



For Foreign Visitors & Residents

»»» Bicycles are now also subject to enforcement of traffic laws.

# Did You Know? Japanese Traffic Rules & Manners

**Pedestrians on the right.  
Cars and bicycles on the left.**

- Pedestrians walk on the right side of the road.
- Pedestrians use sidewalks or pedestrian zones if they are available.
- Cars and bicycles travel on the left side of the road.



**Wear a helmet regardless of age**

About 65% of cycling fatalities are caused by head injuries.

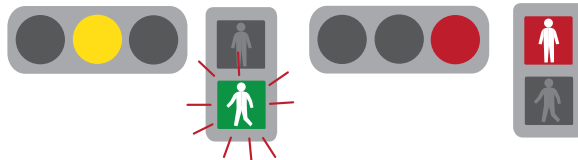


**Obey traffic lights and road signs.**

**Let's go !**



**Stop !**



**Stop sign**



**What to do in the event of a traffic accident.**



- ① Stop your bicycle immediately.
- ② Move your bicycle to the roadside. Do not block traffic.
- ③ Call an ambulance (dial 119) if someone is injured. Give emergency aid until the ambulance arrives. However, do not try to move the injured person.  
Call the police (dial 110). Never leave the scene of an accident. You are obliged to explain to the police how the accident happened.

Dial "119" and "110"

# Let's review traffic rules & manners for bicycles

## As a general rule, bicycles travel on the road.

(Bicycles on sidewalks are allowed only as exceptions to the rule)  
Violations may be subject to imprisonment of up to 3 months or a fine of up to 50,000 yen.

## Travel on the left side of the road.

Violation may be subject to imprisonment of up to 3 months or a fine of up to 50,000 yen.

### ~Cases where bicycles are allowed on sidewalks~

#### ① Where designated by road signs or road markings



#### ② When the cyclist is:

- A child under 13 years old
- A person 70 years old or older
- A person with a physical disability



#### ③ When otherwise unavoidable to ensure your own safety



**Pedestrians have the right of way on sidewalks.**  
**Ride slowly, staying on the side closer to the roadway.**

When on the sidewalk, proceed at a speed that will allow you to stop immediately.  
Stop whenever there is a possibility of blocking pedestrian passage.

Violations may be subject to a fine of up to 20,000 yen or a minor fine.

## Obey the safety rules.

### Drunk riding



Penalty:  
Imprisonment of up to 5 years or fine of up to 1,000,000 yen



### Riding with a passenger



Penalty:  
Fine of up to 20,000 yen or minor fine



### Riding side by side



Penalty:  
Fine of up to 20,000 yen or minor fine



### Riding at night without a light



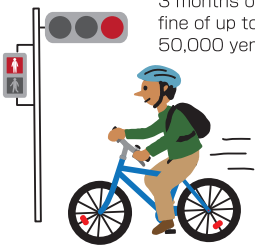
Penalty:  
Fine of up to 50,000 yen



### Ignoring traffic lights



Penalty:  
Imprisonment of up to 3 months or fine of up to 50,000 yen



### Failing to stop



Penalty:  
Imprisonment of up to 3 months or fine of up to 50,000 yen



### Using a mobile phone while riding



Penalty:  
Imprisonment of up to 6 months or fine of up to 100,000 yen



### Using an umbrella while riding



Penalty:  
Fine of up to 50,000 yen



### Wearing headphones or earphones while riding



Penalty:  
Fine of up to 50,000 yen



## Take out insurance in case of a bicycle accident.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government ordinance has been amended, making it mandatory from April 1, 2020 for all those who use bicycles to have insurance\*.

Take out insurance to cover yourself in case of a bicycle accident.

\*Accident insurance for liability coverage in the event of death or bodily injury to a third party caused when using a bicycle

## To learn more about bicycle rules and manners... Rin-tore Tokyo Bicycle Safety Learning App

Clearly explained by animation and CG!

Learn from a virtual experience of bicycle riding!

Take a test to get certified!  
Certification has various benefits!

Can be used from a smartphone or tablet. Download the app here. →



**When riding a bicycle, avoid dangerous riding behavior and also pay close attention to the movement of cars to your sides and behind you.**