

- Remember to turn off your turn signal after turning if it doesn't do it automatically.
- Allow a following distance of 6-7 seconds with cars especially with poor road conditions and hazards (weather, sand, grass, gravel, wet leaves, pot holes, etc.). This gives you adequate time to avoid the hazards and maximum stopping space in case something such as a wreck happens in front of you. The law is a minimum of 2 seconds which is not enough time to react to situations or hazards.
- To determine following distance, pick a fixed object and once the vehicle or motorcycle in front of you passes the object start counting one thousand one, one thousand two, etc. until you reach the same object. Adjust your following distance as necessary.
- Tapping your brakes several times before slowing down or stopping helps the vehicle behind you see you that you are slowing. Keep brakes engaged at stop lights and other intersections to help keep you visible to approaching vehicles.
- Use extra caution at intersections because this is where most vehicle-motorcycle crashes occur!!!
- ALWAYS check your mirrors and blind spots before merging or changing lanes.



- Allow adequate space when passing another vehicle before moving back into the lane.
- Motorcycles are entitled to the entire lane (right, center, and left positions).
- Remember when riding side-by-side in a lane to allow extra space and distance for any hazards or dangerous situations.
- Remember when riding in large groups to discuss hands signals, rules, and other pertinent information before getting on the road and to ride in a staggered formation.
- Remember to ride within the guidelines of the law. Your loved ones want you home safe.



To view the MSAP presentation used in the schools visit:

<https://youtu.be/hd6KYH1fRSg>

For more information about this program or to learn to be a MSAP instructor, please contact:

Jeff Reif
CBA/ABATE of NC MSAP Director
reif.jeff@gmail.com

www.cba-abatenc.org

SHARING THE ROAD

LOOKING TWICE



MSAP

NORTH CAROLINA MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAM



A GUIDE FOR MOTORISTS AND MOTORCYCLISTS

MOTORISTS

- ALWAYS WATCH FOR MOTORCYCLES.



- Have your passengers help you watch for motorcycles, especially children.
- Expect to see motorcycles at any time.
- Motorcycles are smaller and harder to see than other vehicles.
- Look for a helmet above, tires below or a shadow alongside a vehicle that you can't see around.
- Motorcycles are entitled to the entire lane and often change positions within the lane, so please don't try sharing the lane with them (it is illegal for you to do so).
- Allow a following distance of 6-7 seconds with motorcycles especially with poor road conditions and hazards (weather, sand, grass, gravel, wet leaves, pot holes, etc.). The law is a minimum of 2 seconds following distance which is not enough time for you to react if something happens to the motorcycle near you such as it avoiding hazards in the road or even crashing.

- To determine following distance, pick a fixed object and once the vehicle or motorcycle in front of you passes the object start counting one thousand one, one thousand two, etc. until you reach the same object. Adjust your following distance as necessary.



- Completely change lanes when passing a motorcycle and give ample space before moving back into the lane in front of them.
- Always check mirrors and blind spots before merging or changing lanes.
- Be particularly alert at and near intersections (the majority of vehicle-motorcycle crashes occur at intersections especially with cars turning left in front of the motorcycle or pulling out in front of them).



- Look twice and give extra time where motorcycles are concerned (they are smaller and you need to determine their speed and intentions before proceeding at intersections).
- Remember that most motorcycle turn signals do not automatically turn off like cars so don't assume that a flashing turn signal means the motorcycle will turn.

- Motorcycles only have 2 or 3 wheels for traction unlike other vehicles that have a minimum of 4.
- Motorcycles are allowed to ride side-by-side in a lane. Large groups of motorcycles usually ride in a staggered formation.
- REMEMBER that the people who ride motorcycles have loved ones at home waiting on them and motorcyclists cross all socio-economic groups, ethnic groups, racial groups, disabled groups, veterans, men, women and children.



MOTORCYCLISTS

- Your head and eyes are always moving and scanning looking for any hazards or dangerous situations.
- Make yourself as noticeable as possible when riding especially in heavy traffic.
- Wear bright colored clothing, protective/reflective gear and a helmet. The bright clothing helps make you more visible to others. Use of reflective tape and stickers also make you more visible.
- ALWAYS use your turn signals when turning or changing lanes. Using hand signals also helps.