



معهد الإمارات للسياسة
Emirates Driving Institute

Attitude and Responsibilities

Dealing with Cyclists on the roads.

The Roads and Transport Authority of Dubai (RTA) said the overall bicycle tracks across Dubai would extend 2025.





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- With this plan, we can expect more bicycles in our roads, and this comes a challenge of keeping our roads safer.
- Cyclists are vulnerable group of road users.
- In the event of a crash, they may suffer injuries and even death.
- Drivers can play a big role in reducing these accidents and paving the way for peaceful coexistence.
- It is a two-way street, of course. Cyclists have responsibilities, too.





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Here are 10 rules of the road for driving near Cyclists.

1. Bicyclist Vulnerability and Rights.

A car weighs 2 tons or so, while the average bike is a mere 15 kilograms.

- In any collision, any physical interaction between car and the bike, the bicyclist always loses.





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1. Bicyclist Vulnerability and Rights.

- It is never a collision where the bike rider came out less injured.
- Bicycles in the road are considered vehicles.





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1. Bicyclist Vulnerability and Rights.

- Cyclists should behave as though they were vehicles on the street, riding in the same direction as other traffic that is going their way and following the same traffic rules. As we know, this not always the case.





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1. Bicyclist Vulnerability and Rights.

- Respect the right of way of Cyclists because they are entitled to share the road with you.
- Motorists tend to think of cyclists as "in their way," Rather, they should think of them as equals, just as entitled to the roadway as drivers are.





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2. Considerations on the Road, Intersections and Roundabouts.

If drivers only expect other cars on the road, they are setting themselves up for dangerous interactions.

When you see this sign...

You can expect bicycles on the road. This portion of the road or portion of the road ahead is set for shared cyclist and vehicles.





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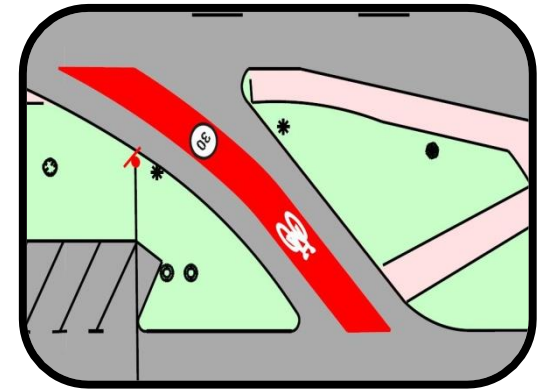
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2. Considerations on the Road, Intersections and Roundabouts.

Take note of the starting and ending of **'Bicycle Shared Marking'** on the road.

'Bicycle Shared Starting' Marking'

This indicates that the road or portion of the road ahead is set for shared cyclists and vehicles.





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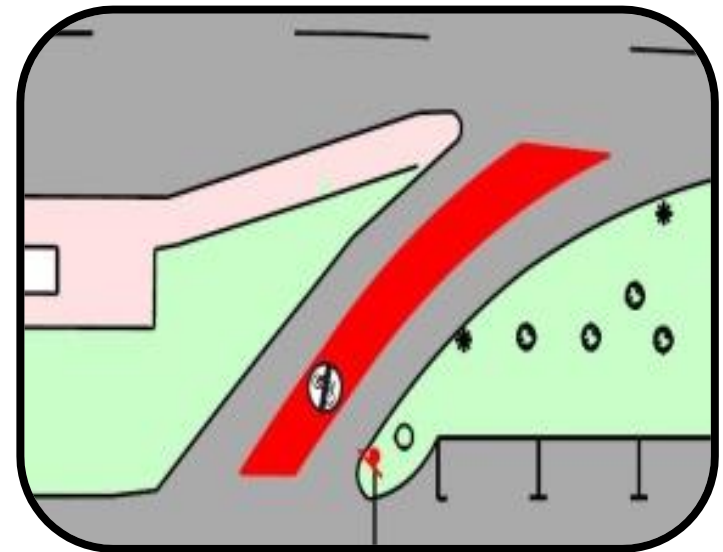
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‘Bicycle Shared Ending’ Marking

Indicates that the road or portion of the road ahead is no longer set for shared with cyclists and vehicles

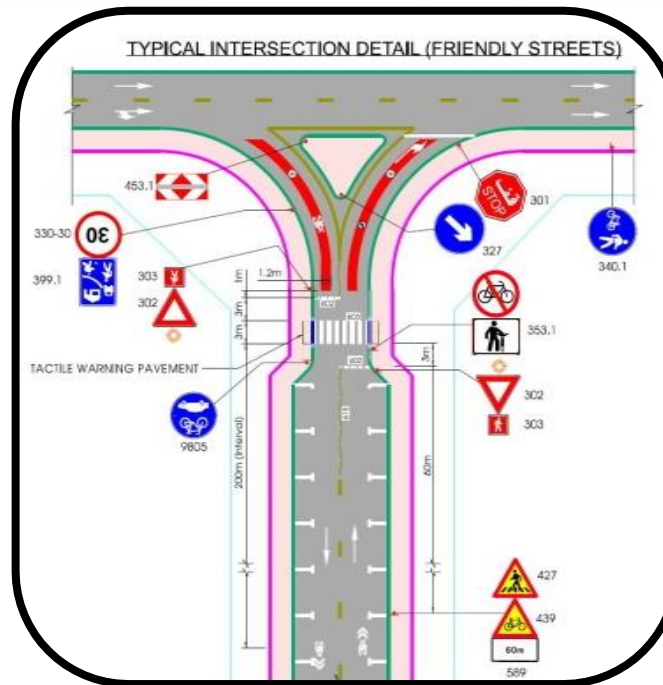




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2. Considerations on the Road, Intersections and Roundabouts.

a. The driver may collide with the cyclists at the rear end. Why?

- Lack of visibility.

When the driver could not see you in front, this situation can occur. The common ones are due to dark clothing, the absence of bright rear bike lights or the sun is shining directly into the driver's eyes.





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2. Considerations on the Road, Intersections and Roundabouts.

- Lapses in concentration or recklessness by the driver.

When the driver is being distracted or when the driver is drunk thereby driving carelessly it can lead to a situation like this.





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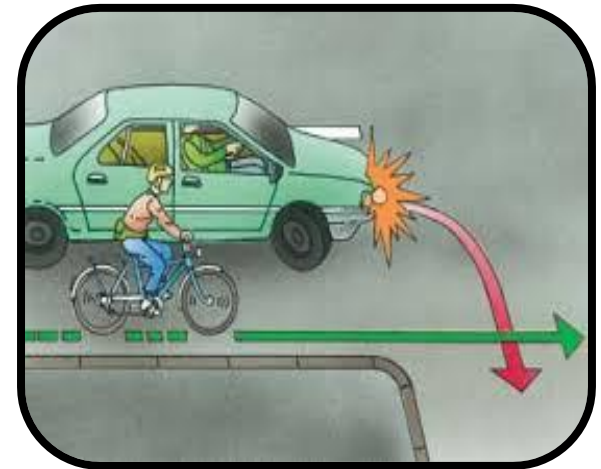
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2. Considerations on the Road, Intersections and Roundabouts.

b. When drivers making right turns should watch out for cyclists.

- A cyclist on your right side. He may be planning to ride straight ahead. If you are not careful and did not give way to him, you could wind up hitting each other.





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2. Considerations on the Road, Intersections and Roundabouts.

c. Right turn from the side road.

However, you did not notice the cyclist on the main road.
He is not visible. Why?

- He small in profile.
- No headlight
- No reflective vest
- You misjudged his speed and distance.

Do not turn in a hurry. Ensure you check and double check before making the right turn, you will see the cyclist.





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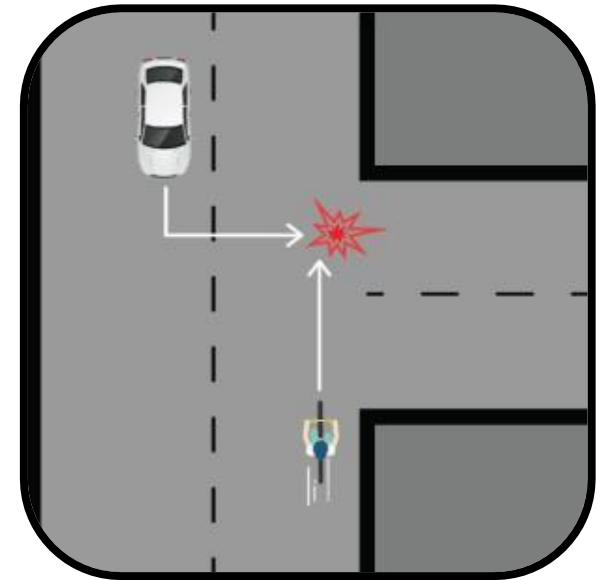
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d. Beware when making the Left-turn or U-turn:

- A driver trying to make a left turn sees an oncoming bicyclist, but the driver thinks he has plenty of time to complete the turn.
- After a collision, a driver often says he did not realize the cyclist was going that fast. A bike can easily get to 25 – 30 km/h speed. If in doubt, give way or stop. Exercise the same caution as you would for an approaching vehicle.





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2. Considerations on the Road, Intersections and Roundabouts.

e. At roundabouts, lookout for them.

When cyclists are in the roundabout, like any other vehicles, they have priority. With traffic merging into a traffic circle, it require every road users' attention.





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2. Considerations on the Road, Intersections and Roundabouts.

e. At roundabouts, lookout for them.

Sometimes cyclists enter the roundabout without giving way to vehicles in the roundabout. Stop and watch out from them.





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3. Look out for their hand signals.

Understand a cyclist who is planning to turn, slowdown or stop.

Right turn;-

He may extend right hand to
signal for a right turn.





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3. Look out for their hand signals.

Understand a cyclist who is planning to turn, slowdown or stop.

Left turn;-

He may extend his left hand.





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3. Look out for their hand signals.

Understand a cyclist who is planning to turn, slowdown or stop.

Slowing down:-





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3. Look out for their hand signals.

Understand a cyclist who is planning to turn, slowdown or stop.

Stop:-

He may raise his hand 'square'





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4. Anticipate Cyclist Behavior:

Forecasting their actions could save lives. Not all cyclists are experienced riders. They may not be aware of the traffic rules and dangers of the road.





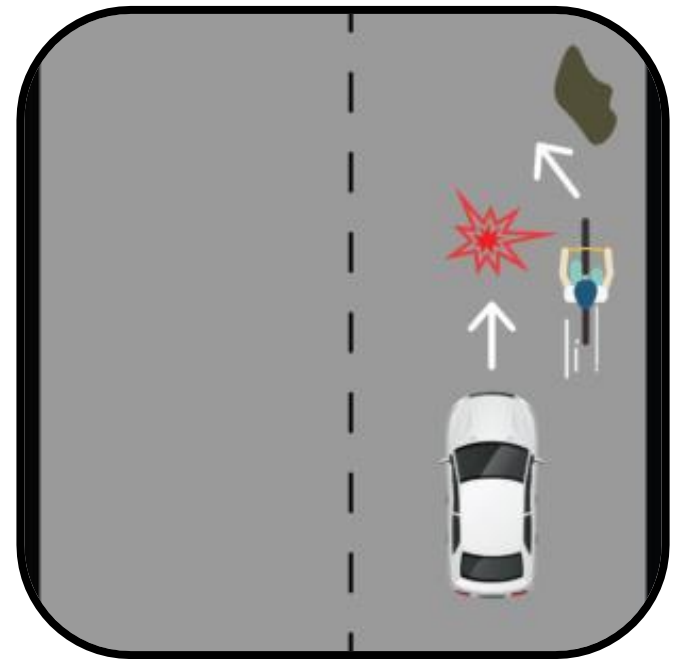
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4. Anticipate Cyclist Behavior:

It is common for cyclist to avoid sand patches, potholes and puddles. This means that they appear to travel straight but suddenly swerves to your path at the last minute to avoid them.





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4. Anticipate Cyclist Behavior:

Approaching a cyclist and if he turns his head to the left a few times. It could be that he intends to move to the left.





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4. Anticipate Cyclist Behavior:

Cyclist on footpath and next moment approaches a roadway; he could be entering the roadway suddenly.





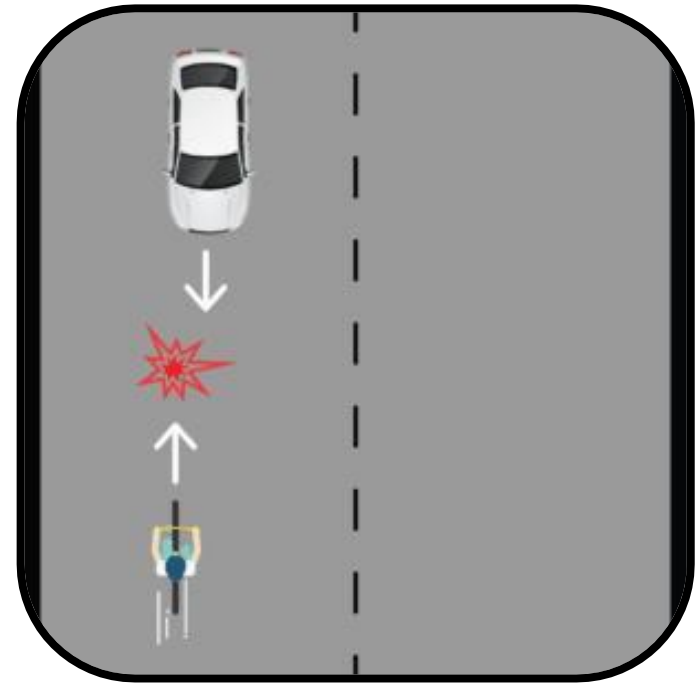
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4. Anticipate Cyclist Behavior:

There are situations where cyclists' travels against the flow of traffic and even wobbling with a passenger on the bike. Of course, this is not permitted.





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4. Anticipate Cyclist Behavior:

At night or in darkness, you may encounter

Cyclists without any lights and reflective vest. It is difficult to spot them.

You must anticipate their actions and prevent collision.





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5. Give Cyclists Safe Clearance: -

it is necessary for motorists to give bicycles on the road at one and half (1.5) meter of space. Cyclists really appreciate this comfort zone.





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6. Group of cyclists:-

These cyclists may be riding a breast to each other or in a single line. Perhaps occasionally they may be overtaking one another.

Do not try to pass a group of cyclists without careful considerations, particularly in these situations.





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6. Group of cyclists:-

When there is on-coming vehicle. Wait until the on-coming vehicle passes and it is clear ahead.

In a blind turn or while approaching an uphill. Pass only when you have a clear view ahead.





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7. Refrain from using the horn to the cyclists, except in emergencies.

When inside our vehicles, the horns seems a small matter because we are insulated from the outside world.

However, when a cyclist riding past at the moment, it can be very alarming and cause unexpected reaction form the rider. This can cause all sorts of accidents.





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8. Do Not Look at Your Phone:-

On many occasion, the driver who have hit cyclists usually say: "I never saw him before I hit him."





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8. Do Not Look at Your Phone:-

We all know that under no circumstance should we be making phone calls or texting while behind the wheel. The slight distraction can cause not only risking the lives and safety of others but also to cyclists.





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9. Use your indicator in good time.

- Always use your indicators, as this not only helps other drivers but cyclists too.
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10. Look Before You Leave Your Car:

When a rider pedaling along next to a row of parked cars, suddenly, a driver flings the door open. The impact can send the cyclist flying, and riders could have died when they have been thrown into traffic.





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10. Look Before You Leave Your Car:

- Before you open the door, look out the side view mirror on the driver side and be sure no one is approaching.
- While the driver can take a few seconds to look in the rear-view mirrors or a cyclist is approaching, a cyclist has no sure way to anticipate whether a driver inside a parked car is about to open the door.





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10. Look Before You Leave Your Car:

In conclusion, drivers need to practice these general rules when approaching cyclists.

- Always obey the posted speed limit.
- Slow down and stop for cyclist at crosswalks.
- Yield to cyclists when turning.
- Be careful when passing them

