cross tram and train tracks at wide angles

Use hook turns

If a normal right-hand turn leaves you exposed in an intersection, use a hook turn.

Don't hug the gutter

If you hug the gutter you will get squeezed out. Don't weave in and out of empty car parking spaces to stay close to the gutter.

Positioning in traffic

Be aware of car drivers' blind spots to the side and next to their back doors.

Keep your distance

Maintain a safe distance between you and any traffic hazards. Riding away from obstacles may also increase your visibility to others.

Cycling

Roundabouts

Take the lane

As you approach the roundabout, move into the middle of the lane. As you enter, look around and make eye contact with drivers but prepare to move out of the way.

Single lane roundabouts

Give way to cars already on the roundabout.

Turning right

Hand signal so cars know you are turning.

Multi-lane roundabouts

Watch for cars going straight from behind or beside you. Do a hook turn or break the turn into stages if you need to. Two cyclists can legally take both lanes. Consider avoiding the roundabout by taking another route.

What to wear

Get a good waterproof jacket. Store your shoes and bag with sealant. Carry spare socks in a plastic bag or just wear sandals. Keep a change of clothes at work/school.

Get a good bike bag

Use plastic bags inside your bike bag to keep things dry.

Riding in the wet

Watch out for slippery train tracks, gutters 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 will have a longer stopping distance in the wet.

Cycling

Lock your bike

Use a D-lock

Cable locks are easily cut. Get a good D-lock or armoured cable. Using a cable and D-lock together is even more secure.

Where and how to lock

Always lock your bike, even when it's at home. Lock in visible areas with lots of people around. Don't lock to "sucker poles" that can be lifted out of the ground. Check your lock before leaving.

Secure your bike

Remove your lights or secure them with super glue or cable ties. Disguise the value of your bike with stickers and tape or even a fake DIY rusty paint job. Replace quick releases with bolts or secure with hose clamps. Engrave your bike with a driver's licence number of someone you trust. The police can assist in the recovery of stolen bikes.

If your bike is stolen

Report it immediately to the police. Look in second hand shops but don't tell staff. If you find it, then call the police.

Car doors

It's 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 of a vehicle open, or getting out of or off 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 cars, ride slower or move out of the door zone. Be aware of what's behind you if you have to weave out. Take a lane if you are being forced into the door zone.

If a door opens

Use your brakes and slow down. Move out of the door zone but don't swing into traffic.

If you get hit

If you're 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.

Cycling

Cycling at night

Lights

Use steady lights to see and flashing to be seen. Buy lights that take standard battery types (AA or AAA) and carry spares with your puncture kit. Avoid lights that need a tool to change batteries.

Be reflective

Add reflective material, tape and stickers to your helmet, clothing, shoes, bike and bags. Reflective tape, fabric and stickers can be sourced from fabric shops, hardware stores, boating and bike shops.

Riding behaviour

Steer wide of pedestrians. Watch out for people who may step in front of you. Look for car headlights in side streets and from behind.

Road rules

Bikes are legal vehicles covered by the Victorian Road Rules.

Your bike is a vehicle

You must have a warning device such as a bell or horn on your bike. You must wear an approved helmet. At night you must have a white front light, a red back light and a red rear reflector.

Laws for others

It is illegal to open car doors into traffic. Cars cannot double park or park in bike lanes marked No Stopping, No Standing or One-way.

What you can do

Cyclists can pass on the left, but not if a car is indicating and turning left. Cyclists can ride two abreast and a third rider may overtake. You must use a bike lane or path if it is practical to do so.

This is not a full statement of the law. For more information see www.vicroads.vic.gov.au