



When it rains, water forms on the surface of the road. The water between the tyres and the road increases as you speed up. When there is too much water beneath the tyres, friction between tyres and road is lost and the machine will glide along the road surface. The term for this is 'aquaplaning' (hydroplaning). To counter the effect of aquaplaning, reduce speed by applying intermittent braking (ON & OFF) to regain traction. Even good tyres cannot prevent aquaplaning.

Avoid riding through floods if you can. If it is unavoidable, engage a lower gear, open throttle evenly to increase engine speed and apply half clutch to control speed, to pass through the flood.

After passing through floods, do not speed up. Apply intermittent (ON & OFF) braking repeatedly at short intervals to dry the brakes. You may pick up speed when effectiveness of the brake system is regained. If visibility is poor ensure that the motorcycle headlights and tail lamp are on, so that other road users can easily see you.

When visibility is very poor and you cannot see clearly, stop by the side of the road and turn the hazard lights on (if any) to inform others of your presence.

RIDING IN WINDY CONDITIONS

186. When riding in strong windy conditions, you should slow down, use a lower gear and hold the handlebar firmly with both hands to avoid being pushed into the path of other vehicles.



CORNERING

187. When going into a bend or corner the centrifugal force will cause the motorcycle to push outwards. To reduce centrifugal force while going round a sharp bend safely, you should slow down and negotiate at the appropriate speed. If you increase your speed when going round a bend, the push of the centrifugal force will be greater, and it will be difficult for you to keep your intended path.