

Using Your Mirrors

Check your mirrors every few seconds when you slow down, stop, change lanes or approach intersections. Also, check mirrors periodically to be aware of vehicles approaching or passing from behind.

Checking Around You

Mopeds have “blind spots” that you need to check by turning your head. When changing lanes, always look over your shoulder at the traffic behind you.

Position for Visibility

As a moped operator, you can often see things other vehicle operators cannot.

- * At intersections, check around buildings, parked vehicles and bushes to see if other vehicles are coming.
- * When parked, pull back onto the road from an angled position for a better view of traffic coming from both directions.

Night Riding

- * Reduce your speed. Use your headlight if you must ride a moped at night. Leave more room between you and others to allow more time to react in a dangerous situation. Check for rough spots in the road by watching the tail lights of vehicles in front of you.
- * Limit night riding. If you must ride at night, wear reflective clothing. It is difficult to see you and your moped in the dark.

Keeping Your Distance

Distance in Front

- * Remain a safe distance behind the vehicle in front of you when coming to a stop.
- * Keep at least a two-second traveling distance between you and the vehicle in front of you to allow time to react if the driver ahead suddenly stops. It gives you time to see potholes, slippery spots and debris.

Distance to the Side

Be careful when a vehicle passes. Trucks can create gusts of wind that affect your steering. When you pass parked cars, allow for people opening doors and getting out of vehicles by moving to the left side of your lane. Move further over to the right when oncoming traffic passes you.

Distance Behind

Monitor traffic behind you. If another vehicle follows you too closely, allow the vehicle to pass. Brake or signal early to communicate that you are turning, slowing down or stopping.

Intersections

Most moped/car crashes occur at intersections, so enter them slowly and assume others do not see you. If you turn right, watch for approaching vehicles turning left in front of you. If you turn left, enter the intersection and turn when oncoming traffic has cleared.

Emergencies

- * If you have a blowout, hold the handle grips firmly, and concentrate on steering and maintaining a straight course. If the front tire blows, shift your weight as far back as you can. If the rear tire blows, do not shift your weight. Do not use either brake. Slowly close the throttle and coast. When your moped is going slowly and it is safe, edge to the side of the road and stop.
- * If you have a mechanical breakdown, get off the road. When walking your moped, stay on the right shoulder with your moped between you and passing traffic.

Remember... Never drink alcohol or use drugs before riding a moped!

For Your Protection... Always wear an approved safety helmet!



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Riding A Moped Safely

