

CALIFORNIA BIKE LAWS & SAFETY REMINDERS

Bicycle Use, Vehicle Code Section 21200

Every person riding a bicycle upon a street or highway has all the rights and is subject to all the duties applicable to the driver of the vehicle, including the provisions of law dealing with driving under the influence of alcoholic beverages or drugs, except those provisions which by their nature can have no application.

Equipment Requirements, Vehicle Code Section 21201

Every bicycle operated upon any highway during darkness shall be equipped with the following:

1. A lamp emitting a white light which illuminates the highway and is visible from a distance of 300 feet to the front and sides of the bicycle.
2. A red reflector mounted on the rear of the bicycle and visible from 500 feet to the rear of the bicycle.
3. A white or yellow reflector mounted on each pedal visible 200 feet to the front and rear of the bicycle and a white or red reflector on each side to the rear of the center of the bicycle, except bicycles which are equipped with reflectorized tires on the front and the rear need not be equipped with side reflectors. All reflectors must meet DMV requirements.

Carrying Articles, Vehicle Code Section 21205

No person operating a bicycle shall carry any package, bundle, or article which prevents the operator from keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars.

Parking, Vehicle Code Section 21210

No person shall leave a bicycle lying on its side on any sidewalk, or shall park a bicycle on a sidewalk in any other position, so that there is not an adequate path for pedestrian traffic.

Hand Signals, Vehicle Code Section 22111

All required signals given by hand and arm shall be giving in the following manner:

1. Left turn: hand and arm extended horizontally beyond the side of the bicycle.
2. Right turn: left hand and arm extended upward beyond the side of the bicycle or right hand extended horizontally to the right side of the bicycle.
3. Stop or sudden decrease of speed: left hand and arm extended downward beyond the side of the bicycle.

Headsets and Earplugs, Vehicle Code Section 27400

No person operating any vehicle, including a bicycle shall wear any headset covering, or any earplugs, in both ears.

REMEMBER:

- Always wear a helmet
- Obey all traffic rules
- Ride your bicycle near the right hand edge of the road
- Never carry another person on your bicycle
- Look out for cars
- Give pedestrians the right of way
- Always ride carefully

CODE OF ETHICS

- Do not ride your bike on the grass
- Bicycles must be walked through the “Free Speech Area”
- Do not ride bikes through the hallways
- Bicycles may NOT be parked on pedestrian walks, wheelchair ramps, stairwells, trees, or any other place that is not a bike rack
- Lock your bike, even when in a hurry, or you will run the risk of it becoming stolen
- Be polite: don't run into people
- Slow down if you have to
- Ride with traffic, not against it