

Motorcycle Safety & Licensing

Start Seeing Motorcycles

There are many more cars and trucks on the road than motorcycles. It's easy to miss or ignore a motorcycle, especially at night.

Watch for motorcycles specifically, especially when making left turns. Motorcycles are easily hidden by objects inside or outside of a car.

Over one-half of motorcycle/car crashes are caused by drivers entering a rider's right-of-way. (MSF)

Don't think  **of it as a motorcycle.**

Think of it as a person!

What All Drivers Should Know

- **Assume a motorcycle is closer than it looks.** Motorcycles look further away than they are and seem to move slower than they really do.
- **Allow more following distance.** Keep three to four seconds behind a motorcycle. Motorcyclists often slow down without using the brakes, thus not activating the brake light.
- **Make sure the turn signal is for real.** Motorcycle turn signals are usually not self-canceling.
- **Use extra caution with passengers.** A passenger complicates a motorcyclist's task. Balance is more difficult. Stopping distance is increased.
- **Don't crowd them.** Maneuverability is one of a motorcycle's better characteristics, but only at slower speeds with good road conditions. They can't always dodge out of the way.

Motorcycle Traffic Laws

Motorcyclists have the same rights and the same responsibilities as other drivers in Nevada. There are also some special conditions:

- Motorcyclists must wear helmets in Nevada.
- Motorcyclists have the right to use a complete traffic lane. Two motorcycles may share a lane if the operators both agree to do so.
- Motorcyclists may not pass or ride next to another vehicle in the same travel lane.
- Motorcycles may not be driven between vehicles in adjacent lanes even if the vehicles are stopped. Police officers are an exception. (NRS Chapter 486)

Gonna Ride?

Take a Course – Get the License

Riding a motorcycle is an enjoyable and challenging pastime. The best thing you can do for your safety and your family is to take a rider education course and get a Class M driver license.

"The More You Know, the Better It Gets."

Rider education courses are fun and you come away with the knowledge of what you and your machine can do. Call the Nevada Rider Motorcycle Safety Program at 1-800-889-8779 or find the next course near you and register online at www.nevadarider.com.



Class M Driver License Requirements

If you already have a Nevada driver license, adding Class M is simple:

- Take a Nevada Rider Course. A motorcycle is provided and no instruction permit is necessary.
- Present the Certificate of Completion at the DMV to receive a new license. No additional tests are required.

You also have the option of taking the DMV Knowledge Test, obtaining an Instruction Permit and then taking the DMV Skills Test. Nevada transfers most motorcycle licenses or endorsements from other states.

Mopeds and Off-Road Vehicles

A motorcycle or moped must have the proper safety equipment (lights, horn, front and rear brakes, etc.) to be driven on any public street.

Mopeds 50cc or 1,500 watts and under do not have to be registered in Nevada and you do not need a Class M driver license. However, you must have a normal Class C or higher license.

Other vehicles with a small engine that are not labeled for use on road are considered off-road motor vehicles. It is illegal to operate these on public streets unless the vehicle is a converted off-highway, two-wheeled motorcycle.

Nevada has no other restrictions on off-road vehicles. No license or registration is necessary and there are no age restrictions to operate these vehicles off road.

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