

Motorcycle Handbook

A Guide to Safe Riding

LICENSING AGENCY





Training and testing flowchart

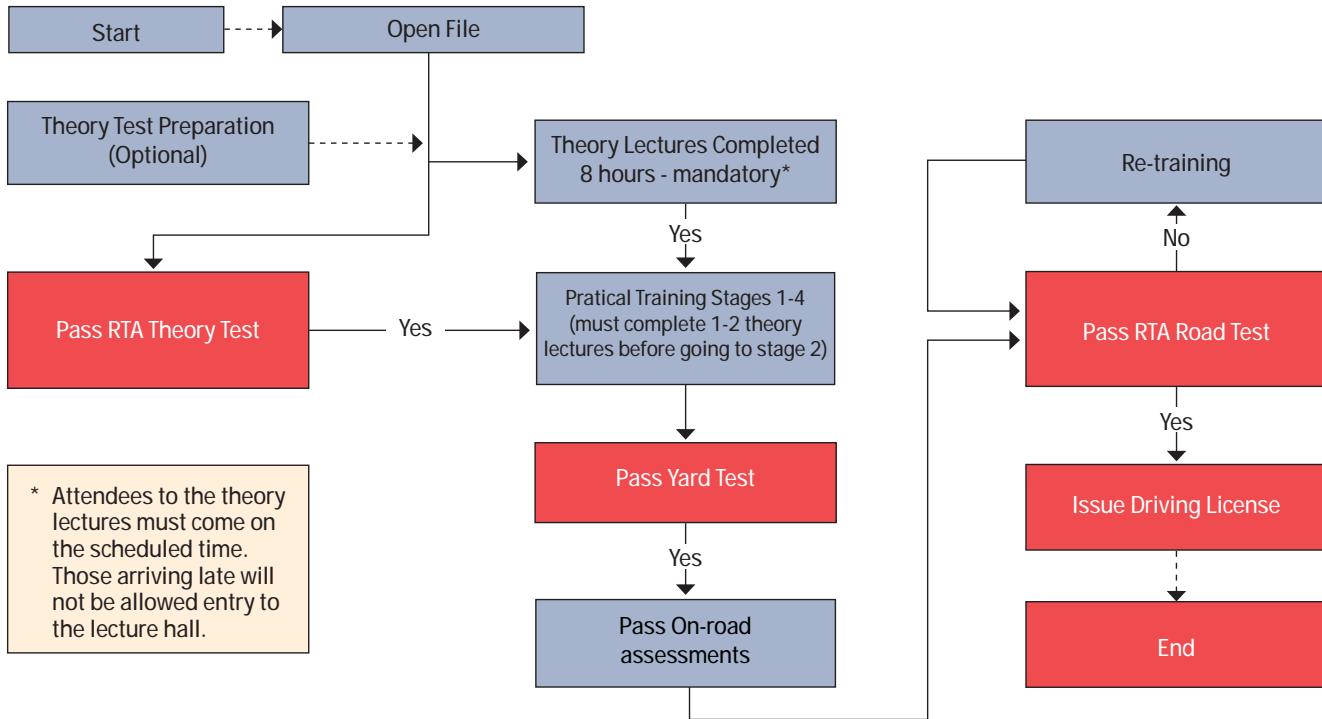




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Why Read This Handbook?

The aim of this handbook is to help you become a safe motorcycle rider and is based on an approach called defensive riding. The handbook is divided into 14 parts. You should read them all and try the Check Your Understanding questions at the end of each part. These questions let you:

- review the information
- check your understanding.

Road safety is important to all road users and especially to motorcyclists. In a crash you have less protection than a driver.

Please keep in mind that getting your license, even after all the training, does not make you an experienced and safe rider. It takes years of practice to learn all the skills and correct riding techniques. Remember, as an inexperienced rider, you are more likely to be involved in a crash than an experienced rider.

In the meantime, this handbook can be a great help. When it says 'bike' this means any motorcycle or motor scooter. If it is talking about a specific kind of bike, it will use more specific terms. Otherwise, it will simply say 'bike'. When it says 'rider' it means motorcycle or motor scooter rider.





Corruption Warning!!!

Do not attempt to offer any money, gift or favor in any form to any instructor, assessor or examiner as this is considered **"BRIBERY"**. The case will be referred to the Police for necessary actions.

You can **stop**
CORRUPTION





Part 1: How Do I Get a Motorcycle Learner Permit and Motorcycle License?

Motorcycle Learner Permit

You can apply for a motorcycle learner permit if you are at least 17 years old. This will allow you to undergo the required training at the driving institute of your choice.

The Motorcycle Learner Permit allows you to undergo training with an authorized Motorcycle instructor for six (6) months from date of issue. If it expires and you have not completed your training, you must renew it before resuming your training.

During your training, comply with the safety requirements prescribed by RTA to ensure safety at all times.

You must always bring your permit during training and present the same if requested by authorized RTA staff.

Motorcycle License

You can apply for a license if:

- You are at least 17 years old
- Have completed a further practical license training course at a Driving Centre.

When you have completed your training, and feel confident in your riding, you can make an appointment to attempt your license test.

To obtain a motorcycle license you must pass an advanced practical riding test, which may be in two parts:

- A riding skills test at the license testing centre to assess your motorcycle handling skills; and
- An on-road test to assess your skills in traffic, which may be introduced at a later date.

After you have passed your tests, you will be issued with a full motorcycle license.

Expats Riding in Dubai

If you are not a permanent resident and want to ride a motorcycle on your visit to Dubai you must:

- Be at least 17 years of age.
- Have a valid Visit Visa.
- Hold a valid international driver license according to RTA policy.

International Driving License Restrictions

Generally you can drive a hire car using an international driver license if you are on temporary stay (Visit Visa) only. However, you will need to check with individual car hire companies to see if they accept international driver license, as some companies do not accept them.

You will need to check that you have insurance cover if you are intending to drive outside the UAE. An international driver license carried in conjunction with your foreign driving license is required for driving in the UAE. You cannot drive using an international driver's license if you are on a Residence Visa.



Licenses Recognised by the UAE

Licenses from a number of countries are currently recognised by the UAE as being suitable to change to a UAE license without going through a formal test. Note the following:

Applicants from some of these countries will also need to submit an official letter from their Embassy as proof of ownership of the license.

The license holder's nationality or passport should be the same as the country that issued the driver license. Below is the list of recognised countries and requirements.

List of countries/states authorized to exchange UAE driving license (without training/test):

GCC Countries	Kuwait	Saudi Arabia	Bahrain	Oman	Qatar		
European Countries	Austria	Belgium	Spain	Germany	France	Ireland	Norway
	Netherland	Italy	UK	Turkey	Greece*	Switzerland	Denmark
	Sweden	Poland	Romania	Finland	Portugal		
African States	South Africa						
American States	Canada (Quebec Only)	USA					
Asia	South Korea*	Japan*	New Zealand	Australia	Singapore**	Hong Kong	

*Countries or states required to present translation (of license) from their embassy or consulate.

**Countries or states that require passing the theory test before the license exchange.

If you do hold a license from a recognised country and you want to exchange it to a UAE driver license , you must provide these documents:

- A copy of your passport/visa.
- An eye test certificate.
- A passport size photograph.
- UAE National ID (original and copy).
- The required fees – check with the RTA office for current fees.

Note the following requirements:

- Original documents must be presented.
- Licenses from non-English or non-Arabic speaking countries should be submitted with a notarial certificate in English or Arabic with the photocopy of the license (valid full license only).
- Permanent licenses for Residence Visas are issued for a period of up to 10 years if driver is 21 and above, yearly if the driver is below 21.



Changing Your License From a Foreign License to a Permanent Dubai License (non-recognised countries - Residence Visa only)

You will need to undertake driving lessons as determined by the licensing authority if

- You hold a driver's license from countries whose licenses are not recognized by the UAE, or
- Your passport and driver's license have not been issued in the same country.

Driving Centres will arrange the necessary paperwork and permits.

What you will need to bring:

- Original passport (valid Dubai Residence Visa)/UAE National I.D.
- 1 passport copy with visa page.
- 4 photographs (passport size).
- An affidavit from the consulate stating that you have a valid license of that country (for non-English/Arabic speaking countries).
- An original license of your country and copy of the same.
- A No Objection Letter from your Sponsor (except for the professions exempted by the licensing authority).

Fees

Training Fees vary depending on the Driving Centre so check by contacting individual centres.

Renewal

To renew your license, you may do so through RTA Customer Service Centers, through the RTA website www.rta.ae, by calling RTA Call Center at 8009090 or any of the RTA Trusted Agents.

For drivers below 21 years, renewal is done at 2 centers (Al Towar and Al Manara Centers).

You will need to submit the following documents:

- An eye test certificate.
- A valid copy of a passport with valid visa.
- Original expired license.
- UAE National ID (original and copy).
- Corresponding Fees.



Learning to Ride in 4 Stages

You will start with basics of riding and move to more complex situations as the training progresses. Your motorcycle riding instructor will take you through different important stages when you are learning to ride.



You need to reach the requirements in each subject before moving on to the next. There will also be an evaluation at each stage so as to review your weak points before new skills are added.

Stage 1 – Learner Rider License Course

This stage will cover several tasks covering the following:

- Getting Acquainted.
- Locating Motorcycle Controls.
- Pre-ride Checks.
- Mounting/Dismounting.
- Walking the Motorcycle.
- Friction Point – Straight Line Riding.
- Gear Changing.
- Purpose and Content.
- Riding Posture/Operating Controls.
- Operation of Stands.
- Starting/Stopping Engine.
- Partner Push.
- Gradual Turns – Range Riding.
- Review.

Stage 2 - Learner Rider License Course

- Introduction – Getting Acquainted.
- Visibility and Protective Clothing.
- Introduction – Purpose and Content.
- Range Riding/Slow Riding.

- Riding Curves.
- Braking – Normal Stop.
- Turning Corners.
- Evaluation and Review.
- Braking Techniques Theory.
- Road Craft Discussion.
- Riding Assessment.

Stage3 - Licensed Rider Course

- Introduction – Getting Acquainted.
- Pre-ride Checks.
- Counter steering – Introduction.
- Counter steering – Sudden Swerving.
- Braking Techniques – Theory.
- Braking – Quick Stop in a Curve.
- Road Craft Discussion.
- Introduction – Purpose and Content.
- Stop and Go.
- Counter steering – U-Turns.
- Riding Curves – Discussion.
- Braking – Quick Stop in a Straight Line.
- Evaluation and Review.
- Conduct Test and Review.

Stage4 – Motorcycle In-Traffic (On-Road) Course

- Introduction.
- System of Riding Control.
- Riding in Quiet Streets.
- Complex Riding Skills 2.
- Stages of Learning to Ride in Traffic.
- Getting Started.
- Complex Riding Skills 1.
- Preparation to Ride on Your Own.







Part 2: Be Aware

There are many hazards on the road for all riders, so it makes sense to try to be ready for anything.

Build up your skills gradually by riding in daylight before riding at night. You are almost twice as likely to have a crash in your first months of riding. In the meantime, slow down and give yourself more space on the road by thinking ahead. Do not be overconfident, impatient or in the wrong mood to ride, such as when you are angry or upset. Learn to identify danger and how to deal with it.

Alcohol

You must not ride under the influence of alcohol because it:

- Reduces your ability to judge risks including distance and speed.
- Affects your sense of balance.
- Makes you take risks.
- Makes it difficult to concentrate and control your bike at the same time.

If you ride under the influence of alcohol you might not see hazards, or react to them in time to avoid a crash.

Other Drugs or Medical Conditions

Any kind of drug can affect your ability to ride. Check with a pharmacist or doctor before you ride. Mixing drugs with alcohol or other drugs can be especially dangerous. If you are not sure about a drug you have taken, do not ride.

If you have a medical condition which might affect your ability to ride, such as diabetes or epilepsy, you must check with the RTA whether you are eligible for a learner license or license. If you develop such a condition once you have a learner license or license, you must advise the RTA.

Tiredness

Riding a motorcycle is more tiring than driving a car. Tiredness and dehydration in hot weather makes it difficult for you to concentrate and make quick decisions. Being tired affects concentration, balance and vision. If you are tired, do not ride.

Make your riding less tiring by:

- Wearing protective clothing because it helps prevent dehydration.
- Avoiding alcohol and drugs.
- Making frequent stops if you are riding for a long time.
- Resting before you start.
- Not riding during those times when you would normally be asleep.
- Avoiding busy traffic.

Relying on Other Road Users for Your Safety

You are responsible for your own safety. Do not expect other road users to look after you. Even if you are wearing bright clothing and making eye contact, do not assume that they have seen you.

Check Your Understanding

(Answers to these review questions are upside down at the bottom of this page)

- Q1. You are planning a long trip, but you have a cold. You want to take medication. You should:**
- A Take some medicine to make you feel better.
 - B Ask your doctor or pharmacist whether the cold medicine will make you sleepy or drowsy.
 - C Try to get there as quickly as possible, so that you can rest when you arrive.
- Q2. Here are three types of drugs which people sometimes take: alcohol, medicines prescribed by a doctor and medicines sold by a pharmacist. Which drug may affect your riding?**
- A Only alcohol.
 - B Only medicines given to you by your doctor.
 - C All three types.



Part 3: What to Wear

The right clothes and equipment are important for your safety and comfort, but they cannot protect you from everything.

Helmet

Every rider and pillion passengers must wear a helmet that fits and is done up. A helmet can prevent a serious head injury and keep you alive if it fits your head well and is done up.

Make sure you buy a new helmet. Secondhand helmets may have damage you cannot see that can be dangerous if you crash.

Get a bright coloured helmet that can be easily seen. If other road users can see you, even in poor light or bad weather, they can avoid you.



Eye and Face Protection

Your face and eyes need protection from the wind, sand and stones. Visors or goggles give this protection. Scratched visors or goggles can blur and distort light at night and should be replaced.



Clothing

Motorcycle clothing and boots are designed to protect you from injury and help you to be seen. In the heat, synthetic textile-based jackets and pants are available that can be comfortable, cool and protect you, so you can concentrate and control your bike properly.

Choosing a motorcycle is one of the most enjoyable things a rider does, but it is important to choose the right bike.





Part 4: What to Ride

Which Bike is Right For You?

It is important that you choose a bike that suits you. You should feel comfortable and in control while handling it, which means it should not be too tall or too heavy for you.



Be Careful With a Different Bike

Be careful when riding another bike, even if it is the same model as your own, as it may not be in good mechanical condition. Do not ride an unfamiliar bike unless you are sure it is safe.

If riding an unfamiliar bike you should:

- Check the controls.
- Make all the same safety checks you would make with your own bike.
- Ride more carefully than you would on your own bike.

Check Your Understanding of Part 3 and 4

(Answers to these review questions are upside down at the bottom of this page)

- Q1. Ali sees a range of second-hand helmets for sale at a garage sale. They all look new and some are in bright colours. He should:**
- A Choose the one with the brightest colour and a full visor.
 - B Not buy a second-hand helmet, as he may be unable to see any damage to it.
 - C Not buy a second-hand helmet without speaking to the previous owner.
- Q2. The best types of foot protection for riding a motorcycle are:**
- A Sandals.
 - B Sport or track shoes.
 - C Leather boots designed for motorcycle riding.
- Q3. The main reason for wearing clothing designed for motorcycling is that it:**
- A Keeps you cool.
 - B Helps protect you in a fall.
 - C Both of the above.
- Q4. Ahmed has just passed his motorcycle learner license and has the chance to ride his friend's new motorcycle. Before he rides he should:**
- A Check that the fuel tap is on reserve.
 - B Reconsider and choose not to ride an unfamiliar bike.
 - C Ride with his friend as a pillion passenger.

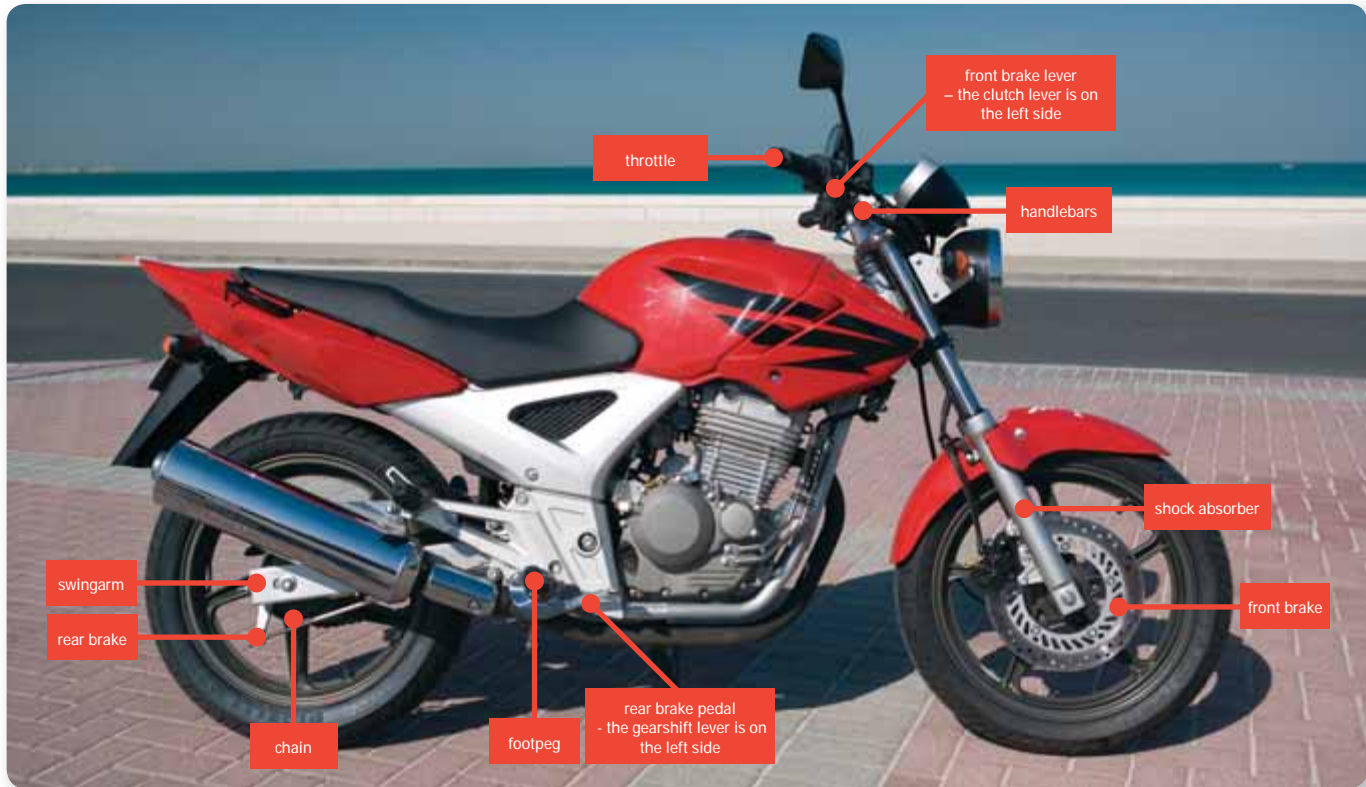




Part 5: Starting Out

No matter what bike you choose to ride, it needs to be checked and adjusted to suit you. Do not buy a bike that is too big, too powerful or too heavy for you. Checking and adjusting the bike from the start will not only make your bike more comfortable to ride, it will also help you to control the bike. There are important checks to make every time you ride.

A Simple Guide to the Parts of a Bike



Setting Up for Yourself and Your Bike

Some of these comments will not apply to motor scooters, as they are built differently.

- You should be comfortable when you sit on the bike, while allowing good control of it. Keep your head up and your line of sight level with the road. Your arms should not be feeling too much strain from holding up your body and your feet should be flat on the ground.
- If your bike has adjustable clutch and brake levers, set them so that they are in easy reach of your fingers and feet.
- Sit close enough to reach the handlebars with your arms slightly bent. You should be able to turn the handlebars without stretching your arms.
- Hold the handgrips firmly and keep your wrists low, with the knuckles at the highest point. This gives you good control of the throttle while making it easy to reach the clutch and brake levers.
- Your elbows should be slightly bent and tucked in to absorb bumps when you brake.
- Hold the fuel tank firmly with your knees to balance the bike and keep control when turning, slowing or speeding up.
- Keep your feet on the footpegs while the bike is moving, ready to use the foot controls.



Safety Checks to Make Before Each Ride

You should check your bike before each ride. Your safety begins with your machine.



Controls

- Brakes should work smoothly. The front and rear brakes should each stop the bike when fully applied separately.
- Clutch and throttle should work smoothly and the throttle should snap shut when you let it go.
- Make sure cables are lubricated and there are no sharp bends or breaks.

Tyres and Chain

- Check tyre pressure. The correct pressure for the tyres should be listed in the owner's manual.
- Check that the tread depth is more than 2mm all over the tyre tread. Less than this is very dangerous.
- Make sure that the tyre tread is free of cuts, nails or cracks.
- Check that the chain (if the bike has one) is lubricated and the tension adjusted correctly.

Mirrors

- Clean and adjust the mirrors before you start. It is dangerous to do this when you are moving.
- You should be able to see just past your body, and as much as possible of the traffic next to you and behind you.

Lights and Signals

- Check that all lights and indicators are clean and in working order. Both low and high beams must work.
- Test the horn.



Fuel and Oil

- Check the fuel and oil level. If the engine needs oil it could seize and this will damage the engine and could lead to a crash.

Yourself!

- Check that you are dressed safely and properly (see Part 3).
- Make sure you are fit to ride and not tired or have not been drinking alcohol or taking medication (see Part 2).



Check Your Understanding

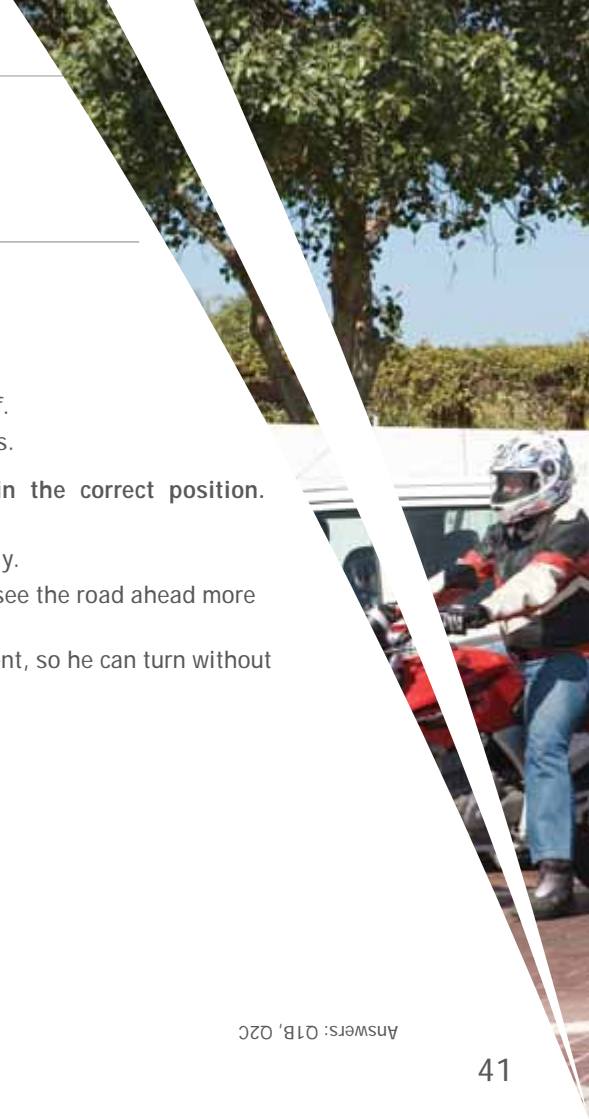
(Answers to these review questions are upside down at the bottom of this page)

Q1. Ibrahim has just taken delivery of a new motorcycle. He should:

- A Take it out for a run on the open road to see how it goes.
- B Adjust the controls and, if possible, handlebars and seat to suit himself.
- C Take all his friends on rides to show them how much fun motorcycling is.

Q2. Tahir is trying to show his brother how to sit on the motorcycle in the correct position. He should sit:

- A At the back of the seat with his arms straight, so that he can turn quickly.
- B Close to the handlebars, so he can bend over the front of the bike and see the road ahead more clearly.
- C Close enough to the handlebars to reach them with his arms slightly bent, so he can turn without having to stretch.







Part 6: Look Ahead and Be Seen

As a motorcyclist you need to be seen by other drivers. You need to see clearly around you to think ahead and be ready to respond before things happen. Remember that you are sharing the road with others, so ride cooperatively in traffic.

Looking Ahead

Being ready to respond to things before they happen. It is not as hard as it sounds. Experienced riders are very good at it, which is one reason why they are usually safer.

Help yourself by doing the following:

- Always turn your head and looking ahead to where you want to go.
- Position yourself on the road so you can see around corners.
- Lean with your bike while you turn, keeping your head up and line of sight level with the road.
- When pulling out from the kerb, position your bike so you can see the traffic in both directions.
- If you are making a U-turn, have a clear view of traffic in both directions.
- At intersections do not count on other vehicles giving way to you.
- Watch the road ahead by looking through or over the top of other vehicles.

Good Positioning

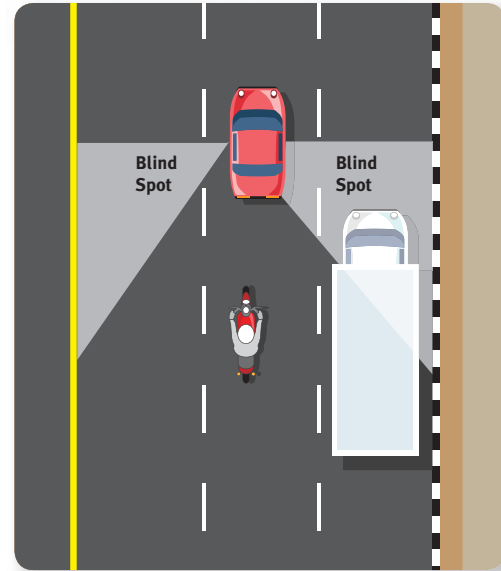
Place yourself on the road where you can see and be seen. Ride in the left-hand wheel track of the road, where you can be seen in both the rear vision mirror and the external mirror of the car in front of you. You can also see vehicles coming the other way and be seen by them.

Place Yourself Where You Are as Safe as Possible

- Place yourself where you can see and be seen by other drivers.
- Most crashes between a bike and a vehicle happen at intersections, so position yourself where you can be seen and have as much room as possible to avoid a crash.
- Blind spots beside other vehicles are dangerous because drivers cannot see you.

Headlight

Riding with your headlight on during the day will help you to be seen by other road users. If you have your headlight on during the day, always use low beam.

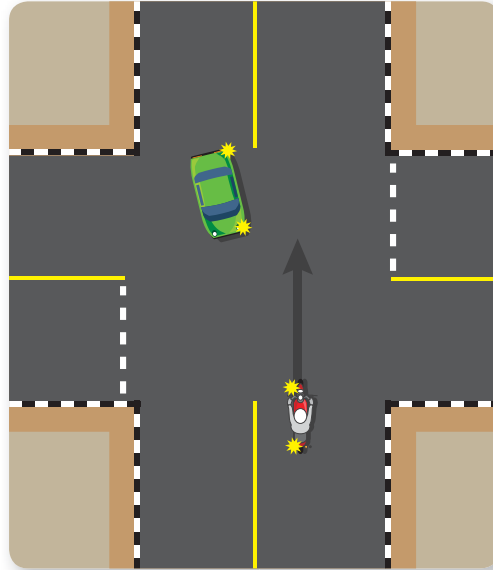


Indicators and Brake Lights

Indicators and brake lights tell other drivers what you are about to do.

Before you turn or change lanes, you must use your indicators. Send clear messages to the other traffic. Turn your indicator off afterwards, because if you leave it on after you have made the turn you are giving the wrong message, which could be dangerous.

Start braking early so drivers know that you are about to slow down.



Giving the wrong signals could lead to danger.

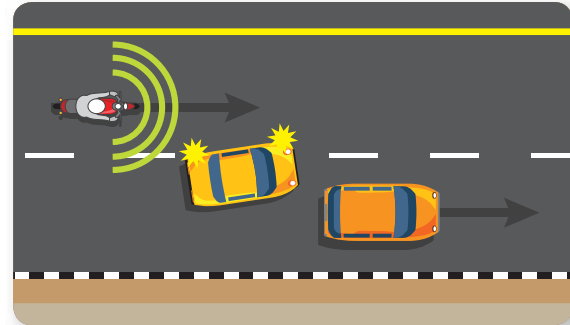


Sound Your Horn

Sound your horn as a warning in case of danger to let other road users, who have not seen you, know that you are there.

Never rely on the horn though, because it may not be heard.

Always be ready to avoid a crash.



Be Seen To Be Safe

Wearing brightly coloured or reflective helmets and clothing helps other drivers see you. Yellow, orange and red are colours which stand out against most backgrounds. Reflective tape on your clothing or your bike works well at night, and a reflective vest is more noticeable to drivers behind you than a tail light.

There may still be drivers who simply do not see you, or who do not obey the road rules. You need to be ready to avoid a crash at all times.



Check Your Understanding

(Answers to these review questions are upside down at the bottom of this page)

Q1. Farid is about to pull out from the kerb to join the traffic flow. He should:

- A Accelerate as quickly as possible, so that he is going faster than the traffic and it cannot catch him.
- B Put on his indicator, because that gives him right of way.
- C Make sure he positions the bike so he can see the traffic in both directions before pulling out.

Q2. The three best ways to make yourself be seen are to:

- A Ride with your headlight on, ride where you can be seen and wear bright clothing.
- B Sound your horn, keep to the left of the road and flash your headlight.
- C All of the above.

Q3. At an intersection you should:

- A Change lanes to get past other vehicles.
- B Choose a lane position which will enable you to be seen by other drivers.
- C Sound your horn and then speed through as quickly as possible.





Part 7: Stay Away from Danger

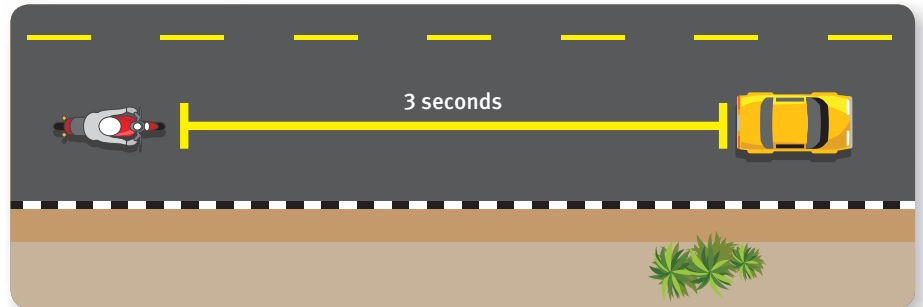
Stay as far away as possible from the things that can hurt you on the road.

Keeping a Safe Space

Any mistake, yours or someone else's, can be very serious for you as a rider. Keeping a safe space is the best protection you can have. The more space you have around you, the more time you have to see trouble and work out a way to avoid it. Of course, that only works if you keep your eyes open and your mind alert.

The 3 Second Gap

Measuring a safe following distance is simple. When the vehicle ahead of you passes a tree or something similar, use that as a reference point and start counting – “one thousand and one, one thousand and two, one thousand and three”. If you get to the tree before you finish counting, you are too close. After a while you will get good at judging this gap.



In Front

As an unprotected rider, you should try to keep a 3 second gap between you and the vehicle in front, so you:

- Have more time to stop in an emergency.
- Are able to see better over and around the vehicle in front of you.
- Can see traffic signals, road signs and hazards well ahead.
- Be able to avoid potholes and other road surface hazards.
- Have more time to plan your response.

If you are too close, you may pay too much attention to the vehicle in front and not of what is ahead.

There are times when you will want to be even further than 3 seconds away. They include:

- Poor riding conditions when it is harder to be seen (for example riding at night).
- on slippery, sandy or uneven road surfaces.
- On a high speed roads.
- Being behind a big vehicle which is hard to see around.

Do not ride too close behind another vehicle. They might stop suddenly and you might not be able to stop in time to avoid a crash.

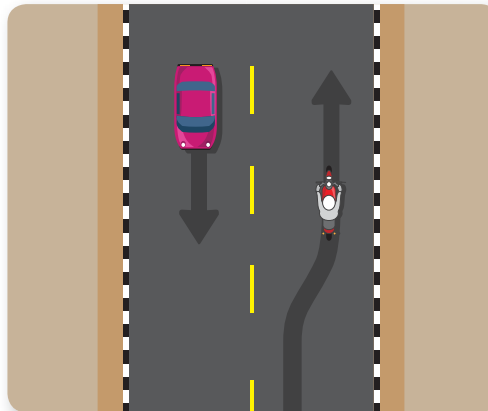
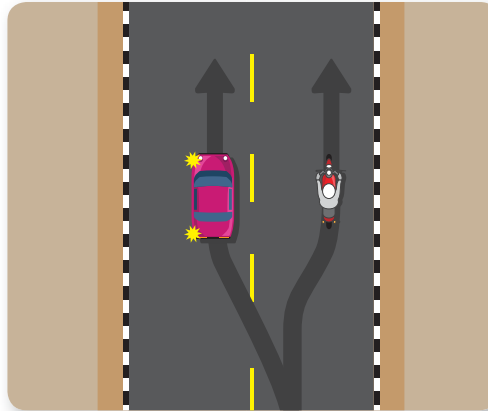
To the Side

When riding in traffic you can move from one side of your lane to the other, away from other vehicles, and make a bigger safety zone. Experienced riders move lane position depending on traffic – but they always check their mirrors and do a headcheck before they do!

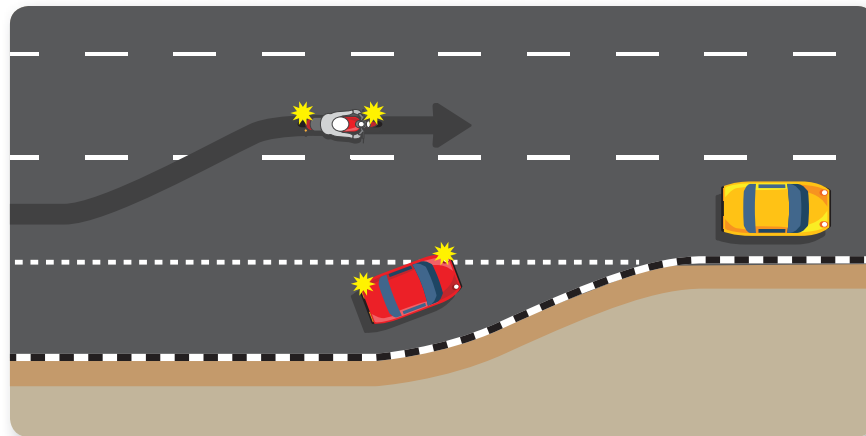
A headcheck means looking back behind you to make sure nothing is about to pass you. Using mirrors is good, but sometimes you will need to look as well.

Consider changing position when:

- You are being overtaken or passed by another vehicle.
- You are approaching an intersection. If you see a car that could turn into your path, assume that it will and be ready for it.
- You are passing parked cars or vehicles waiting to turn left. Keep to the left part of the lane, away from the possibility of doors opening or pedestrians stepping out from between cars.



- A driver is pulling out from the kerb. Some people do not turn their heads to do a headcheck to see if there is traffic coming up, and bikes can be hard to see. The car might also be doing a U-turn across your path, instead of just going straight ahead.
- In traffic you need a full lane to yourself to be able to move safely if a problem comes up. Avoid being trapped in a small space with cars sharing your lane, by positioning yourself away from the extreme edges of the lane.
- There is another vehicle beside you in the next lane. They may move over on you at any time. Move forward or drop back until you are in a free space.
- Vehicles are merging. At places such as freeway entrance ramps, make room for entering traffic by changing speed or changing lanes.



Behind

If someone is too close behind you, slow down and move back yourself to increase the space between you and the car in front. Then let the car behind overtake you where you can see it.

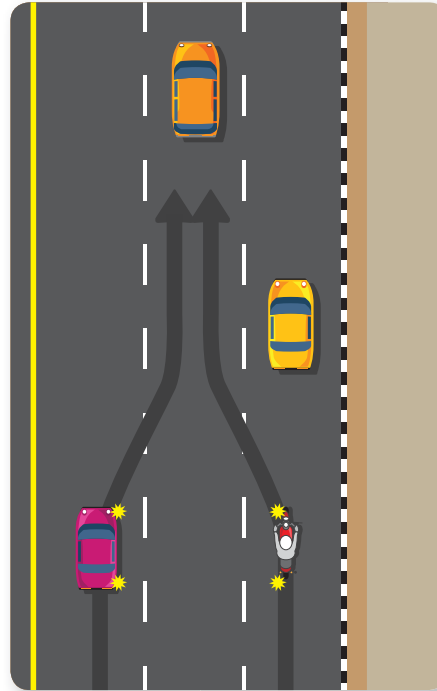
Scanning

Scanning means gathering information about the road scene around you by looking ahead, from side to side and in your rear view mirrors to identify dangers. While doing so, sort the information in order of its importance to you.

Use the height advantage you have on a motorcycle and look over cars in front of you to see what is coming up ahead.

Combine mirrors and headchecks to give you a picture of what is happening behind you. Do this often and quickly, because what is behind you is important too. Remember, headchecks should only take a second so you can look back to the front quickly.

Always do a headcheck of the lane next to you and behind you, in your own lane, when you change lanes or leave the curb. Another vehicle may be headed for your space, and it may not be visible in your mirrors.



Make sure you do a headcheck before changing lanes or a situation like this may occur



What is Hazard and how to Avoid them

In driving, a hazard may be defined as “anything (moving or not moving) that can cause the driver to change direction, position or speed of the vehicle”.

Avoiding hazards and staying safe require skills to anticipate and forecast what may happen and have the ability to make quick decision on the appropriate actions/reactions.

Knowing what to look for (hazards) in different situations is an important skill that will keep you safe.



Look at the above scenario and see if you can identify the possible driving hazards.

Analyzing the scenario for hazards

Closer look at the scenario reveals the following hazards:

1. The person on the right ahead - trying to hail a taxi may start the chain of events.
2. Taxi on the left has reacted and may just turn right to pick up the person on the right (and suddenly stop in front of you).
3. Notice the grey vehicle ahead with its reverse lights on.
4. The white car in front may stop suddenly in reaction to the reversing grey car.



Some Important Considerations to Avoid hazards

- **See far and wide (scanning)** – See wider and farther and actively taking in the scenario and continually filtering for possible hazards.
- **Anticipate** – read the movement of other road users around and anticipate their next actions. Take note of their speed, direction, way of driving and distance from you.
- **Control and adjust your Speed** – Slow down and cover the brake pedal, this reduces your reaction time.
- **Be aware of yourself** – Your physical and mental condition affects your driving. If you are ill or sleepy, your reactions will be slower.
- **Stay calm** – Being calm helps you stay in control of yourself. This way you are able to adjust to changing situations and not become a hazard to yourself or to others.



Remember to Plan

Scanning ahead lets you decide what to do about dangers before you get to them, so you can avoid emergency stops or sudden moves. Experienced riders know that other road users make mistakes and try to plan how they will act before it happens.

Pick the safest and easiest way to get to where you want to go. If roads are busy, consider changing your travel plan to a time when there will be less traffic.

Riding in Fog

Fog is like a cloud at ground level. It forms when the temperature drops very low and invisible water vapor in the air condenses to form suspended water droplets. Fog can be patchy. It can be very dense in some areas and light in some. This creates visibility problems and very dangerous driving conditions. Fog usually comes during early mornings on the months when the weather is changing (start or end of summer in the UAE). Learn the Dos and Don'ts on how to drive in the fog safely:

Do:

1. Slow down gradually in foggy conditions and ride at a speed that suits the conditions.
2. Make sure the full lighting system of your vehicle is turned on.
3. Use your low beam headlights. High beams reflect off the moisture droplets in the fog, making it harder to see.
3. If you have fog lights on your vehicle, use them, in addition to your low beams. They will increase your visibility and could save your life.
4. Be patient. Avoid passing, changing lanes and/or crossing traffic.
5. Use pavement markings to help guide you. Use the right edge of the road as a guide, rather than the centre line.
6. Increase your following distance. You will need extra distance to brake safely.
7. Look and listen for any hazards that may be ahead.



8. Ride with focus and full attention on the road.
9. Watch out for any electronically operated warning signs.
10. Keep looking as far ahead as possible.
11. Keep your visors clean and maximize your vision.
12. If the fog is too dense to continue, pull completely off the road and try to position your vehicle in an area away from other traffic. Turn on your emergency (hazard) lights.

Don't:

1. Don't stop in the middle of the road. You could become the first link in a chain reaction collision.
2. Don't make sudden stops. The vehicles behind you may not be able to see you in time.
3. Don't speed up suddenly, even if the fog seems to be clearing. You could find yourself back in fog.
4. Don't speed up to pass a vehicle moving slowly or to get away from a vehicle that is following too closely.
5. Don't continue driving if the fog is too dense and the visibility is greatly reduced. Remember, to be late is better than not to arrive at all.

Remember:

1. Watch your speed. You may be going faster than you think. If so, reduce speed gradually.
2. Leave a safe breaking distance between you and the vehicle ahead.
3. Remain calm and patient. Don't pass other vehicles or speed up suddenly.
4. Don't stop on the road. If visibility is decreasing rapidly, pull off the road into a safe parking area and wait for the fog to lift.
5. When visibility is reduced, use your low beam lights.



Slow down, adjust your speed and allow enough space from the vehicle in front of you.

Driving in Rain / Floods in Dubai

Rain makes road surfaces slippery, especially as the first drops fall. With more rain, tyres make less contact with the road.

Flooding in Dubai occurs very rarely as heavy rains are not very common. But when heavy rains come, heavy flooding also happens in many areas of the city.

Drivers need to be extra cautious when driving through flooded areas as it is difficult to guess how deep the water really is. You can only see the surface of the water, you can not see if there are hidden dangers in the path you are taking like sharp objects or deep holes.

To be safe and if at all possible, it is best to avoid driving through floods. But if you must drive through flood, do so carefully keeping in mind the following:

- a. Do not ride through fast moving water even if the water level is at or below 50% of the tire height. The force of the flood water may sweep your car away.



- b. Engage low gear, ride slowly while maintaining smooth acceleration and revving the engine (by slipping the clutch) to prevent the water from entering the exhaust pipe.
- c. Show courtesy. Riding at speeds through flood can cause water to splash on the sides and soak other motorists or pedestrians.

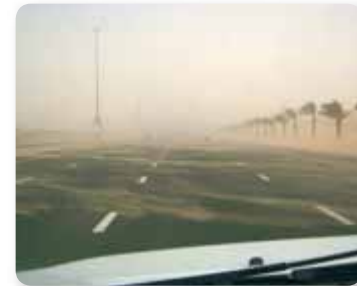
Once you successfully passed the flooded area, avoid speeding as your brakes will not be as efficient due to moisture. You must step on your brakes repeatedly to help remove the moisture in it until the brakes efficiency is restored.

Riding in Sand Drifts

Sand on the roads can be dangerous, as tyre grip is reduced and it can be more difficult to work out where the edge of the road is. Dust from vehicles coming towards you may hide unexpected hazards, such as other vehicles, a dip or a corner. Dust thrown on to windows can also stop you from being able to see. Slow down and keep a safe distance from the vehicle in front.



Ride at a speed that is safe for the road conditions, because you may need longer time to come to a stop.



Riding when Angry

Drivers do not always do the right thing and often make mistakes on the road. Some people get angry because of a mistake or action of another driver and become violent.

You can avoid becoming a victim of another driver's anger easily:

- If you make a mistake when riding, show that you know you've made a mistake.
- Keep calm and keep your distance from other vehicles.
- Ride cooperatively and consider other people on the road.
- Treat other drivers as you would like them to treat you.

Role Model Riding Behavior

Riding in a safe manner is something that all drivers are capable of doing. It is a matter of choice. We can drive in a way that can be a role model for other drivers by doing the following:

1. Riding within the speed limit or at a speed appropriate to the situation.
2. Riding at a safe distance from the vehicle in front, of at least 2 seconds, in normal traffic.
3. Allowing extra travel time. This will avoid over speeding or sudden changes in your directions. You will in turn arrive at the destination more relaxed and fresh.
4. Focus on your riding. Avoid using the phone while riding or doing any other activities that may cause distraction. Riding safely requires full attention.
5. Use the indicators properly when changing lanes or changing directions to give other road users time to react.
6. Show consideration to other road users by respecting the priority rules. This will make for better traffic flow and avoid any conflict with other drivers or pedestrians. There are times when you may need to give way even if you have the priority just to avoid conflict with those who ignore the rules.
7. Allow for the mistakes of others. Always anticipate for the unexpected and react appropriately. Position your bike on the roadway where it is easily seen, not on the “blind spot” of the vehicles near you.
8. Ride at the slow lane whenever possible. You will be able to drive relaxed, you will not be forced to speed up and you avoid conflict with those who want to travel at higher speeds.
9. Plan your journey in advance. This will make your journey safer and more pleasant.
10. Ride at your best condition. Avoid riding when tired or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Unacceptable Riding Behaviors

The way we drive may show how we think and behave.

1. Riding too fast for the situation. It gives you very little time to react to avoid a crash.
2. Tailgating or riding too close to the vehicle in front. This usually causes other drivers to be distracted or become tense or suddenly change lanes which increase the risk of a crash.
3. Flashing headlights or honking the horn to intimidate other drivers. It creates tension among other drivers on the road.
4. Cutting-in front of other drivers or jumping the queue just to get a few meters ahead. This causes annoyance among other drivers and aggravates the traffic situation.
5. Not signaling lane changes - It increases the crash risks as other drivers are not prepared for the unexpected lane change.
6. Riding slowly in the fast lane - this practice is equally dangerous as over speeding as it requires other drivers in the fast lane to brake or change lanes to avoid the slow vehicle. Always use the slow lane and use only fast lane only when overtaking.
7. Ignoring priority rules - When give way and stop signs are prominently posted but drivers disregard them or when suddenly entering the main road without regard to the other drivers already in it or when ignoring the presence of pedestrians crossing the road.
8. Intentionally pushing in or blocking other drivers signaling to turn or change direction. This causes tension among drivers.
9. Using a mobile phone while riding (even with hands-free kit) – this reduces the driver's concentration from the riding task. This may also cause the car to slow down or speed up (for no reason), wander across road lanes, make sudden turns without indicating.
10. Riding under the influence of alcohol or drugs. There is zero tolerance for drink riding in Dubai. You risk being fined, jailed or your license confiscated and your vehicle impounded. You also compromise your safety and the safety of others.

School Buses in Dubai

School Buses in Dubai are governed by strict regulations by the Roads & Transport Authority. This is to ensure all students of all ages in Dubai are safely transported to and from their schools throughout the school year. This is also part of the over all road safety strategy and the ultimate vision of RTA to ensure “safe & smooth transport for all”. To reduce the risks of the students on board, the speed of school buses is limited to maximum 80 kph only. The drivers are especially trained to drive safely and to deal with the children on board.



Be Patient when Dealing with School Buses

When picking up and dropping off students, school buses will stop frequently. Be patient and do not pass a school bus that stops with the flashers and stop arm working.

Remember:

- School buses may stop for several minutes especially if there are several students boarding or alighting at certain locations.
- When school bus stops, students may suddenly cross the road. Young students especially the small children maybe unpredictable when they alight from or approach the school bus.
- School buses large or small need to travel and stop as smoothly as possible. Give due consideration and stay clear of them whenever possible and avoid any sudden actions that can startle the school bus driver.
- Over speeding or sudden stops may scare off students that may cause them to run and cause danger to themselves or others.
- Be extra cautious when there are school buses traveling nearby.



Vehicles for the Handicapped

Some people who are unable to walk use self-propelled or motorised wheelchairs. Because they are seated, it is difficult for drivers to easily see them. You need to watch out for people in these types of vehicles.

Always Give Way to Police and Emergency Vehicles



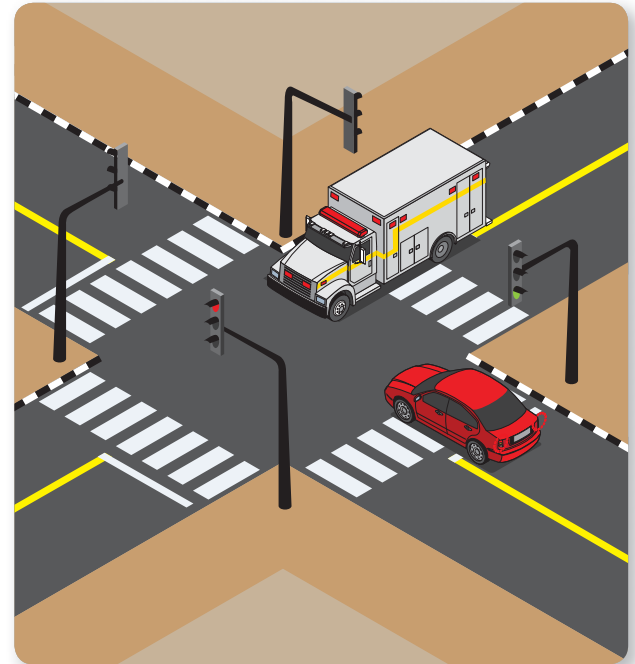
Police and Emergency vehicles have priority when their siren is on or they are displaying red or blue flashing lights. You must give way and stop if necessary (despite any other rules), even if you have a green traffic light. If you are on a busy road, try to move out of the way of the emergency vehicle as quickly and safely as possible.



IMPORTANT RULE!

You must immediately give way to emergency vehicles which have either a siren sounding or flashing red and blue lights by keeping to the right side of the road, reducing speed and stopping if necessary. Priority must also be given to military vehicles when they proceed as convoys.

*(Article 4, Executive By-Law, UAE
Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)*



Littering

It is an offence to 'Throw Waste from Vehicles onto the Roads'. The fine for such an act is Dhs. 500.00 and plus 4 Traffic Points.

It may appear a simple act of flicking a cigarette, but if it lands on a motorcyclist, cyclist or even vehicles with goods, this act becomes dangerous.

Any debris on the road that drivers run over or avoid, can create serious damage to the vehicle and unpredictable reaction by other road users. A chain collision can happen.

We also want our Dubai roads to be clean for the image of a world class city.



Check Your Understanding

(Answers to these review questions are upside down at the bottom of the next page)

Q1. The gap between your motorcycle and the vehicle ahead, in good conditions, should be at least:

- A 2 seconds.
- B 3 seconds.
- C 4 seconds.

Q2. Jamal is riding along a freeway in the right lane. Cars are moving on to the freeway from the entrance ramp. He should:

- A Accelerate to get ahead of them.
- B Continue to travel at the same pace and position as it is their responsibility to merge into the traffic safely.
- C Adjust his speed to increase the distance between his bike and the merging traffic.

Q3. When you are being followed too closely you should:

- A Travel faster to increase the distance between you and the vehicle.
- B Brake several times to let the driver know that you think he is driving dangerously.
- C Slow down and increase the space in front of your motorcycle so you have more time to react, if you need to.

Q4. Scanning involves:

- A Studying the movements of the car ahead of you.
- B Looking at the road just ahead of you.
- C Moving your eyes from side to side to look at the whole road scene.

Q5. Before changing lanes always do a final:

- A Sound of your horn.
- B Headcheck.
- C Flash of your brake lights.

Q6. To prevent other drivers sharing your lane you should:

- A Ride to the left of your lane.
- B Ride to the right of your lane.
- C Not ride at the extreme edges of your lane.





Part 8: Grip On the Road

There are only two patches of rubber connecting you to the road surface and they are smaller than the palm of your hand. There are several things that will make it harder to keep a grip when riding.

Slippery Roads

Many things can make the road surface slippery. Here are some common slippery situations you may find:

- Unmade roads or patches of sand that have collected on sealed roads.
- Wet roads.
- Painted lane and other markings, as well as steel and other naturally smooth surfaces including covers and bridge expansion joints.
- Grease and oil deposited in the middle of lanes, and diesel spills.

Try to avoid slippery patches. If you cannot, reduce your speed before you get to them, ride as upright as you can once you reach them and try to avoid changing gear, turning or using the throttle or the brakes. If you need to brake, use both brakes evenly.

Bumpy Roads and Potholes

On rough roads, slow down. That does three things:

- Gives you time to avoid the worst bumps or holes.
- Reduces road shocks.
- Gives your bike's suspension time to work.

Remember that bumps can affect your steering as well as the suspension. To give yourself as much control as possible, raise yourself a little on the footpegs so you can absorb road shocks with your knees and elbows.

Check Your Understanding

(Answers to these review questions are upside down at the bottom of this page)

Q1. The best way to handle a slippery surface is to:

- A Travel on the right side of the road.
- B Use the rear brake if you are in trouble.
- C Reduce your speed.

Q2. To ride safely along a bumpy road you should:

- A Slow down quickly after the first series of bumps.
- B Rise slightly on the footpegs to absorb the road shocks.
- C Sit on the seat and try to steer your way through the bumps.

Q3. Grease and oil from cars tends to build up:

- A Along the sides of the road.
- B In the centre of the lane.
- C In the right hand part of the lane.





Part 9: Night Riding

Seeing and Being Seen at Night

It is harder to see and to be seen at night. Your headlight will not show you the road as clearly as daylight will. Other road users may also have trouble seeing your headlight or tail light because of other traffic.

Your headlight and tail light must be on between sunset and sunrise, when street lights are switched on, and in weather conditions with reduced visibility.

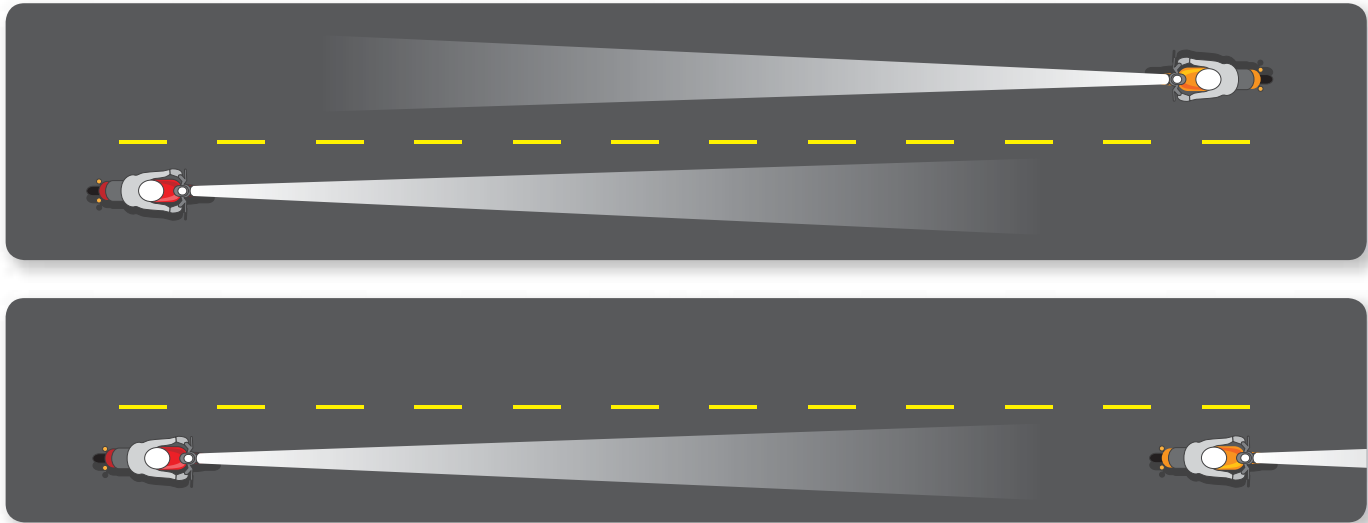
Do not wear a dark tinted or scratched visor or tinted glasses, especially at night. You need to be able to see as clearly as possible.

If an oncoming vehicle has not dipped its high beam, or if its light is too bright for you, slow down and look at the side of the road ahead of you instead of at the vehicle, until it has gone past. Often there is a line there that you can use as a guide. That way you can keep track of where the road is going, and your vision will not be affected.

The tail lights of the traffic you are following can show you which way the road goes. If tail lights ahead of you bounce up and down, expect a rough road surface ahead.

Take Care

Ride more slowly at night to give yourself more time to react to problems. Ride further away from other traffic; it is difficult to judge distance and speed at night. Always remember, do not ride when you are tired!



Because high beam may dazzle the oncoming driver's eyes, you should 'dip' to low-beam when another vehicle is within sight. You should also dip your headlights when you are approaching another vehicle from behind.



IMPORTANT RULE!

High beam lights must only be used on highways which do not have overhead lighting when needed to improve the view ahead. They must not be used when another vehicle is coming from the opposite direction.

(Article 65, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Check Your Understanding

(Answers to these review questions are upside down at the bottom of this page)

Q1. Three things you can do to ride more safely at night are:

- A Stay closer to other vehicles, always use the high beam and wear dark, warm clothing.
- B Reduce your speed, increase the distance between your motorcycle and the car ahead, wear a reflective vest.
- C Change the type of tyres on your motorcycle, stay closer to other vehicles, keep up with the flow of traffic.

Q2. Salim notices the lights of the oncoming vehicles seem to bounce up and down. He should:

- A Use his high beam to get a clearer look at the road ahead.
- B Reduce his speed and expect a change in road conditions.
- C Move to the centre of the road.





Part 10: Pillion Passengers and Loads

The way your motorcycle behaves will change when you carry a passenger or a load. It will:

- Take longer to stop.
- Accelerate slower.
- Have less cornering clearance in corners.

Carrying a Pillion Passenger

Passengers who are not used to being on a bike can get scared and affect the safety of the motorcycle. Ask them to relax, hold onto the bike's 'grab rail' or your waist and lean with the bike when it leans. Pillions should wear the same kind of brightly coloured protective clothing and helmet as riders.

Getting Ready

If it is possible, you should adjust the preload of the bike's suspension when you are carrying extra weight. You may also have to add air to the tyres. Check your owner's manual for instructions.

Adjust your mirrors with you and the passenger both sitting on the bike before you start riding.

On the Ride

It is important to ride slower and very smoothly when carrying a passenger. Do not talk because this will reduce your concentration and take your attention off the road.

Carrying a Load

Bikes are not designed to carry large loads, but if you distribute the weight evenly there is no reason why small to medium loads should be a problem. The owner's manual should give you the total amount of weight the bike is designed to carry, including rider and passenger.

There are many different kinds of luggage available for bikes and you may want to use more than one of these to balance the weight when you load your bike. Keep the load:

- Low – if it is high it may unbalance the bike. Do not carry anything heavy on your back.
- Forward – by placing it above or in front of the rear axle. Anything behind the rear axle can have a serious effect on handling.
- Balanced – even weight on either side of bike.
- Secure – by putting it in a special motorcycle bag or strapping it carefully to the bike. Be very careful if you use elastic straps with metal hooks – these are a major cause of eye loss.

Finally, check the load frequently to make sure that it is still secure.



Check Your Understanding

(Answers to these review questions are upside down at the bottom of this page)

Q1. Paul is taking his brother to his night class. He should:

- A Give him advice on how to ride as a pillion passenger as they are riding.
- B Not speak at all because he cannot hear him clearly when riding.
- C Give his brother instructions about being a pillion passenger before they start.

Q2. When you are carrying a passenger the motorcycle will:

- A Respond more slowly, taking longer to speed up and slow down.
- B Respond more quickly, because the weight improves the handling ability of the motorcycle.
- C Not change the way it handles, as long as the weight is spread evenly.





Part 11: Look After Your Bike

Your life depends on your bike, so go through the checklist in Chapter 6 to identify any problems and have them repaired before you go for a ride.

Maintenance

Consult the owner's manual for maintenance guidance, but there are some other things you should do:

- Keep the bike clean and make sure the lights are clean and working.
- Check for loose or missing nuts and bolts, loose spokes, cracks or dents in the wheel rims, blown oil seals and signs of rust anywhere on the bike.
- Keep the chain adjusted properly, clean and lubricated.
- Check the oil level regularly.
- Check tyre pressures and tyre wear.
- Keep an eye on the wear indicators on the brake pads.
- Service your bike regularly.

Check Your Understanding

(Answers to these review questions are upside down at the bottom of this page)

Q1. Pre-ride checks of your motorcycle should include:

- A Petrol, oil and condition of the paint work.
- B Wheel, tyres and controls.
- C None of these, as pre-ride checks are unnecessary.

Q2. To help make your motorcycle safe you should clean it regularly because:

- A It makes it look better when it is on the road.
- B It makes it easier to spot missing parts like nuts and bolts.
- C It makes the motorcycle easier to see on the road.

بر دبي
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ديوان الحاكم
Ruler's Court
م ٢٥٠
350m
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Part 12: Road Signs

Road signs provide visual information to help control and regulate the flow of traffic and help to keep you and other road users safe.

This is very important in Dubai as:

- Road networks are becoming more complex.
- Traffic volumes are increasing.
- The number of visitors to Dubai who are unfamiliar with the roads is increasing each year.

Road signs are placed on, over or next to a public road where they:

- Fulfil an important need.
- Command attention.
- Provide a clear and simple message.
- Provide sufficient time for road users to respond appropriately.

Road signs provide information to road users in three ways:

- As a regulation or road law (which **must** be obeyed by law).
- As a warning.
- As a guide.

Regulatory Signs

Regulatory signs are used to control the actions of road users. They tell you what you **must** or **must not** do. Failure to obey a sign is an offence.









The types of regulatory signs are:

- Control signs – show right of way priority or direction of travel.
- Mandatory signs – indicate actions that must be taken.
- Prohibitory signs – indicate prohibited actions or objects.
- Parking control signs – regulate parking and stopping.
- Freeway control signs – indicate roads classified as freeways.

You are breaking the law if you do not follow these signs. The only exception is when a police officer is directing traffic and he **must** be obeyed. Regulatory signs can be blue and white or red and white.








Control signs

Control signs are used to assign right of way priority or direction of travel. Here are some examples of control signs:

			
You must give way to pedestrians	You must give way	You must not enter this road	You must stop
			
Give way to cyclists	You must go this way	You must go this way	You must go this way

Mandatory Signs

Mandatory signs are used to indicate to road users actions which they must take. Here are some examples of mandatory signs:

			
Ahead only	Turn right only	Pass either side	
			
60kmh minimum speed limit - freeway	Roundabout. Travel in the direction of the arrow	Keep right	Keep left

Prohibitory Signs

These signs are used to indicate to road users actions that they must not take, or which are prohibited. Here are some examples of prohibitory signs:

			
You must not turn left	You must not turn right	You must not exceed 80km/h speed limit	You must not overtake
			
No Hazardous Materials	No Goods Vehicles	No Pedestrians	No Cyclists
			
Prohibition of vehicles exceeding the maximum gross weight indicated	No 'U'turn	You must not use your horn	Maximum Height Limits

Parking Control Signs

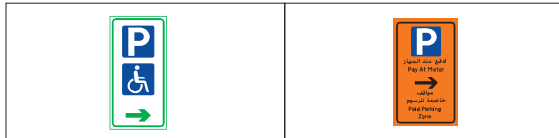
These signs are used to control and regulate stopping and parking, where you may park or must not park or stop and provide time restrictions. They may be referred to as ‘no stopping’ sign. You must not park in this area, even if you are sitting in the vehicle. Here are some examples of parking control signs.



Parking is limited to the times shown

Handicapped Parking





The blue sign below shows an area reserved for parking by handicapped people. The parking bay will also be marked. Handicapped people must obtain a permit and display this. If you do not have a permit, you must not park in handicapped parking spaces.



Parking area for handicapped drivers only



Meter Parking on Right Side

No Parking

			
<p>These areas are reserved for taxis only.</p>	<p>These areas are reserved for Bus stops.</p>	<p>These areas are reserved for vehicles that are loading or unloading at specific times. Unless you are driving a commercial vehicle and are loading or unloading you must not park here during those times.</p>	

No Stopping

These signs tell you that you **must not** stop at the curb for any reason. You **must** obey the signs.

	
<p>You must not wait or park in the areas shown by the arrow(s).</p>	<p>You must not wait or park in the areas shown by the arrow(s) during the times shown on the sign.</p>

Freeway Control Signs

Freeway control signs are used to indicate to road users which roads are classified as a freeway. They show the start and end of freeways.

	
<p>The beginning of a freeway</p>	<p>The end of a freeway</p>

Important Rules on Freeway:

Beginning of Freeway Sign shall mean that "Except in case of Emergency", no person shall:

- Operate a non-motorized vehicle on or near the freeway.*
- Be on foot on or near the freeway.*
- Stop or reverse a vehicle on the roadway.*
- Stop, park or drive on a shoulder, median or roadside area.*
- Drive at a speed less than 30 kph less than the prevailing/posted speed limit on the freeway.*

End of Freeway sign removes all the above restrictions.













Warning Signs

Warning signs alert road users to potentially hazardous conditions. Sometimes these hazards are hidden. Warning signs are divided into 3 groups:













- Advance warning signs.
- Hazard marker signs.
- Diagrammatic warning signs.

Advance Warning Signs
















These signs provide road users with an early warning of hazards or potential hazards.

					
Traffic signals ahead	Give Way sign ahead	Stop sign ahead	Junction ahead (you will merge with other traffic)	Roundabout ahead	Bicycles crossing ahead
					
T-intersection ahead (you will need to stop)	Intersection ahead (slow down and prepare to stop)	Pedestrian crossing ahead	Two-way traffic	Maximum headroom at hazard ahead	Beware edge Way Soft

Advanced Warning Signs

			
Two-way traffic crosses one-way road ahead	Road narrows on the left ahead	Road narrows on both sides ahead	Right lane ends ahead
			
Other dangers ahead	Uneven road	Diversion to opposite carriageway ahead	Left-hand lane closed ahead
			
No through road	Steep hill downwards ahead	Steep hill upwards ahead	Right-hand lane closed ahead

Advanced Warning Signs

				
Dual carriageway ends (two lanes join - beware of oncoming traffic)	Curve in the road to the left (slow down)	Curve in the road to the right (slow down)	Curves or bends in the road (drive carefully)	Low flying aircraft ahead (do not be distracted)
				
U Turn ahead	High Voltage overhead cable ahead	Opening bridge ahead	Road works ahead	Tunnel
				
Quayside or river bank ahead	Loose chippings	Slippery Road	Speed Hump	Risk of falling rocks



IMPORTANT RULE!

You must slow down when passing schools.

(Article 39, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic law Number 21, 1995)



Take extra care when driving near schools, especially at times when children are arriving to start the school day or leaving at the end of the day. These are the busiest periods of the day and children do not have a strong sense of road safety, especially when they are very young. They may cross the road without looking or may already be crossing as you approach. Be aware of the speed limit in the area. It is likely to be lower than the surrounding roads. Flashing lights will also tell you that you are approaching a school.










A sign showing a picture of an animal, such as a camel, warns drivers that animals may be on the road. The symbol on these signs may also represent sheep or goats. Domestic animals are regularly herded across roadways and temporary signs may be displayed leading up to the area where the animals will cross.

Slow down when you see these signs and watch out for animals on the road. Leave as much space as possible to allow for their unexpected movements.

Never use your car horn around animals – it may frighten them and could cause them to run and cause a crash.

Hazard Marker Signs

Hazard marker signs identify physical hazards, such as a bridge structure, guardrails or traffic islands. The signs below provide some examples of hazard marker signs.

			
Hazard Plate	Hazard Marker	Single Chevron Right	Single Chevron Left
			
Multiple Chevron Right	Multiple Chevron Left	T-Junction Chevron	

Diagrammatic Warning Signs

These signs are used where the triangular advance warning sign does not allow enough room for a picture, or are not big enough to draw attention to the hazard ahead.

They are usually on high speed roads and fall into the following general categories:

- Traffic movement is affected by an obstruction (the obstruction may be real or anticipated).
- An additional lane is ahead.
- The use of the lane is regulated (for example a lane for trucks only).
- Lanes merge.

Here are some examples of diagrammatic warning signs:

Right lane closure ahead	Additional lane added	Lane use is controlled (trucks not permitted in left lane)	Five lanes merging to four lanes	Lane use control directional restriction	
Beginning/End of Median	Joining Lane	Sharp curve lanes ahead			

Guide Signs

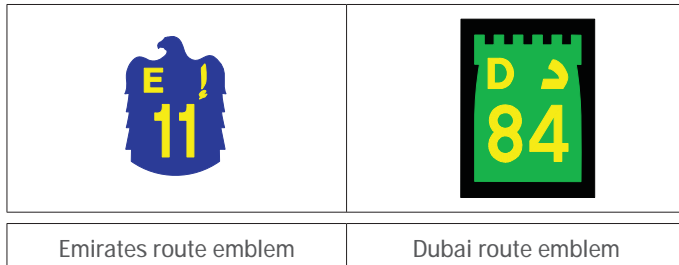
Guide signs provide direction. They include information about route numbers, street names and destinations and are generally in both Arabic and English. These signs:

- Enable drivers to find their destinations.
- Avoid confusing drivers with too much information.
- Present drivers with predictable information.
- Give drivers advance notice so that directional changes can be made safely.

The colours that are used in the background of guide signs are:

- Blue – located on national routes and include the Emirates route emblem.
- Green – located on local Dubai routes and include the Dubai route emblem.
- White – these show local points, roads or destinations.
- Brown – provide additional information including symbols to describe the destination.







The signs below are examples of the emblems used on guide signs:






Trailblazing Guide Signs

Trailblazing signs have distinctive and recognizable symbols on them and are placed along a route to guide and reassure drivers that they are on the correct road to reach their required destination. This is known as ‘trailblazing’. A picture of an aeroplane is an example of a trailblazing symbol.


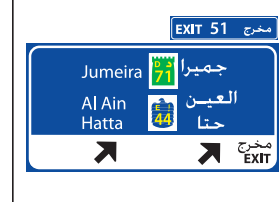
Trailblazing signs are only used in certain destinations. There are six types of trailblazing guide signs used in Dubai:

		
Dubai routes	City Centre Central Business District	Emirates routes
		
Dubai International Airport	Freeways	Tourist destination descriptions
















The sign below is an example of an advance guide sign including the route emblems, trailblazing symbols and directional information. The meaning of the sign is explained below:

		
<p>To Umm Suqeim. Turn left.</p>	<p>To Jumeira, via Dubai route 94. Drive straight ahead.</p>	<p>To Umm Suqeim and Umm Al Sheif, via Emirates route 11, turn right.</p>

The signs below are examples of exit directions sign to guide drivers on the proper lanes to take prior to exit. The white exit panel means that particular lane is to be dropped and is moving away from the main line carriage way:

	
<p>Two Lane Exit: With one Lane Drop: Two Exit Route Numbers</p>	<p>Two Lane Exit: With Two Lane Dropped Two Exit Route Numbers</p>

Other important Traffic Signs

				
No turning for lorries	Road clear	No through road	Priority over vehicles from opposite direction	Parking
				
Hospital	300m 200m 100m Count-down markers	Supplementary information signs (normally with sign No.212)	Parking for Diplomat Cars Only	Diversion of traffic route
				
Other supplementary information signs	Reflective marker posts indicating edge of carriage way	Lane ahead open	Lane ahead closed	Reduce speed now

Dubai Tram and Dubai Metro

Tram is rail vehicle which runs on tracks along public urban streets. This is a great addition to the modern transport system of Dubai. To ensure safe and smooth movements of this tram, road users must observe the signs, markings and rules that are especially created to ensure safe operations of the tram.

Priority Tracks for Tram Movement

When dealing with a moving Tram, all road users including pedestrians must give priority to Tram movement. The only exceptions to this priority rule are emergency vehicles.



IMPORTANT RULE!

1. All users of the road shall give priority to the movement of the Tram in the Tram Right of Way.

Exceptions to this rule:

- a. Emergency vehicles (fire engines, ambulances, police and civil defense vehicles).
 - b. Official escorts.
 - c. Army vehicles when moving in convoy.
2. Unless permitted by law,
 - a. No person may obstruct a Tram in the Tram Right of Way.
 - b. No person may carry out an activity in the vicinity of the Tramway which is likely to cause the obstruction of a Tram in a Tram Right of Way.

Article (13) – Rights & Responsibilities of drivers of other vehicles and pedestrians

Littering and Causing Obstructions to Tramway Line

Persons, road users or otherwise must refrain from any activity that may obstruct the movement of the Tram whether directly or indirectly.



IMPORTANT RULE!

3. No person may:
 - a. Place or cause litter to be placed on the Tramway line.
 - b. Put up advertising materials on the Tramway or in the vicinity of the Tramway other than advertising materials authorized in accordance with the law.
 - c. Interfere with any infrastructure, except in emergency to avoid damage or injury.

Crossing and Entry Restrictions

Due to the nature of the Tram, pedestrians are restricted from crossing and/or entering Tramway lines except where permissions are clearly stated.



IMPORTANT RULE!

4. No pedestrian may cross the Tramway line except:
 - a. At a clearly marked crossing point.
 - b. In the area designated in accordance with a By-law under this Regulation as an area where crossing is allowed.
5. No person may enter a restricted area unless that person has the valid prior authorization of an operator or some other legal right to enter.



Accidents with Tram

In the event accidents happen involving the Tram, those involved are required to remain at the scene it at all possible.



IMPORTANT RULE!

6. Any pedestrian or driver of a vehicle other than a Tram who is involved in an accident must remain at the scene and await the relevant authorities, unless there is reasonable justification for the person to leave the scene, in which case the person shall report to the nearest police station as soon as practicable.



In case of minor accident (without serious damage to the tram or to the infrastructure of the Tramway and without serious injuries), the Dubai Police personnel will direct the persons involved to the Tramway depot for issuing the initial accident report.

Signs and Markings Related to Dubai Tram

Regulatory Signs



This sign indicates that the road or portion of the road ahead is set aside for trams only. No other class of road users shall use the road or portion of the road indicated by this sign.

Warning Signs

TRAM OR RAILWAY
CROSSING TO THE RIGHT



TRAM OR RAILWAY
CROSSING TO THE LEFT



These signs warn the driver of vehicles that if they intend to turn right or left they will cross a tram route or railway line. A supplementary plate may be attached below the signs indicating the distance to the tram or railway crossing

TRAM CROSSING AHEAD

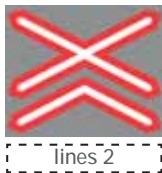


This sign warns the driver of vehicles that there is a tram route ahead and that trams may cross from right-to-left, or left-to-right. The plate below the sign indicating the distance to the tram crossing.

Tram or Railway Level Crossing



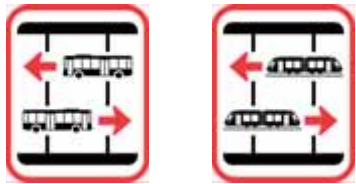
Single tram or railway line
crossing over road



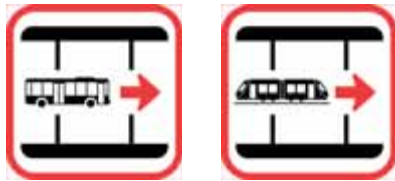
Two or more tram or railway lines crossing over road. The plate below the sign displaying a text message such as "2 lines" indicating the actual number of lines to be crossed

These sign warns motorists of the actual position of a tram or railway level crossing over the road on which they are travelling, which represents a significant potential hazard at which they should reduce speed, exercise extreme caution and be prepared to stop if required to do so.

Pedestrian/Bus or Tram Crossing



This sign warns pedestrians that they are about to cross a bus or tram right-of-way respectively. They must look in both directions, to right and left, to ensure that no trams or bus is approaching before proceeding to cross the tram or bus route.

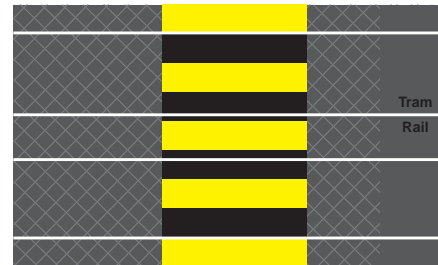


A bus or tram route may involve a single loop line with one direction of travel. If it is intended that a single bus or tram line may be used in either direction, then this sign may be provided to indicate the actual direction of approach of the next bus or tram.

Regulatory Markings

Tram Line Pedestrian Crossing

This marking warns pedestrians wishing to cross one or more tram lines to be aware of the direction from which a tram may approach, observe any pedestrian traffic signals and cross line(s) with caution.



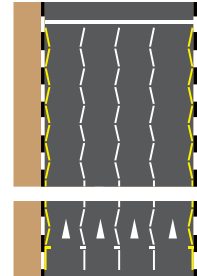
PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS ON TRAM TRACK

Tram Line Pedestrian Crossing

Zig-Zag Zone Line marking is used to inform drivers of specific zones

where it is mandatory that:

- They shall not stop or park their vehicles adjacent to the line marking, EXCEPT to give right of way to pedestrians and or cyclists at a pedestrian and/or cyclist crossing, or to stop behind such other vehicle(s) as are complying with this mandatory requirement; AND
- They shall not change lanes within such zig-zag zone; AND it informs pedestrians and/or cyclists that they shall not cross a zig-zag zone except at PEDESTRIAN CROSSING.



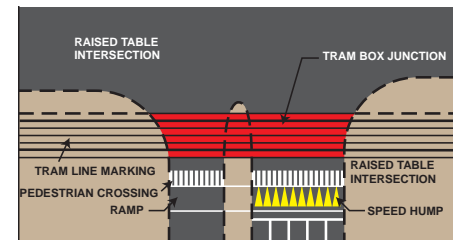
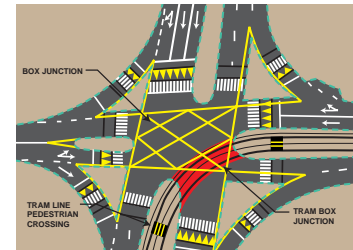
Tram Box Junction

Tram Box junction shall consist of a continuous red surface area including tram line(s) alignment across the road way.

It may be located at a signalized junction, normally in junction with BOX JUNCTION located over the road junction. It may also be located at un-signalised accesses where crossing of the lines may occur.

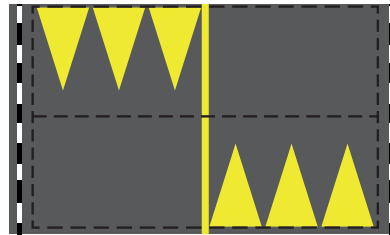
Tram Box Junction informs drivers of vehicles that they shall not enter the coloured surface box unless the exit from it is clear.

Drivers, whose vehicles enter the box marking when other stationary vehicles are preventing them from leaving it, are committing an offence.



Warning Markings

Warning pavement markings warn road users of the existing hazardous or potentially hazardous conditions. Warning markings do not carry a mandatory requirement for specific action. However, these markings do convey a message of warning and willful disregards of those warnings may constitute a violation when road users fail to maintain adequate and safe control of their vehicle.



Speed Hump Marking

This is to warn drivers of the presence of a speed hump in the roadway. The SPEED HUMP marking comprise of yellow triangular areas arranged at the entry up slope of the speed hump and the long axes of the triangle are aligned in the direction of travel.

The RAISED TABLE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING is usually combined with the SPEED HUMP marking.

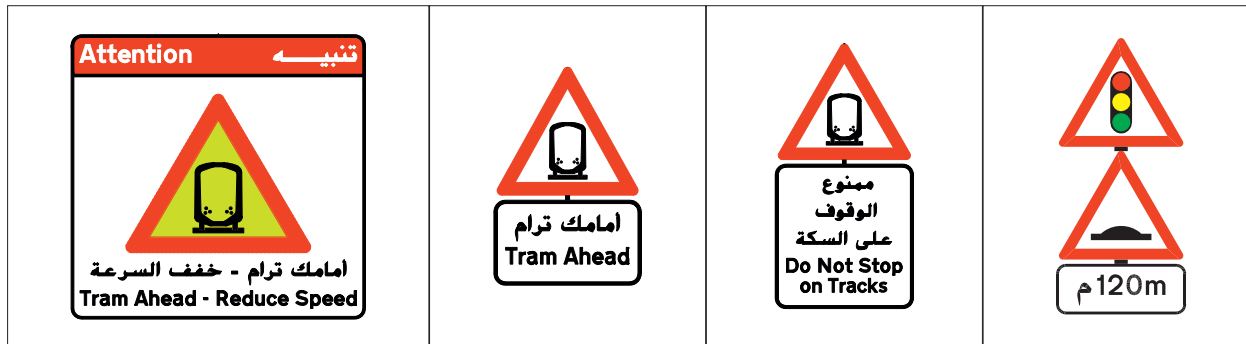
Railway or Tram Level Crossing Ahead

This marking is to provide warning to drivers that the lane in which they are travelling is about to cross railway or tram line(s), or that after turning from the lane in which they are travelling they will cross railway or tram line(s).

Driver should exercise high degree of care and caution.



Important Traffic Sign for Tram

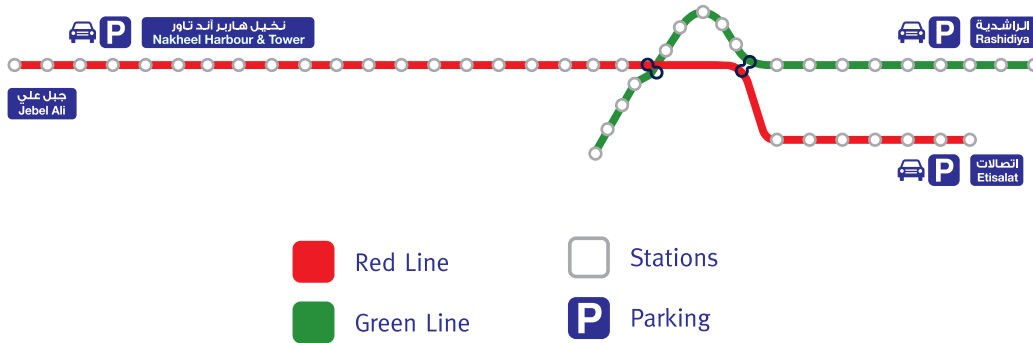




Parking under the metro viaducts (bridges) is illegal.
Your vehicle may be towed.

Don't park here, park and ride instead.

Park for free at Nakheel Harbour, Rashidiya or Etisalat and ride the metro.



Park and Ride.

Using the Metro is easier than ever. With over 5,700 parking spaces at Nakheel Harbour & Tower, Etisalat and Rashidiya stations, you can just leave your car behind. Along with the traffic.

Facebook: Road and Transport Authority Dubai - Group
YouTube: www.youtube.com/rtadubaigov



Salik in Dubai

Salik, meaning open or clear, is Dubai's electronic toll collection system launched in July 2007. This is part of Dubai's traffic congestion management system utilizing the latest technologies to achieve free flow operation with no toll booths, no toll collectors, no impact on traffic flow, allowing vehicles to move freely through the tolling point at highway speeds.

Each time you pass through a Salik tolling point, a toll will be deducted from your prepaid toll account using advanced Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology.

Currently, there are six (6) Salik Gates around Dubai.

- Al Maktoum Bridge.
- Al Garhoud Bridge.
- Al Safa.
- Al Barsha.
- Al Mamzar.
- Airport Tunnel.



You can open a Salik prepaid toll account at most Petrol Stations in Dubai, or selected Petrol Stations at the other Emirate. Just purchase a Salik Tag and complete the Account Opening Application form. A fee of AED 100 is charged per vehicle, of which AED 50 is to pay for the Salik Tag and AED 50 is your first prepaid toll amount. Full instructions on how to install your Tag are provided with the Tag.

Recharge salik account:

You can recharge your Salik account through:
salik website - petrol station - Emirates NBD Bank and Dubai Islamic Bank - Dubai government smartphone application Mpay, Kiosk Machines, E-Voucher, Shopping Centers...Etc.

Salik Violations:

If you drive through a Salik Gate without a Registration in Salik or without sufficient balance in your account the following fines apply:

Insufficient Funds in your account AED 50.00.

Non Registered vehicles in Salik as Follows:

- First Trip AED 100.00.
- Second Trip AED 200.00.
- Third and succeeding Trips AED 400.00.

Maximum violation amount per calendar year AED 10,000.00, Customers may file dispute within 120 days from the date of salik violation.

For a trouble Free Salik Account:

- Your Salik Tag should ONLY be used on the vehicle assigned to your Salik account.
- Never transfer your Salik Tag to another vehicle.
- If you sell your vehicle, you must deactivate and remove its Salik Tag.
- Advise Salik if you change your Vehicle plate number or mobile number.
- Buy a new Salik Tag for each new vehicle; using the old owner's Tag will result in violations.
- Sms notifications in an added value service provided by RTA customers are requested to top-up & follow up their account as it is their responsibility.

Visit www.salik.ae or call 800-Salik (72545) for a more complete information about Salik.

Paid Parking in Dubai

Roads & Transport Authority (RTA) implements a systematic paid car parking management in Dubai.

Parking Locations:

Some strategic areas in Dubai are allocated for paid parking. These areas are clearly identified at the entrance by a large signage which indicates that the area is a paid parking zone. The signage also indicates the time parking payment is required.

Types of Paid Parking Locations:

Paid parking locations are segregated into 2 main categories (A & B). Code A refers to side road parking areas (Short stay max. 4 hrs.), while Code B refers to areas specifically created to be a parking yard (Long stay max. 24 hrs.). And there are other special parking categories like code E, F with special conditions like:

- Not allowed to use seasonal parking card.
- Parking Time is different from the timings in A & B.
- Parking fees apply during official occasions and holidays on areas where code E is available like at Diera fish market.

That categorization is important especially if using the Seasonal Parking Cards and mParking System which are prized according to the location usage. There are signs placed prominently at parking areas which also point to the location of the paid parking meters. Parking tariffs are written in the parking meter. Another paid parking type is the Multi-Storey Car Parking (MSCP) that operates 24/7 with tariff of AED 3.00/hr.





Ways to Pay Parking Fees

There are several ways to pay the parking fees.

- Parking payment machine – using UAE issued coins (1 dirham, fifty fils), the parking payment issues paper parking ticket that must be displayed at the dashboard of the car.
- NOL Card – mainly used for public transport in Dubai but also usable for paying parking fees. Note: Red NOL card cannot be used in Parking meters.
- Seasonal Parking Card – This card provides the convenience of parking at any allowed parking space without the need for parking ticket or mParking. Validity of the cards range from 90 days to 365 days and the amount ranges from AED 450.00 to AED 2500.00. Please visit the www.rta.ae to get more information and to buy these cards online and have it delivered to your location.
- Smart Parking Application - Parking fees can be paid by creating a special new account for parking. This applies to all licensed vehicles' owners in the country. This account can be recharged with credit in different ways including E-Pay Credit Cards and Dubai Smart Government M-Pay Gateway, and can be used to pay fees without calculating or deducting additional service fees that apply to payments made by SMS. Smart Parking Application also enables its users to select an area code and number by using a smart map that includes all codes and numbers of areas in Dubai where parking fees are applicable, in addition to saying the names of these areas to help users ensure their vehicles are parked in the right area, and to facilitate buying electronic tickets.

To register for using m-parking service, please visit www.mpark.rta.ae or free call 8009090.





Part 13: Emergencies

When something goes wrong on the road, you need to be ready for it. The keys to safe riding are recognising danger and skill. Recognising danger will become easier with experience, but skill comes with practice.

Emergency Braking

Emergency braking is the most important control skill you need to avoid a crash and needs a lot of practice. The quickest way to stop a motorcycle is to:

- Make sure you are upright and travelling in a straight line.
- Close the throttle.
- Apply both brakes, using four fingers on the front brake lever to squeeze the lever harder as the motorcycle slows down. At the same time press down on the rear brake pedal, but not too hard as the tyre will skid.
- Pull in the clutch just before you stop.

If either wheel locks up and starts to skid, release that brake and apply it again immediately, but not quite so hard.

Your bike may have anti-lock braking, which will prevent the wheels locking up. Try to brake normally. The braking system should take over in an emergency situation.

Braking when the motorcycle is leaning over needs a lot of skill, because if you brake too hard there is a good chance that you will fall over. The best thing to do is to complete your braking before you start to lean into a corner, but in an emergency that may not be possible.

There are two ways of braking while you are actually in a corner.

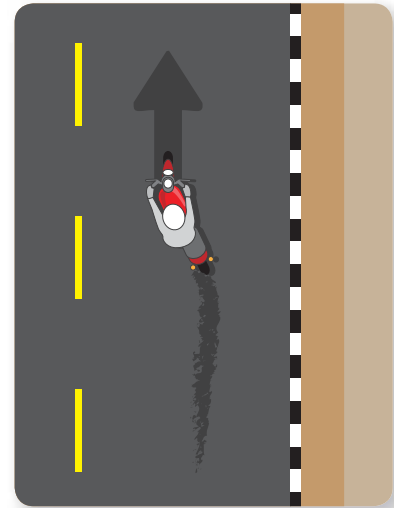
The first is the simplest – brake normally, but start off gently. As the motorcycle slows down it will start to stand up and you can brake harder. You can continue around the corner, although the bike may want to ‘stand upright’ and go straight ahead. This way will not allow you to stop quickly.

The other way means immediately standing the bike up straight so it is travelling in a straight line, and then applying the brakes as you would for any emergency stop. This will stop you quickly, but will take you out of your line of travel. Be careful that you do not run off the road or into the path of other traffic.

Skidding

A skid can happen very quickly and can be extremely dangerous, so it is important to know how to control it. Here are some points to keep in mind:

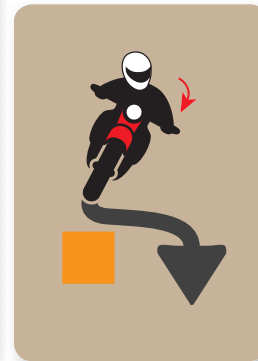
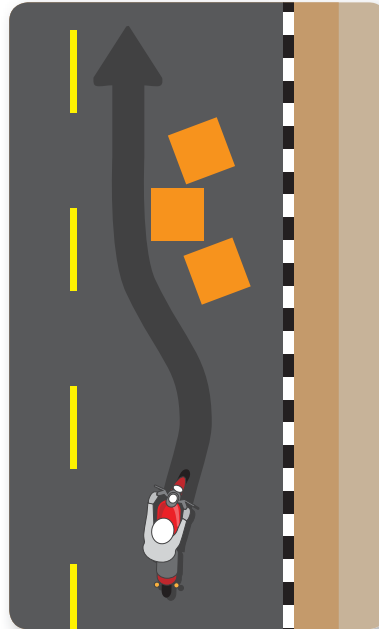
- The most common cause of skidding is grabbing or suddenly applying the brakes. This can lock up one or both wheels while braking.
- The front wheel is most likely to skid when you brake too sharply or quickly. If this happens, release the front brake and immediately apply it again more gently.
- The rear wheel may skid because you have accelerated or braked too quickly or while turning. Ease off the throttle if acceleration was the problem. If it was braking, steer into the direction of the skid and release the rear brake when the bike is travelling in a straight line again.
- If the bike skids for any reason, keep your feet on the footpegs while you deal with it. This will give you much better control than putting your feet down.



Swerving

There is a quick way to swerve around an obstacle, called countersteering. It takes practice to be effective. This is how to do it:

- To swerve quickly to the left, turn your head to the left, look where you want to go and press forward on the left handgrip.
- As you pass the obstacle, press forward on the left handgrip and look left. The bike will straighten up again.
- If at all possible you should stay in your own lane when you do this, so do not run wider than necessary. Changing lanes can be dangerous unless you can check that there are no vehicles in the lane you are entering.
- Reverse this process to swerve to the right, but no matter which way you swerve, do not brake at the same time or you could crash.



Practice countersteering and you will find that it is a very useful skill to have. A Motorcycle Instructor will help you learn to use countersteering to swerve around an obstacle. If your rear wheel skids, steer into the skid and ease off the rear brake when the bike is travelling in a straight line again.

Bumps and Holes

Sometimes you may have to ride over an object or through a hole that is in the road. If the obstacle is flat, like a sheet of cardboard or metal, ride straight over the top and do not brake. If it is bigger, treat it the same as for a bit of rough road. Here are a few tips:

- If possible, brake before you reach the object, but release the brake before you hit it.
- Hold the handgrips firmly but not too hard.
- Keep the bike upright in a straight line. This makes it less likely that you will fall over.
- Stop afterwards and check tyres and wheels for damage.

Eye Sight

On a bike you will be hit by things like insects, stones and sand. A visor or goggles will keep them out of your eyes. If you do get something in your eye, keep your hands on the bars, try to keep the edge of the road in view, slow down, pull off the road and stop. Then try to remove the object from your eye. Do not ride if you cannot see properly.

Animal Warning

Animals are a difficult problem because they are unpredictable. You should always try to avoid hitting them, but do not leave your lane or run off the road to avoid an animal. Try and brake to slow down as much as possible. You have a much better chance of surviving an impact with an animal than with another vehicle or a roadside pole or palm tree.

Be careful and slow down at dusk or at night on roads, because that is when animals may be around.

Blow-out

A blow-out is a quick puncture. Replacing your tyres before they become too worn is the best protection against blowouts.

If the front tyre goes flat, the front of the bike will flop from side to side rapidly and it will be harder to steer. If the rear tyre goes flat, the back of the bike will slide from side to side. The faster you are going the more likely it is that you will lose control and crash. In any case you will need to react quickly:

- Hold the handgrips firmly and concentrate on steering. Keep your feet on the footpegs and try to keep going in a straight line.
- Do not use the brakes, especially on the wheel with the flat tyre.
- If the front tyre is flat, shift your weight as far back as you can to take the load off it. If the rear tyre is flat, sit forward on the bike, and pull in the clutch.
- Close the throttle gradually to slow down.
- Once you have slowed, pull off the road and slowly stop.



Mechanical Problems

Bikes can cause emergencies, especially if they are not well looked after. There are some things that may cause this.

Wobble

Your bike may begin to wobble or shake from side to side at high speed. Apart from a flat tyre, this could be caused by:

- A heavy load, unevenly distributed.
- A wheel that is bent or out of alignment.
- Poorly tightened or worn bearings in the steering head or swingarm.
- A windshield or fairing that has not been fitted properly.
- Loose wheel bearings or spokes.
- Unsuited or worn tyres.

If you experience a wobble, make sure you apply both brakes carefully and slow down gradually. Carefully pull off the road and stop. Work out what was causing the wobble and correct the problem before you continue.

Broken Chain

If your chain breaks there will be a huge bang from the back of the bike and it will either freewheel, because there is no more drive to the rear wheel, or skid because the rear wheel is locked up. Look after your chain, keep it properly tensioned and lubricated; replace it and the drive sprockets when they are worn. If your chain does break and does not lock up the back wheel:

- Close the throttle.
- Brake to a stop.

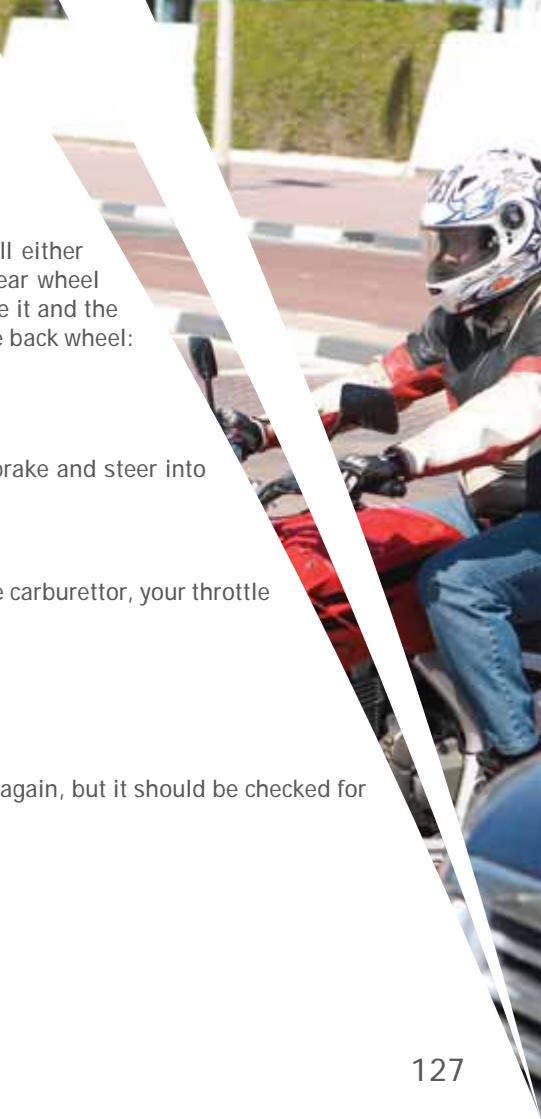
If it does lock up the wheel, treat this the same way as a rear wheel skid – do not brake and steer into the skid.

Stuck Throttle

If you do not maintain your throttle cable properly, or sometimes if there is wear in the carburettor, your throttle may stick while it is on. You will not be able to slow the engine. If this happens:

- Pull in the clutch.
- Pull off the road and brake gently to a stop.
- Turn off the ignition.

Let the engine cool down and add oil or coolant if either is low. The engine may start again, but it should be checked for damage and should not be run without oil.



Pulling Off the Road

If you have to leave the road to check or fix your bike, remember to:

- Check the roadside surface before you ride on it. Try not to pull off into deep sand or mud, and be careful of the edge as you move off the bitumen on to the roadside.
- If you have time, check your mirrors, do a headcheck and give a clear signal to let other road users know what you are doing.
- Stop well away from the road. A bike by the roadside can be hard to see. You might be hit by a car if you are too close to the road.

Dealing With a Crash

If you are involved in a crash there are certain things you must do. As soon as you are able, inform the police by calling 999. The traffic police will arrive and will evaluate the crash and will fill out an accident form. One copy of the crash form, the pink color will be given to the driver who caused the crash (at fault) and the green copy will be given to the other driver (not at fault). In all cases, you have to inform your insurance company for processing of claims and to facilitate repairs (if necessary) to the vehicles involved. No repairs of any damaged vehicle may be undertaken without written permission. For severe crashes or for any other reason that may seem appropriate at that time, the traffic police may decide to take the license of the drivers involved.

VERY IMPORTANT

If you were not involved in a crash and encountered the presence of a traffic accident on your way, avoid looking at the incident as it leads to obstruction of traffic, or may cause another accident.

Check Your Understanding

(Answers to these review questions are upside down at the bottom of this page)

Q1. If you need to stop quickly in an emergency, you should:

- A Apply the front brake only.
- B Apply both brakes together.
- C Open the throttle.

Q2. If you press forward on the left handgrip when riding, the motorcycle will:

- A Lean to the right.
- B Lean to the left.
- C Not change its lean.

Q3. The chain on Tam's motorcycle breaks, but the back wheel does not lock up. He should:

- A Release the brakes quickly.
- B Apply the front brake harder.
- C Close the throttle and brake to a stop.

Q4. Najeeb is riding along and the bike becomes hard to steer because his front tyre has gone flat. He should:

- A Apply the brakes quickly.
- B Shift his weight far back on the seat, ease off the throttle and come to a stop.
- C Open the throttle and speed up to relieve the effect.



Keep Learning and Enjoy Your Riding Experience

Road transport is a wonderful way of getting around and being in charge of a vehicle as a rider can be extremely rewarding. However, it comes with the important responsibility of ensuring that you and your passengers arrive safely. Once you have your license and have learnt how to be a safe rider, you will enjoy the experience of riding solo.

Make sure that you keep learning. Build on your experiences and take in as much road safety information as you can. You will teach yourself more about riding than anybody else will. Here are some tips:

- Always ask yourself questions about your own riding. This way you are always thinking about it and trying to improve.
- Use an action plan and ask yourself where, when and why you should do something.
- Watch how others ride. This **may** give you clues about what to do.
- When trying to improve your riding, it helps if you can remind yourself what you should do (refer back to your reference materials).
- Ask other riders how they would tackle a riding problem.
- Start to plan your your most preferred routes for normal driving, such as to work and back each day and to the local shopping centre.

If you do this you will find that driving is a wonderful past-time.

ENJOY!



Bus & Taxi Lanes in Dubai

Priority Lanes for Public Transport Buses and Taxis

Roads & Transport Authority has taken bold steps in improving the mobility of public transportation in Dubai. Among those steps taken is the allocation of exclusive lanes for Dubai registered Public Transport Buses and Taxis. The only other vehicles allowed to use these exclusive lanes are the police cars, ambulance and other emergency services vehicles.

Locations of Exclusive Buses and Taxis Lanes

Currently, there are four areas designated for exclusive use by buses and taxis (more maybe added later).

1. Al Mankhool Road – from Satwa Roundabout to Shiekh Rashid Road.
2. Al Khaleej Road – from the intersection with Khalid bin Al Waleed Road to Al Musalla Road, opposite to Hyatt Regency Hotel.
3. Khalid bin Al Waleed Road – from the intersection with Al Mina Road to Road 16.
4. Al Ghubaiba Road – from the intersection with Al Mina Road up to Road 12.

These lanes are clearly marked and segregated by solid yellow lines on both sides of the lane close to the edge on the extreme right. Large Arabic and English text that read “الحافلات و سيارات الأجرة فقط” ONLY BUS TAXI. You will also see signs at the beginning and at the end of the designated bus and taxi lanes with blue background, white lines and white text that contain image of bus and taxi. At the bottom of the sign, it reads “Bus/Taxi Lane Begin or Bus/Taxi Lane End”.

Illegal Use of the Buses and Taxi lanes

Whenever possible, use the lanes designated for use by private cars. These are the lanes outside the marked areas for buses and taxis use. If you use the bus/taxi lanes illegally, you will be disturbing the free movement of these public transport vehicles. Drivers on emergency situations may use the bus or taxi lanes, this may also be used when entering from or exiting to other roads.

Remember, these public transport vehicles have the priority in these lanes for the simple reason that they carry more passengers compared to the vehicle you maybe driving.

Since 15 May 2010, these bus and taxi lanes are being monitored by the Dubai Police officers as well as by accredited RTA Officials. Any driver caught illegally using these lanes will be fined AED 600.00.







Part 14: Traffic Violations, Fines and Black Points

All traffic violations will result in some form of penalty. Penalties include blackpoints or fines that you must pay. Some might also involve your license being suspended or cancelled for a period of time. The blackpoint system was introduced to encourage safer driving practices.

Serious violations are following pages. For information about other violations visit the RTA website: www.rta.ae

Bear in mind that for some traffic violations, the court will decide on the type of punishment that will be rendered depending on the severity of the violation.

	Violations	Fine	Traffic Points	In Presence In absence	Vehicle Confiscation
1	Driving dangerously (racing)	2000	12	Both	30
2	Driving under the influence of alcohol, drugs or similar substances	Decided by court	24	Both	60
3	Driving a vehicle without number plates	1000	24	In Presence	60
4	Causing death of others	Decided by court	12	In Presence	30
5	Not stopping after causing accident that resulted in injuries	Decided by court	24	Both	60
6	Reckless driving	2000	12	Both	30
7	Exceeding maximum speed limit by more than 60kph	1000	12	Both	30
8	Driving in a way that is causing dangers to others	1000	12	Both	30
9	Jumping a red light	800	8	Both	15
10	Running away from a traffic policeman	800	12	Both	30
11	Dangerous overtaking by trucks	800	24	Both	60
12	Causing a car to overturn	Decided by court	8	Both	-
13	Causing serious injuries	Decided by court	8	In presence	-
14	Exceeding maximum speed limit by not more than 60kph	900	6	Both	-
15	Exceeding maximum speed limit by more than 50kph	800	-	Both	-
16	Overtaking on the hard shoulder	600	6	In presence	-
17	Entering road dangerously	600	6	Both	-
18	Causing moderate injury	Decided by court	6	Both	-
19	Heavy vehicles lane discipline	600	6	Both	-

	Violations	Fine	Traffic Points	In Presence In absence	Vehicle Confiscation
20	Overtaking from a prohibited place	600	6	In presence	-
21	Causing serious damage to a vehicle	Decided by court	6	In presence	-
22	Exceeding maximum speed limit by more than 40kph	700	-	Both	-
23	Parking in fire hydrant places, spaces allocated for people with special needs and ambulance parking	1000	4	Both	-
24	Exceeding maximum speed limit by more than 30kph	600	-	Both	-
25	Driving against traffic	400	4	In presence	-
26	Allowing children under 10 years in the front seat of the vehicle	400	4	In presence	-
27	Failure to fasten seatbelt while driving	400	4	In presence	-
28	Failure to leave a safe distance	400	4	Both	-
29	Failure to follow the directions of the police	400	4	Both	-
30	Exceeding maximum speed limit by more than 20kph	500	-	Both	-
31	Entering the road without ensuring that it is clear	400	4	In presence	-
32	Exceeding permitted level of car window tinting	500	-	In presence	30
33	Not giving way to emergency, police and public service vehicles or official convoys	500	4	Both	-
34	Driving heavy that does not comply with safety and security conditions	500	-	In presence	30
35	Failure to stop after causing an accident	500	6	Both	7
36	Driving a noisy vehicle	500	-	Both	30
37	Allowing others to drive a vehicle for which they are unlicensed	500	-	In presence	-

	Violations	Fine	Traffic Points	In Presence In absence	Vehicle Confiscation
38	Loading a heavy vehicle in a way that may pose danger to others or to the road	500	6	Both	7
39	Overload or protruding load from a heavy vehicle without permission	500	6	Both	7
40	Driving a vehicle that causes pollution	500	-	Both	-
41	Stopping on the road for no reason	500	4	In presence	-
42	Stopping on a yellow box	500	4	Both	-
43	Not giving pedestrians way on pedestrian crossing	500	6	Both	-
44	Failure to abide by traffic signs and directions	500	6	Both	-
45	Throwing waste from vehicle on the road	500	4	Both	-
46	Refusing traffic police name and address when required	500	-	In presence	-
47	Stopping vehicle on the left side of the road in prohibited places	500	-	Both	-
48	Stopping vehicle on pedestrian crossing	500	-	Both	-
49	Teaching driving in a training vehicle that does not bear a learning sign	500	-	In presence	-
50	Teaching driving in a non-training vehicle without permission from the licensing authority	500	-	Both	-
51	Placing marks on the road that may damage the road or block traffic	500	-	Both	-
52	Operating industrial, construction and mechanical vehicles tractors without permission from licensing authority	500	-	In presence	7
53	Modifying vehicles engine without permission	400	-	In presence	-
54	Modifying vehicles chassis without permission	400	-	In presence	-
55	Changing vehicles color without permission	400	-	In presence	-

	Violations	Fine	Traffic Points	In Presence In absence	Vehicle Confiscation
56	Exceeding maximum speed limit by more than 10kph	400	-	Both	-
57	Driving with a driving license issued by a foreign country except in permitted cases	400	-	In presence	-
58	Violating the terms of driving license	300	-	In presence	-
59	Parking behind vehicles and blocking their movement	300	-	Both	-
60	Towing a vehicle or a boat with an unprepared vehicle	300	-	In presence	-
61	Driving a vehicle that omits gases or substances exceeding permitted rates	300	-	Both	-
62	Leaving a vehicle on the road with its engine running	300	-	Both	-
63	No lights on the back or sides of a trailer container	200	-	Both	-
64	Lights on back or sides of container not working	200	-	Both	-
65	Taxis which have designated pick up areas, stopping in undesignated places	200	4	Both	-
66	Prohibited entry	200	4	Both	-
67	Blocking traffic	200	-	Both	-
68	Vehicle unfit for driving	200	-	Both	7
69	Driving a light vehicle that does not comply with safety and security conditions	200	-	Both	7
70	Not lifting exhaust of trucks	200	-	Both	7
71	Not covering loads of trucks	3000	-	Both	7
72	Using vehicle for purpose other than designated	200	4	In presence	7
73	Heavy vehicle prohibited entry	200	4	Both	7

	Violations	Fine	Traffic Points	In Presence In absence	Vehicle Confiscation
74	Violating loading and unloading regulations in parking			In presence	7
75	Carrying and transporting passengers illegally	200	4	In presence	7
76	Writing phrases or placing stickers on vehicle without permission	200	-	Both	-
77	Not taking road safety measures during vehicle breakdowns	200	-	Both	-
78	Turning at undesignated points	200	4	Both	-
79	Turning the wrong way	200	4	Both	-
80	Loading a light vehicle in a way that may pose a danger to others or to the road	200	3	Both	7
81	Overload or protruding load on light vehicles without permission	200	3	In presence	7
82	Stopping vehicle without keeping the distance specified by the law from a curve or junction	200	-	Both	-
83	Transporting passengers by vehicle undesignated for this purpose	200	4	In presence	-
84	Sudden swerve	200	4	In presence	-
85	Driving a taxi without required license	200	4	In presence	-
86	Carrying passengers in driving training vehicle	200	4	In presence	-
87	Driving a taxi with an expired warranty	200	-	In presence	-
88	Reversing dangerously	200	-	Both	-
89	Taxi refusing to carry passengers	200	4		-
90	Falling or leaking load	3000	12		30
91	Not securing vehicle while parked	200	-		

	Violations	Fine	Traffic Points	In Presence In absence	Vehicle Confiscation
92	Parking in prohibited places	200	2	In presence	-
93	Parking in loading and offloading areas without need	200	-	In presence	-
94	Parking on road shoulder except in cases of emergency	200	-	In presence	-
95	Using multi-colored lights	200	-		-
96	Not wearing helmet while driving motorbike	200	4		-
97	Exceeding passenger limit	200	3	In presence	-
98	Driving with tires in poor condition	200	-	In presence	-
99	Driving with an expired driving license	200	3	In presence	-
100	Not renewing vehicle registration after expiry	400	-	In presence	-
101	Driving unlicensed vehicle	200	-	In presence	7
102	Violation of laws of using commercial number plates	200	-	In presence	-
103	Not fixing number plates in designated places	200	2	In presence	-
104	Driving with one number plate	200	2	In presence	-
105	Driving at night or in foggy weather without lights	200	4	In presence	-
106	Using not matching number plates for trailer and container	200	-	Both	-
107	Not fixing reflective stickers at the back of trucks and heavy vehicles	200	-	Both	-
108	Not using indicators when changing direction or turning	200	3	In presence	-
109	Not giving way for vehicles to pass on the left	200	-	Both	-
110	Not giving way to vehicles coming from the left where required	200	-	Both	-

	Violations	Fine	Traffic Points	In Presence In absence	Vehicle Confiscation
111	Stopping a vehicle in a way that may pose danger or block traffic	200	3	Both	-
112	Failure to have vehicle examined after carrying out major modification to engine or body	200	-	In presence	7
113	Using training vehicles outside of timings specified by licensing authority	200	-	In presence	-
114	Using training vehicles in places not designated by licensing authority	200	-	Both	-
115	Overtaking from the right	200	4	Both	-
116	Overtaking in a wrong way	200	3	In presence	-
117	Driving an unlicensed vehicle	200	-	In presence	7
118	Abuse of parking space	200	3	Both	-
119	Number plates with unclear numbers	200	3	Both	-
120	Violating tariff	200	6	Both	-
121	Light vehicle lane discipline	200	2	Both	-
122	Parking vehicles on pavement	200	3	Both	-
123	Not showing vehicle registration card when required	200	-	In presence	-
124	Not showing driving license when required	200	-	In presence	-
125	Not fixing taxi sign where required	200	-	In presence	-
126	Not fixing a sign indicating licensed overload	200	3	In presence	-
127	Using interior lights for no reason while driving	100	-	In presence	-
128	Failure to abide by specified color for taxis or training cars	200	-	In presence	-
129	Failure to display tariff of buses or taxis or not showing them when required	200	-	In presence	-
130	Broken lights	200	6	In presence	-
131	Using horn in prohibited areas	200	2	In presence	-

	Violations	Fine	Traffic Points	In Presence In absence	Vehicle Confiscation
132	Driving below minimum speed limit	200	-	Both	-
133	Failure to keep taxis and buses clean inside and outside	200	-	In presence	-
134	Smoking inside taxis and buses	200	-	Both	-
135	Using hand-held mobile phone while driving	200	4	In presence	-
136	Not abiding by taxi drivers obligatory uniform or not keeping it in good condition	100	-	In presence	-
137	Calling on passengers in the presence of signs	100	-	Both	-
138	Not displaying truck's load on both sides	100	-	Both	-
139	Not carrying driving license while driving	100	-	In presence	-
140	Not carrying vehicle registration card while driving	100	-	In presence	-
141	Driving without spectacles or contact lenses	100	-	In presence	-
142	Not using interior light in buses at night	100	-	In presence	-
143	Broken indicator lights	100	2	In presence	-
144	Using horn in a disturbing way	100	2	In presence	-
145	Having no red light at the back of vehicle	100	-	Both	-
146	Opening left door of taxi	100	3	In presence	-
147	Pedestrians crossing from undesigned places (If any existed)	200	-	In presence	-
148	Crossing the red light at the intersection of the road from the railway and causing an accident leading to death	10000	-	-	-
149	Crossing the red light at the intersection of the road from the railway and causing an accident resulting injury	5000	-	-	-
150	Crossing the red light at the intersection of the road from the railway without causing an incident	2000	-	-	-

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Note :

Roads and Transport Authority has the right to modify any item/s on this handbook at any time, according to new legislation, regulations and policies.

(This handbook is the official reference document for the RTA Theory Driving Test)

For Comments and/or Suggestions please call 800-9090 or email: crmadmin@rta.ae

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