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RSA



### Motorcyclists & Motorists- Sharing the Road Safely Advice for Motorcyclists

Despite representing less than 2% of the total number of licensed vehicles in Ireland, motorcycle users account for 12% of road fatalities annually. Motorcycle and moped riders are vulnerable road users. Motorcycling can be safe. A confident and careful riding style will enable other vehicles to see you.

#### Safe Motorcycling

- Don't assume you are visible to drivers of other vehicles
- Avoid the driver's blind spots
- Always signal clearly and early
- Watch out for pedestrians
- Don't weave in and out of traffic
- In traffic be aware of cars changing lane, doors opening, passengers alighting and the possibility that some vehicles will turn across your path
- Tyre grip is absolutely critical on a motorcycle. Watch your surface
- Use your headlights day and night
- Never ever drink and ride
- Always wear a helmet to approved specifications and appropriate protective clothing
- Make sure your bike is road worthy and know its capabilities
- Wear brightly coloured, reflective clothing
- Expect the unexpected
- Maintain a safe speed consistent with driving conditions
- On windy days allow for the breeze, as it may blow you off course
- Keep a safe distance from vehicles in front. Remember the 2 second rule is the bare minimum distance required
- Complete an approved motorcycle rider-training course

#### Údarás Um Shábháilteacht Ar Bhóithre Road Safety Authority

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SIDE 2

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### Motorists & Motorcyclists - Sharing the Road Safely Advice for Drivers

It is estimated that in over 70% of crashes involving a motorcycle and a car, the car driver is at fault. The reason is that the driver failed to anticipate the presence of the motorcycle. Most crashes occur when a vehicle emerges from a junction into the path of the motorcyclist.

#### Eyes Wide Open

- Be extra alert for motorcycles and mopeds at or near intersections. They can be difficult to see in heavy traffic.
- Pay particular attention when making right turns across traffic, to ensure that a motorcyclist may not be coming straight through.
- Make room. Motorcyclists are entitled to a full lane of traffic, just like another car, van or truck.
- Keep a safe distance from the motorcyclist. Because of traffic conditions or other road hazards motorcyclists may have to swerve or stop suddenly.
- Check your blind spots before turning, changing lanes, reversing, or parking. Many crashes occur because a driver did not check or see the motorcyclist.
- Use extreme care when overtaking. Because of the smaller size of a bike, a car, van or truck passing too fast or too close could blow the motorcyclist out of control.
- Always exercise care, caution and consideration towards all road users, especially motorcyclists.

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