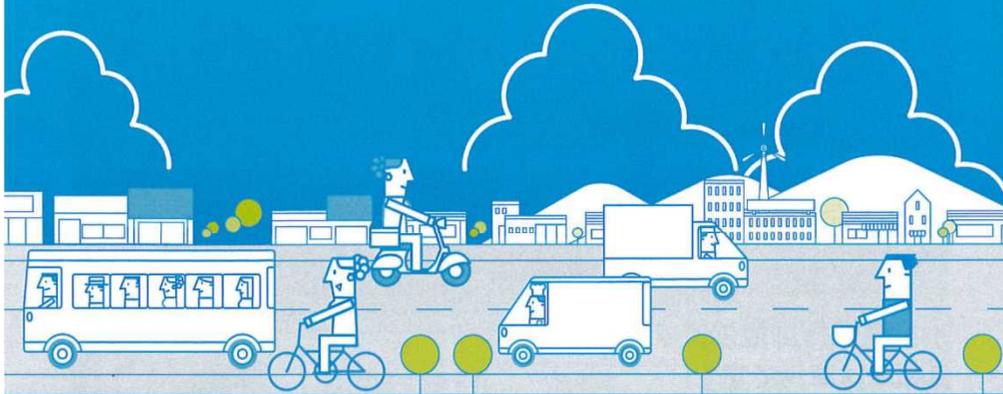


Rules and Manners for Cyclists

Tips for safe bicycle riding



金沢市

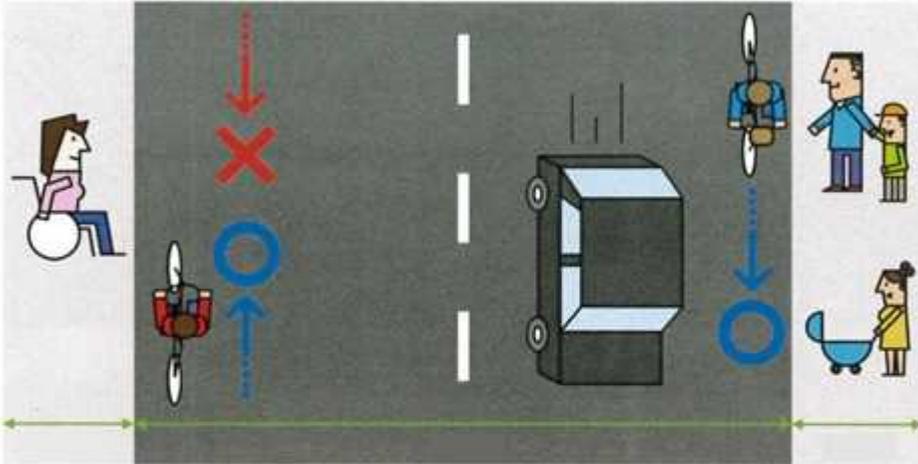
Points for safety 1

Ride on the left side of the road.

Bicycles are vehicles, not pedestrians!

Cycling on the left side of the road increases safety. (Stipulated by the Road Traffic Act)

Cycling on the right side of the road is prohibited.



1 Cycling on the sidewalk is dangerous!

Bicycles are vehicles. As a rule, they must be ridden on the road.

Cycling on a sidewalk is allowed only in the following cases:

- There is a traffic sign indicating that cyclists can ride on the sidewalk.
- The cyclist is a child aged 13 or younger, a senior aged 70 or older, or a disabled person.
- There is an unavoidable situation that requires riding on the sidewalk to ensure the cyclist's safety; for example,
 - There is a risk of a crash, because the volume of traffic is high and the road is narrow.
 - It is difficult to keep cycling on the left side of the road due to construction or a parked car.

Cyclists can ride on the sidewalk.

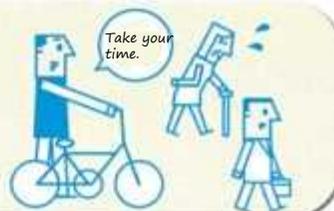


When passing pedestrians:

Keep a safe distance from pedestrians and ride at a speed that allows you to stop instantly. If you cannot maintain an appropriate distance from a pedestrian, dismount and walk your bicycle.

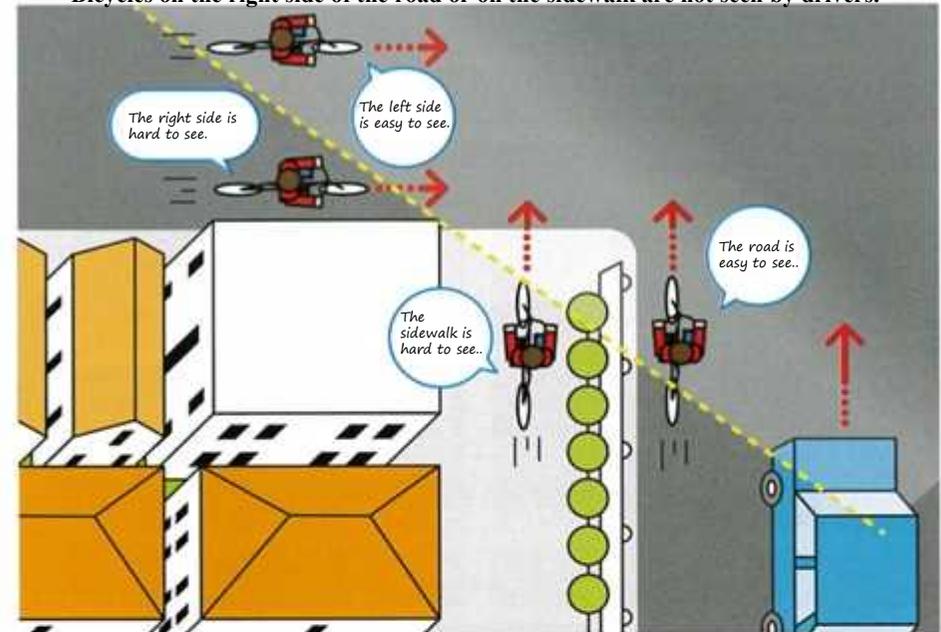


Pedestrians have priority to use the sidewalk.



2 Riding on the right side of the road or on the sidewalk is dangerous at intersections also!

Bicycles on the right side of the road or on the sidewalk are not seen by drivers.



A bicycle is a vehicle. Bicycles are categorized as light vehicles under the Road Traffic Act.

Vehicle			Pedestrian
Automobile 	Motorized bicycle 	Light vehicle Bicycle 	
On a road			On a sidewalk

When there is a bicycle lane:



When there is a bicycle lane, cyclists must use the bicycle lane unless it is absolutely necessary to avoid it.

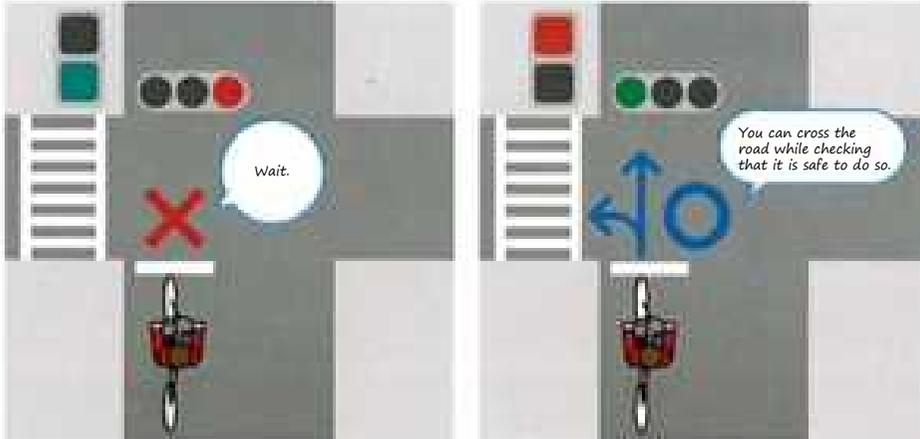
- Bicycle lanes are provided in the area below in Kanazawa City:
- From Higashi Kanazawa Station to Kosaka-machi intersection
 - From the Minma 3-chome intersection to the Kami-Arimatsu intersection
 - From the Hisayasu 2-chome intersection to the Hisayasu 3-chome intersection



Points for safety

Cross the road carefully at intersections while looking around. Be sure to obey traffic lights.

Bicycles must obey traffic lights for vehicles.



To turn right, you have to cross the intersection in two steps. (two-step right turning)

- ① Go straight when light **A** is green.
 - ② Stop at the corner or a safe position and change directions.
 - ③ Go straight when light **B** turns green.
- ⊗ Passing in the way shown in ④ is a violation of the traffic rules.



When the traffic light indicates “For bicycles & pedestrians”, you have to obey it even if you are cycling on the road.

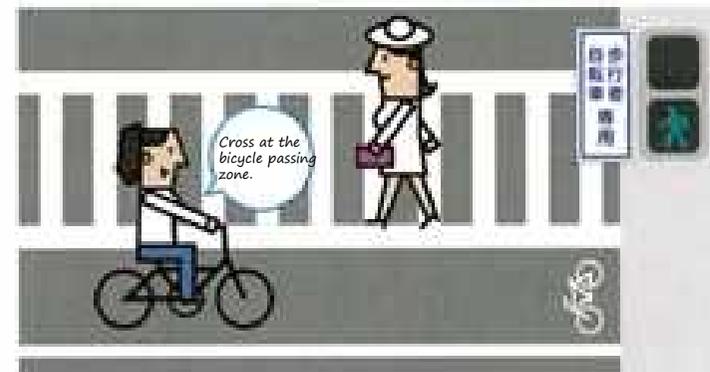
Crosswalks are for pedestrians.



To cross a street at a crosswalk, **dismount and walk your bicycle.**



If there is a bicycle crossing zone nearby, you have to cross at the bicycle passing zone regardless of the lane you are in.



“Bicycle passing zone” sign



“Bicycle passing zone” road sign

Slow down at intersections and look around to confirm that it is safe to cross.



Bicycles must stop at STOP signs.



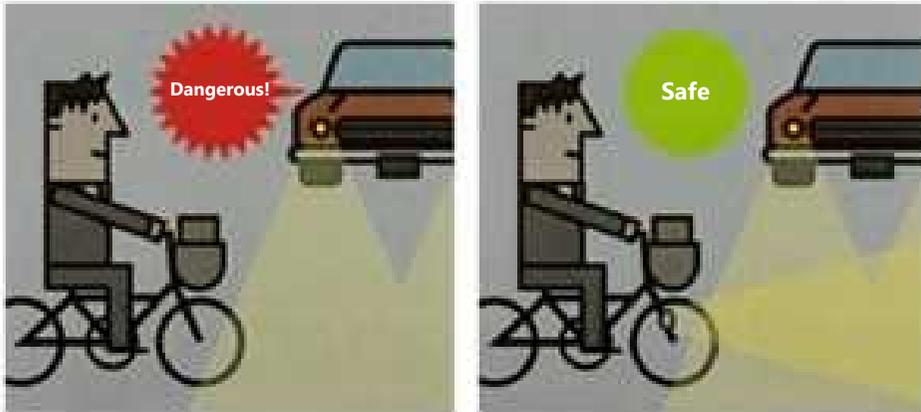
Points for safety

Show your presence.

Showing your presence can prevent an accident.

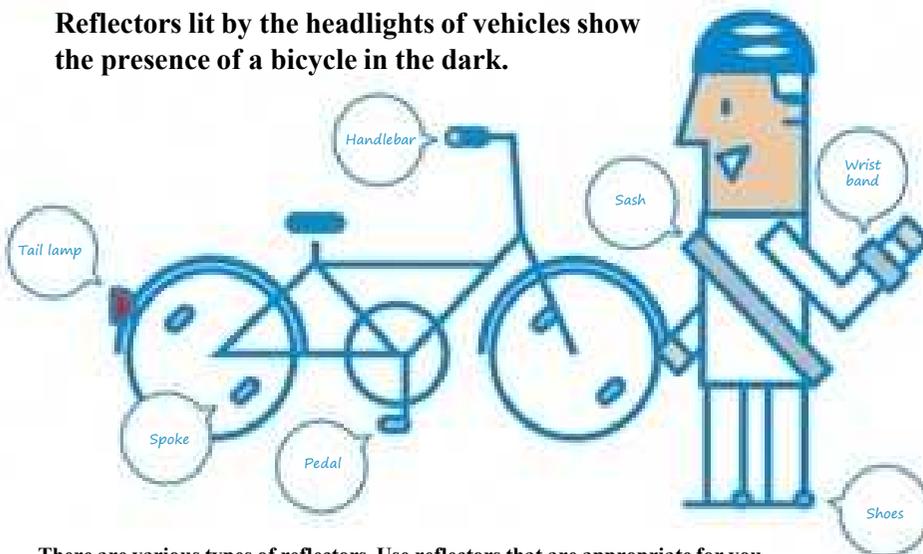
1 Turn on your bicycle light at night.

The light helps you to see well and indicates the presence of a bicycle.



2 Reflectors are important!

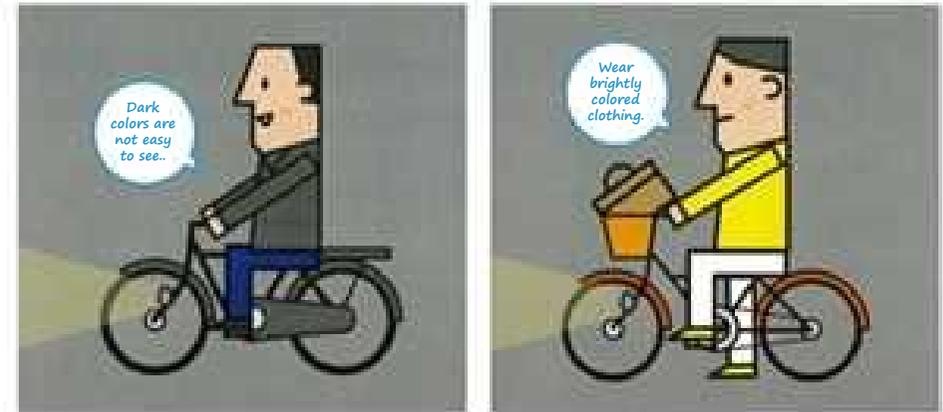
Reflectors lit by the headlights of vehicles show the presence of a bicycle in the dark.



There are various types of reflectors. Use reflectors that are appropriate for you.

3 Brightly colored clothing is effective!

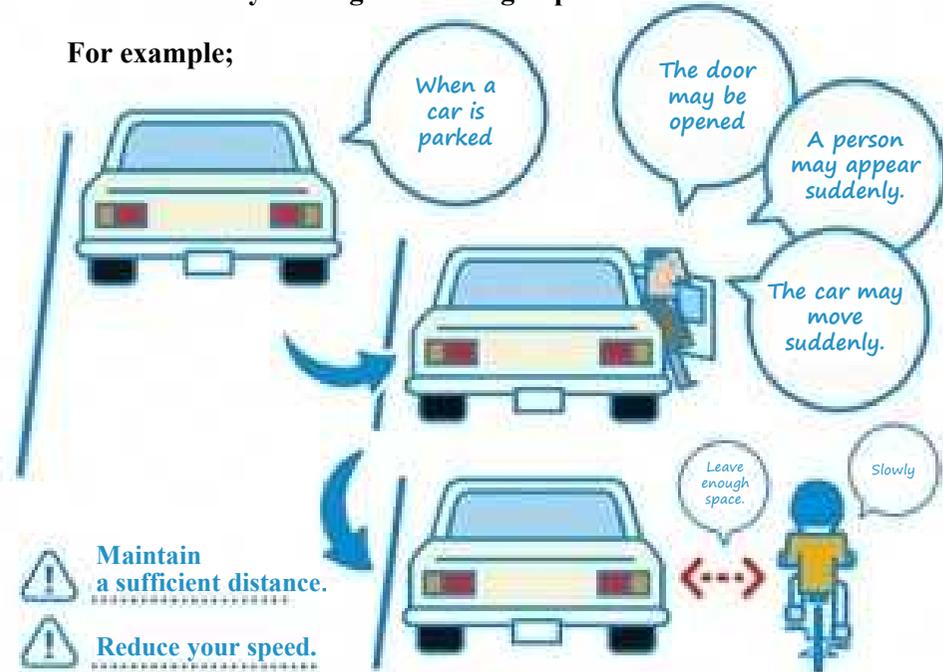
Clothing of dark colors such as black is not clearly visible in the evening. It is advisable to wear brightly colored clothing and shoes.



4 Predicting risks

Predict risks by looking around to grasp the circumstances.

For example;



Points for safety 4

Be prepared for an emergency.

1 Wear a helmet.

According to the ordinance of Kanazawa City, children of junior high school age and younger, and seniors aged 70 and over must wear a helmet when riding a bicycle. In order to minimize injury due to an accident, wear your helmet properly.



Injuries to the head are the leading cause of death from bicycle accidents.

Parents must have their children wear a helmet when they ride a bicycle, and also when they ride with a parent on the parent's bicycle.

2 Purchase insurance.

Cyclists must purchase liability insurance according to the ordinance of Kanazawa City. You are responsible for damages due to an accident. There have been cases all over Japan of cyclists having to pay large sums of money for damages. Be sure to purchase insurance just in case.

Coverage \ Insurance type	Victim		You	Description
	Death/Injury	Property	Death/Injury	
Personal liability insurance	○	○	×	If you are liable for damages to the victim, insurance money shall be paid.
Accident insurance	×	×	○	If you are injured or died due to an accident, insurance money shall be paid.
TS insurance	○	×	○	If the victim or you are injured or die due to an accident, insurance money shall be paid.

The obligatory insurance required by Kanazawa City covers the cases shown in pink, for which insurance compensates for damages against the victim's life or injury.

Please ask an insurance company or non-life insurance agent for details.

See the Kanazawa City Bicycle Regulations website for information about bicycle insurance.

金沢市 自転車条例

Please scan your smartphone to access the website.



Example of a high compensation payout: 95.21 million yen

A primary school boy who was riding home on his bicycle rode straight into a woman who was walking. She became unconscious. (Case at Kobe District Court in 2013)

3 Maintain your bicycle properly.

Be sure to check your bicycle carefully before riding it. If you find a problem, bring your bicycle to a nearby bicycle shop to have it adjusted and/or repaired.

Do you know the TS mark?

A TS-mark sticker is affixed to bicycles that meet the legal standard after inspection and adjustment by a bicycle expert. Bicycles with a TS sticker are covered by insurance for damages and accident insurance for injuries due to an accident during the insurance period. The effective period is one year. Take your bicycle to a bicycle shop to have it checked and adjusted once a year. Ensure there is always a TS sticker on your bicycle.



Kanazawa City is improving its roads to facilitate cycling.



Bicycle lane

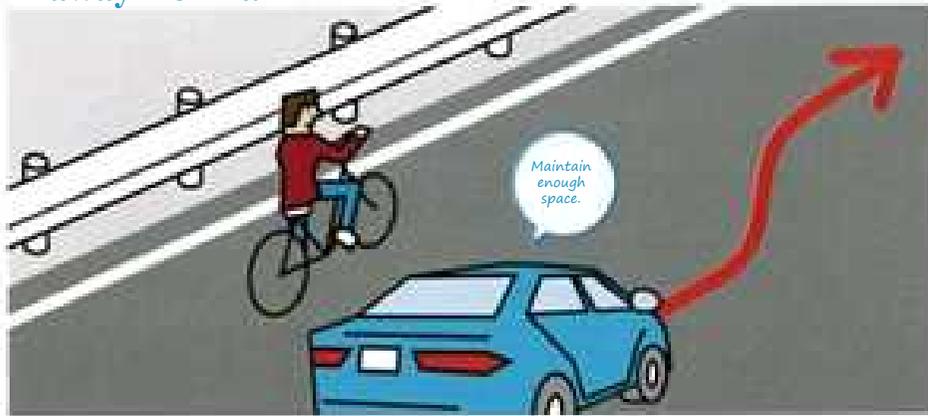
The lane is indicated with a bicycle pictogram and an arrow.

Points for safety **5**

Vehicles should follow the traffic rules as well!

As a rule, bicycles should be ridden on the left side of the road. Drivers and cyclists should share the road.

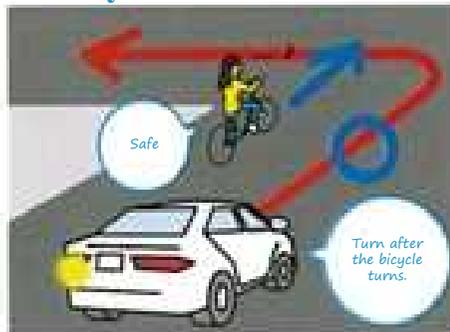
When you are driving beside a bicycle, stay far enough away from it.



When the road is narrow, do not overtake a cyclist. Drive at the speed of the bicycle. Stay at a safe distance from the bicycle, in case the cyclist brakes suddenly or changes direction.



Do not aggressively overtake the bicycle.



Illegal parking is dangerous for cyclists.



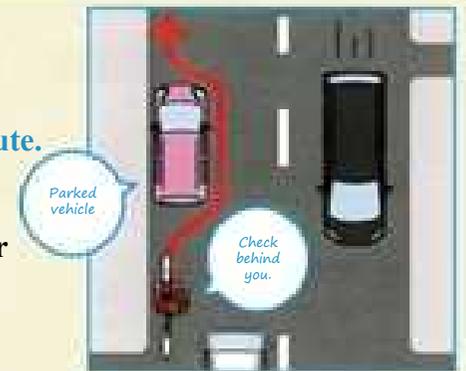
Sounding a car horn to get pedestrians and cyclists to make way for passing them is prohibited. (There is a fine of up to 20,000 yen.)

Bicycles



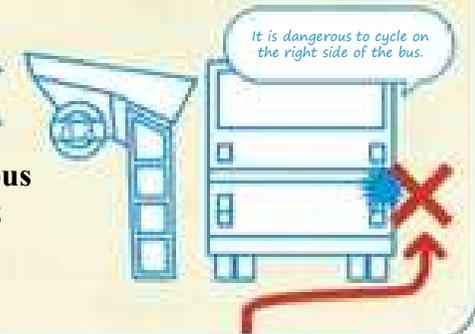
Be sure to look back when changing your route.

When passing a parked car ahead, slow down or stop your bicycle, and look behind you before moving into the lane.

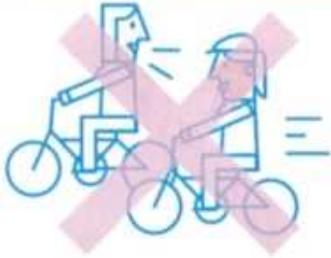


Be careful when a bus stops or starts.

When a bus stops at a bus stop, do not overtake it; wait until it starts.



Do not ride abreast!



Do not ride double!



Do not ride holding an umbrella.



Do not use a cell phone while riding!



Do not ride with headphones, listening to something loud.



No on-street parking!



Use bicycle parking.

Five rules for riding a bicycle safely

1. Cyclists should ride on the road. Sidewalks are only to be used in exceptional cases.
2. Keep to the left side of the road.
3. Pedestrians have priority on the sidewalk. When using the sidewalk, cyclists should keep to the right, and ride slowly.
4. Follow the safety rules.
 - Drunk cycling, riding double and riding abreast are prohibited.
 - Turn on your light during the night.
 - Proceed and stop according to the traffic lights and check for safety at intersections.
5. Children should wear a helmet.

Website for Kanazawa City Bicycle Ordinance

金沢市 自転車条例 検索

Please scan your smartphone to access the website.



Walkable Environment Promotion Section

2018.9

Reference : 持続可能な地域交通を考える会「自転車ルール教本」