



Motorcycle Safety Resource Guide

Maslow's *Hierarchy of Needs* placed the need for safety on a high level. For sure, the need for man's safety and physiological well-being are essential for his existence. Yet, today, newspaper headlines splashed gory accounts of people dying or being injured in motorcycle road accidents.

There are many reasons why people use motorcycles. In 2006, the sales of motorcycles rated 1.1 million. But reports from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) stated that the rate of motorcycle accident is going up in the USA today. Knowledge of the Motorcycle Safety Resource Guide may have prevented most motorcycle road mishaps.

- [Reasons why people ride a motorcycle](#) There are many reasons why motorcycles are fast becoming the favorite transport of many people.
- [How to Buy a Motorcycle](#) Buying the right kind of motorcycle will guarantee the joy and safety of riding.

Fatalities from motorcycle accidents have been on the rise for the past years. Based on the NHTSA report, there were 5,290 motorcycle drivers who died in 2008 increasing the 2007 rate by 2%. Around 96,000 suffered severe injuries. There were 4,810 motor riders who died in 2006, more than 5% higher than the previous year. The rate of fatalities in 2000 was 2,897 which increased by 78% to 5,154 in 2007.

World-wide, motor vehicle mishaps continue to be the main causes of death and disability. In 1998, 1,170,694 deaths were the result from direct injury in a motor vehicle accident.

- [Statistics of Motorcycle Accidents](#) These statistics reflect the risks motorcyclists are facing today. The prize for reckless driving is either life or severe injury.
- [Awareness of Motorcycle Accidents](#) Statistics awake people to the life-threatening results of motorcycle accidents.

Motorcycle Safety Resource Guide includes the following:

1. Awareness of the importance of proper training. Training is the best way to minimize these threats. There are many organizations throughout the U.S. offering United States Motorcycle Safety Education. These groups ranked from state agencies to non-profit organizations to corporations. Designed by the

Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF), the courses covered Basic Rider Course, an Intermediate Rider Course and an Advanced Rider Course.

Riders with little or no experience must take the beginning courses. Lessons are based on extensive data, research, and field tests which are combined with on-bike experiences

- [Motor Safety Foundation](#) The purpose of motorcycle rider education is to insure their safety on the road.
- [Motor Safety Site](#) This site offers the best information to safeguard your motorcycle ride.
- [Education for Motorcycle Riders](#) Education and training are important for the safety of the riding cyclists. Get more information from this site.

2. Awareness of the proper equipment will insure safe and enjoyable motorcycle rides. You need this essential and proper equipment.

(a) **Helmet:** By law, you must wear a safety helmet when riding a motorcycle on the road must fit properly and adhere to the DOT standards, be full face in design. Defective helmets, as those with no lining or defective chin straps are disallowed.

(b) **Visors and goggles:** You need this important eye-protection from wind, rain, insects and road dirt.

(c) **Protective clothing:** For motorcycle riders, clothing is made from man-made material or leather. Choose clothing that gives additional protection for the shoulders, elbows and knees. The legs of your pants should cover the top of your shoe, preferable made from denim or leather. If you wear long-sleeve in lieu of a jacket, it must be made of durable materials and cover the shoulders.

(d) **Gloves and gauntlets:** These are important in a motorcycle ride. Always wear gloves as it is a protection if you fall off. Full-fingered leather gloves are good choices.

(e) **Motorcycle boots** Boots are perfect protection for riding a motorcycle. Sandals offer little protection. Shoes material must be made of leather covering the ankle bone. You may also wear high top athletic shoes that meet the standards.

- [Types of Helmets](#) There are basic styles of motorcycle helmets. This link will give you their descriptions.
- [What you should know about Helmets](#) Wearing or not wearing a helmet might mean life or death for a motorcycle rider.
- [Motorcycle Riding Gear](#) This link contains information of proper motorcycle gear and equipment.

3. Awareness of drivers on the road or SMIDSY is one of the most common causes of accidents on the road. It is an acronym of a driver's common response

which means: *Sorry mate, I didn't see you.* Most road accidents are due to the driver's that are not able to see an oncoming motorcycle or insufficient time to avoid the mishap.

Most often drivers fail to see an approaching motorcyclist for the following reasons:

(a) The tendency of drivers to watch for oncoming cars not motorcycle.

(b) The size of a motorcycle is much smaller than that of larger vehicles. It makes estimating the distance between them difficult.

(c) Motorcyclists performed frequent lane movements due to changing road conditions

- [Creating Driver's Awareness](#) When drivers do not watch out for motorcycle but cars, road mishaps tend to happen.
- [Motorcycle Safety Awareness Planner](#) The purpose of this planner is to provide riders all the materials and tools for safe driving.

4. Awareness of unsafe roads/weather conditions can be major causes of motorcycle accidents. There are dangerous road conditions and road obstructions. Many mishaps occur due to potholes, fallen tree limbs, rocks & gravel, small animals, standing water or railroad tracks may be minor problems. It is wise for motorcyclist to decrease speed or change lanes to avoid these obstacles. The weather condition is a touchy factor for wet or icy roads may impair motorcyclists' braking and handling abilities. Strong gusty winds can lift a motorcycle if the rider isn't prepared for it.

- [Road Conditions Causing Motorcycle Accidents](#) It is important to be aware of those conditions that bring about these road accidents.
- [Motorcycles and Weather Condition](#) These are tips to help motor riders deal with weather conditions in their trip.

5. Awareness that your equipment is well-maintained so it will be given the highest pleasure from your motorcycle. A certain amount of maintenance helps to keep it running in tip top condition and plays a big role in the longevity of your ride.

Basic tips:

(1) Checking your fuses and bolts.

(2) Keeping up with oil changes on a schedule.

(3) Cleaning or changing your air filter about once a month.

(4) Checking your battery terminal and wires.

(5) Making sure all of your cables are well lubricated to ensure a smoother drive.

(6) Checking your tire pressure and add air as needed.

You might think your motorcycle does not yet need servicing but it will save money on repairs to check if your bike is in good running condition.

- [Maintenance of Motorcycle Batteries](#) Proper maintenance of motorcycle batteries will insure a safe and smooth motorcycle ride.
- [How to Care for your Motorcycle](#) This is a link to videos illustrating proper motorcycle care.
- [Proper Care for Motorcycles](#) Tips to help look after the proper maintenance of your motorcycle.

6. Awareness of laws affecting motorcycles which are applicable to those who are granted license to drive a motorcycle. In the United States, there are motorcycle laws but basically laws differ from state to state.

The motorcycle helmet laws require all riders to wear a helmet however only 27 states agreed to legislate this law. The rest do not have this requirement.

- [Current Motorcycle Laws and Helmet Laws](#) This site show the States where the Helmet law is applicable.
- [Current Motorcycle Laws by State](#) get an overview of current motorcycle laws by viewing this site.
- [Motorcycle Helmet Law Facts](#) Know more about the motorcycle helmet law in this site.

You will experience joy and excitement in every motorcycle ride. It is the kind of freedom you do not enjoy riding on other types of vehicle. But full enjoyment is incomplete, you may not see the end of that journey. There are dangers along the way. Make use of a Motor Safety Resource Guide, so you will you reach your destination safely.

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I had a couple questions but called the 888 # and spoke to someone in CS. They were very helpful, I didn't experience any wait time and the CSR was able to easily and quickly answer my questions. It was a great online ordering experience. Thanks.

- NR - Bourbon, MO

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You guys are awesome!!! And I love your fast shipping. Most definitely will be back to buy more! Thanks tons.

- Jesse

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