



Motorcycle Riding Tips
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Dealing with Traffic

I am sure you have noticed the increase in traffic on our roads. Well it is going to get worse. I would like you to think about what you can do to be safe when riding in this

traffic. Can you be a safer rider? Motorcycle Safety Foundation has some good ideas on this problem. What they suggest works well. The more time and space you have from other vehicles increases your Safety Margin. Have a strategy to deal with the traffic and at least one alternative strategy if things should change at the last moment. One strategy is SEE. Search, Evaluate and Execute. You Aggressively Search your environment, the roads and other things that could cause you a problem. If you observe a potential problem then you evaluate it. How is this problem going to affect me? What can I do to avoid the problem? Once you have decided then you execute your decision by avoiding the problem on the road.

Remember there are only 3 things you can do to avoid a perceived problem;

1. Change or adjust your lane position.
2. Adjust your speed.
3. Communicate. This is often use of your horn to attract the attention of others. Because of the increased traffic it seems that following distances are very important to your Safety Margin. The recommended following distances are:
 1. A 2 second minimum following distance. This is when conditions are ideal. You can ride in the left track of the lane so the driver ahead will have a better opportunity to see you. Remember any time greater than 2 second is better.
 2. A 4 second following distance in the event you have to take immediate action. This amount of time allows you to act quickly and safely.
 3. A 12 second anticipated path of travel. This is looking well ahead to identify problems sooner. 12 seconds at 65 mph is looking ahead at least a quarter of a mile. And last but not least is keeping you head and eyes up so you can have the information you need to ride safely as soon as it becomes available. **REMEMBER: Head Up, Eyes on The Horizon and Look Through The Turns.**

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Call for a class now. Basic and Experienced Riders Classes are available.