

Queensland Road Rules for Cyclists

Effective October 2013

The **Queensland Road Rules** is the short title for the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management — Road Rules) Regulation 2009*.

Under the Queensland Road Rules, bicycles are considered vehicles. By law cyclists must obey all the general road rules. As a legitimate road user, a cyclist has the same rights and responsibilities as other road users.

Cyclist specific rules are outlined below.

Riding a bicycle (S245)

While riding, you must sit astride the seat and keep at least one hand on the handle bars at all times.

Wearing a bicycle helmet (S256)

You and any passenger you are carrying, must wear an approved, securely fitted and fastened bicycle helmet at all times. You can be exempted from wearing a bicycle helmet if, for example, you are carrying a doctor's certificate stating that you cannot wear a helmet for a stated medical reason. Refer to the [current legislation](#) for full details.

Equipment on a bicycle (S258)

Your bicycle must have at least one effective brake and a bell in working order.

Riding at night (S259)

When riding at night or in weather conditions with reduced visibility, you must display on your bicycle or yourself:

- a flashing or steady white light that is clearly visible for at least 200 m from the front of the bicycle
- a flashing or steady red light that is clearly visible for at least 200 m from the rear of the bicycle
- a red reflector on the rear of the bicycle that is clearly visible for at least 50 m from the rear of the bicycle when a vehicle's headlights on low beam shine on it.

Bicycles being towed (S254)

You must not hold on to another moving vehicle while riding a bicycle.

Obey no bicycle signs and markings (S252)

You cannot ride on a road or footpath where bicycle signs or road markings specifically ban bicycles.

Carrying people on a bicycle (S246)

You can only double another person if the bicycle is designed to carry more than one person and has a passenger seat and each person wears a helmet.

Riding with a person in a bicycle trailer (S257)

You may tow a child in a bicycle trailer if:

- you are 16 years or older, and
- the child in or on the bicycle trailer is under 10 years old, and
- the bicycle trailer can safely carry the child, and
- the child in or on the bicycle trailer is wearing an approved bicycle helmet that is securely fitted and fastened.

Insecure or overhanging load (S292)

You must:

- secure any loads to your bicycle in a way that does not cause the bicycle to be unstable
- make sure the load does not stick out from the bicycle in a way that is likely to injure a person, obstruct the path of other drivers or pedestrians, or damage a vehicle or anything else
- avoid hanging things off the handlebars.

Avoid being a traffic hazard (S253)

You must not cause a traffic hazard by riding into the path of a driver or pedestrian. This rule applies to all road users.

Riding too close to the rear of a motor vehicle (S255)

You must maintain a distance of at least 2 m between you and the rear of a motor vehicle when following the motor vehicle for over 200 m.

Riding in a bicycle lane on a road (S247)

You should always use a bicycle lane where provided, unless it is impracticable to do so. Direction of travel in a bicycle lane must be the same direction as the traffic in the lane next to the bicycle lane.

Riding in special purpose lanes (S153, S154, S155 & S156)

You can ride in bicycle, bus and transit lanes.

Keeping left and overtaking (S129, S131, S151 & S141)

You must:

- ride as near as is safely possible to the far left side of the road. On a multi-lane road or a road with two or more lines of traffic travelling in the same direction as you, you can occupy a lane and travel in the right hand lane when necessary (for example, to make a right turn)
- ride to the left of any oncoming vehicle
- not overtake another vehicle on the left if that vehicle is turning left and giving a left change of direction signal
- not ride more than two abreast unless overtaking
- ride within 1.5m of the other rider if riding two abreast.

Signalling (S48, S49 & S50)

Hand signals must be given when turning right.

Riding on the road shoulder (S150)

When riding on or across a continuous white edge line you:

- are allowed to ride on or across a continuous white-edge line in order to ride along the road shoulder
- must give way to vehicles on the roadway when moving back onto the road across the continuous white edge line.

Roundabouts (S111 & S119)

At roundabouts drivers who want to turn right at two lane roundabouts are required to enter the roundabout and complete the turn from the right hand lane.

Cyclists are exempt from this requirement and may enter the roundabout and complete a right hand turn from either the left lane or the right lane. Cyclists, if they choose to make a right turn from the left lane, are crossing lanes each time they ride past an exit — as such, they must give way to any vehicle that is crossing their path to leave the roundabout.

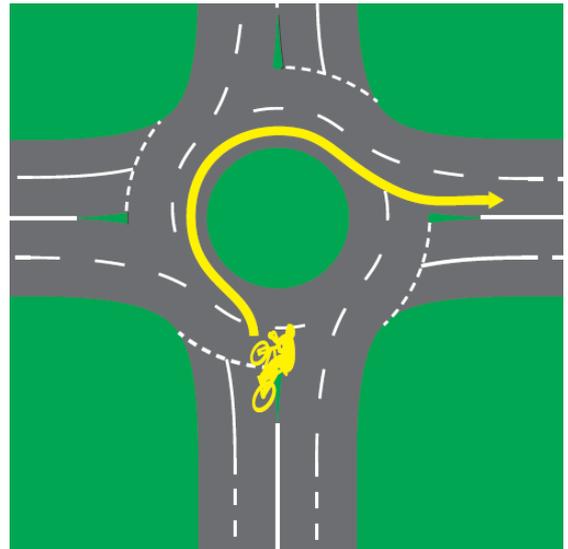


Figure 1 - Cyclists may turn right from the right lane of two lane roundabouts

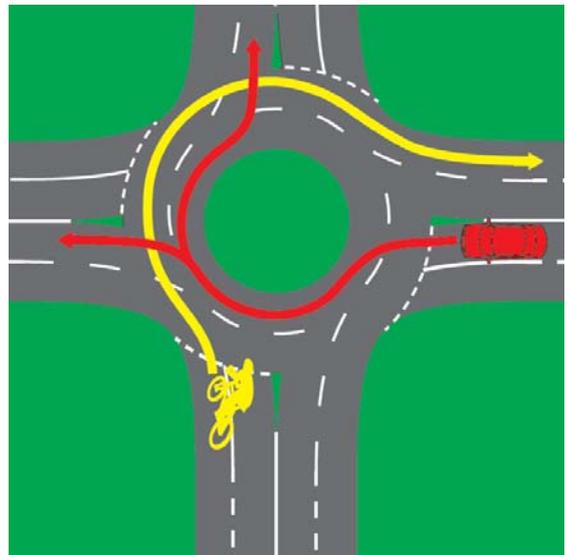


Figure 2 - Cyclists may also turn right from the left lane of two-lane roundabouts, but must give way to vehicles that cross their path.

Optional hook turn by a bicycle rider (S35)

You are able to turn right at an intersection on your bicycle using a hook turn (unless prohibited by a 'NO HOOK TURN BY BICYCLES' sign).

To do this:

- Approach and enter the intersection on the far left side of the road you are leaving.
- Move forward until you are as near the far side of the road you are entering. Keep as near as possible to the far left side of the intersection. Keep clear of any marked foot crossings. Keep clear of any driver turning left from the intersection.
- If there are traffic lights at the intersection, wait until you are facing a green light before moving forward.

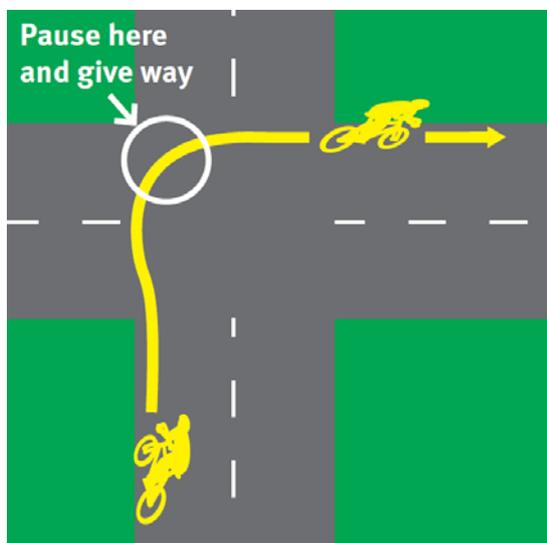


Figure 3 - Hook Turn

Riding on a footpath or shared path (S250 & S288)

In Queensland, cyclists of any age are allowed to ride on a footpath unless prohibited by a 'NO BICYCLES' sign. You must give way to pedestrians and ride in a manner that does not inconvenience or endanger other footpath users.

Riding to the left of oncoming bicycle riders on a path (S251)

You must always ride your bicycle to the left of other users coming towards you on a bicycle path, footpath, separated path or shared path.

Riding on a separated path (S249)

On a separated path you can only ride on the side that is designated for cyclists.

Riding across a road on a crossing (S248)

Cyclists are not permitted to ride across a road on a pedestrian crossing (Zebra) or children's crossing. You must dismount from your bicycle and walk across a pedestrian crossing (Zebra) or children's crossing.

You can ride across pedestrian crossings situated at traffic lights if you:

- proceed slowly and safely; and
- give way to any pedestrian on the crossing; and
- keep to the left of any oncoming rider of a bicycle or person who is using a personal mobility device.

Stopping for bicycle crossing lights (S260, S261 & S262)

At bicycle crossing lights:

- if the light is red, you must stop before reaching the light
- you must only cross at bicycle crossing lights when the light is green
- if the crossing lights change from green to yellow or red while you are on the intersection, you must cross the intersection by the safest most direct route.

For more information about

Road rules:

Visit the Department of Transport and Main Roads website
www.tmr.qld.gov.au

Legislation:

For the full and current legislation, Visit the Office of the Queensland Parliamentary Counsel website
www.legislation.qld.gov.au

Please note:

While every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the contents of this guide, it should not be relied upon as legal advice.