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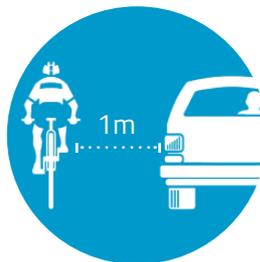
CYCLISTS

OVERVIEW

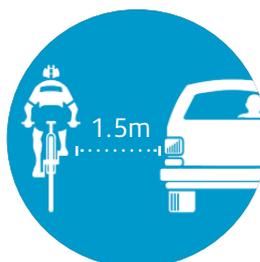
Cyclists are vulnerable road users. Both cyclists and drivers, so both so for their safety extra precautions and awareness are required from both cyclists and drivers.

WHAT IS THE SAFE DISTANCE REQUIRED WHEN A VEHICLE IS PASSING A CYCLIST?

In Western Australia, vehicle drivers are required by law to leave a safe distance when passing a cyclist travelling in the same direction of:



1 metre on roads where the posted speed limit is 60km/h or less;



1.5 metres on roads where the posted speed limit is more than 60km/h.

The safe passing distance legislation allows for vehicles to cross centre line markings, including single and double continuous white lines and painted islands, but only when it is safe to do so and there is a clear view of oncoming traffic.

The 1 metre or 1.5 metre safe passing distance is measured from the furthest point to the left on the driver's vehicle to the furthest point on the right on the bicycle or the right of the bicycle on the right-hand side of the pair of riders.

When a physical barrier such as an island or median strip prevents the driver from leaving a safe passing distance, wait until you have both passed the barrier before overtaking.



The penalty for contravening this law is \$400 and 4 demerit points.

DO I NEED TO WEAR A BICYCLE HELMET IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA?

Everyone who rides a bicycle in WA must wear a secured helmet that complies with Australian helmet standards. The mandatory requirements for Australian helmet standards, based on sections of the voluntary Australian and New Zealand Standard, AS/NZS 2063:2008—Bicycle helmets as outlined in the Trade Practices Act 1974.



HOW DO I IMPROVE MY OWN SAFETY ON THE ROADS?

As a cyclist, be aware on how to improve the safety of yourself and your family while riding your bikes, whether on the road, a shared path or footpaths.

Always wear an approved helmet and make yourself visible to other road users by wearing bright coloured or reflective clothing.

If you ride in the dark, your bicycle must have a white front light and a red rear light, as well as a red reflector on the rear of the bike and yellow pedal and wheel reflectors.

Carry a basic toolkit and puncture repair kit and make sure your bike is roadworthy by regularly checking your tyres, brakes and chain for wear and tear and keeping up maintenance on your bike.

CAN EVERYONE RIDE BICYCLES ON FOOTPATHS IN WA?

Cyclists of all ages can ride on footpaths in WA, unless otherwise signed. To improve road safety for some of our most vulnerable road users, an amendment was made to the Road Traffic Code 2000 allowing parents to ride with their children on footpaths, bringing WA into line with the rest of Australia. Cyclists must remain in single file when riding on paths.

WHAT ROAD RULES OFFENCES AND PENALTIES APPLY TO CYCLISTS?

Offence	Fine
Not wearing a helmet	\$50
Failure to have at least one effective brake and working warning device	\$100
Failure to have correct lighting	\$100
Bicycles can ride 2 abreast with up to 1.5m between riders. Failure to do so.	\$50
Riding less than 2m behind a vehicle	\$100
Passing on the left of a vehicle that is turning left	\$100