



# ROAD-SHARING TIPS

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## Road-Sharing is Everyone's Responsibility:

1. Never drive while distracted. This puts everyone at risk.
2. Motorcycles are difficult to see due to their smaller size and profile. Signal your intentions and check your mirrors and blind spots before changing lanes or merging with traffic.
3. Motorcyclists typically ride on the left or right portion of the lane but they may change position within the lane for many reasons. Do not assume a motorcyclist swerving within a lane is trying to disrupt traffic.
4. Motorcyclists are vulnerable to imperfect roadway conditions and may need to make quick adjustments to avoid unexpected hazards. Allow more following distance when behind a motorcycle so the motorcyclist has enough time to maneuver or stop in an emergency.
5. Many motorcycle crashes involve another vehicle pulling out in front of a motorcycle from a side street or driveway. Before entering a roadway, take an extra look for a motorcycle you may not have seen in your first check for cross traffic.
6. Some motorists view motorcyclists as a nuisance, however, most motorcyclists ride respectfully and defensively. All motorcyclists are vulnerable roadway users and are at much greater risk for death or severe injury when involved in a crash.
7. Motorists can endanger motorcyclists' safety when they do not obey traffic laws, are not aware of motorcyclists, or do not view motorcyclists as legitimate road users.

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: [www.saveMOlives.com](http://www.saveMOlives.com)**

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**WATCH FOR MOTORCYCLES**



*Missouri Coalition  
for **Roadway Safety***



## Maximize Enjoyment and Safety:

- Obey the speed limit. Excessive speed is the most common rider-related factor in fatal motorcycle crashes.
- Do not ride impaired. Driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs is a leading cause of motorcycle crashes.
- Accelerating a motorcycle too quickly can be deadly. Drivers may turn or move into your path because they do not see you.
- Postpone your trip if weather is bad or roads are icy.
- Always be alert for road hazards which may cause you to lose control: potholes, railroad tracks, construction seams, animals, diesel fuel, oil and other debris.
- Practice your riding skills every time you ride and develop good braking habits. Avoid sudden starts, stops and turns.
- Inspect your motorcycle equipment prior to riding.
- Wear safety gear at all times, including a Department of Transportation compliant helmet and eye protection.
- Consider brightly colored clothing and/or helmet to make you more visible to drivers.
- When possible, make eye contact with drivers to avoid being hit. Anticipate that drivers in cross traffic at intersections, driveways and alleys will not see you.
- Watch out for other motorists turning left across your path. This situation is a leader precursor of collisions between vehicles and motorcycles. Always have an escape plan.



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