

## Parking

- Parking on a sidewalk is okay unless locally restricted, but don't impede normal movement of pedestrians and other traffic. (169.222, subd. 9)
- Parking on a roadway where parking is allowed is okay, but don't obstruct movement of legally parked motor vehicles. (169.222, subd. 9)

## Sidewalks

- Yield to pedestrians on sidewalks and in crosswalks. (169.222, subd. 4)
- Don't ride on sidewalks in business districts unless locally permitted. (169.222, subd. 4)
- Call-out or ring a bell when passing a pedestrian on a sidewalk or trail. (169.222, subd. 4)

## Affirmative Defense

- If charged with entering or crossing an intersection against a red light, a bicyclist has an affirmative defense under certain limited conditions. (169.06, subd. 9)

## Electric-assisted bicycles

- An electric-assisted bicycle with pedals and a motor that can't go faster than 20 mph is considered a bicycle under state law; all relevant bicycle laws apply. (169.011, subd. 4, 27)
- You must be at least 15 years old to operate an electric-assisted bicycle. (169.222, subd. 6b)
- Generally electric-assisted bicycles may operate like bicycles do, unless otherwise posted (85.015, subd. 1d and 85.018, subd. 2d)



June 2017

# A Pocket Guide To MINNESOTA BICYCLE LAWS



[www.mndot.gov/bikes](http://www.mndot.gov/bikes)

## MINNESOTA BICYCLE LAWS

This is a summary of Minnesota state laws regarding bicycles.

---

### Riding

- Bicyclists have all rights/duties of any other vehicle driver; obey all traffic control signs and signals. (169.222, subd. 1)
- Carry only the number of persons on a bicycle, tandem bike, cargo or utility bike, or trailer for which it is designed and equipped. Baby seats and seats attached to the bike are allowed. (169.222, subd. 2)
- Don't hitch a bicycle to another vehicle for a ride. (169.222, subd. 3)
- On roadways, ride in the same direction as traffic. (169.222, subd. 4)

- Ride as close as practicable to right hand curb or edge of roadway, except when passing a vehicle moving in the same direction; when preparing to turn left at an intersection or into a private driveway; when necessary to avoid conditions (e.g. objects, vehicles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards or narrow lane widths) that make it unsafe to ride close to the right; or when riding on the shoulder of a roadway or in a bike lane. (169.222, subd. 4)
- Ride two abreast only if not impeding normal and reasonable traffic flow. (169.222, subd. 4)
- Don't carry anything that prevents you from holding the handlebars with at least one hand or from properly operating brakes. (169.222, subd. 5)

### Equipment

- In dark or dim light, always use a white front lamp and a red rear reflector or lamp; lamps may flash. Use enough reflective materials on each side of the bicycle or its operator to be seen by drivers of motor vehicles. (169.222, subd. 6)
- Only ride a bicycle with one or more brakes that can make a braked wheel skid. Fixed gear bikes can meet this requirement. (169.222, subd. 6)
- A bike may have a warning horn or bell. (169.222, subd. 6)
- Don't ride a bicycle if its size doesn't allow the operator to stop, support and restart the bike safely. (169.222, subd. 6)
- A bicycle may be equipped with studded tires. (169.222 subd. 6)

- Don't ride a bicycle with handlebars that are above shoulder level. (169.222, subd. 6)
- 

### Turning

- Hold arm signal continuously for 100' before turning or when stopped waiting to turn, unless arm is needed to control bike. (169.222, subd. 8)
- Use left arm to signal turns. When turning right, holding right arm straight out to right is also okay. (169.19, subd. 8)