



Below are some of CA's bike laws.

Wonder about local ordinances on **sidewalk riding**? Have other concerns? Visit <https://bikemonterey.org> or phone 831.375.6278. This poster was created 1 July 2019. For any updated legislation, contact Bicycling Monterey or <https://calbike.org>.

Be cool.

Know California bike laws.

1. **Brakes—BMX, fixies, all bikes.** On CA roads, bikes are illegal without brakes. *(Bicycles must be equipped with a brake that allows...a one-braked-wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement. CVC 21201(a).)*
2. **Alcohol/drugs.** Don't get a BUI! *(Bicyclists may not ride while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. CVC 21200.5.)*
3. **Earbuds.** Leave one out. *(Bicyclists may not wear earplugs in both ears, or a headset covering both ears. Hearing aids are allowed. California Vehicle Code/CVC 27400.)*
4. **Traffic signals, stop signs, etc.** "Same roads, same rules, same rights." *(Bicycle riders on public roads have the same rights and responsibilities as motorists, and are subject to the same rules and regulations. CVC 21200.)*
5. **Ride in the same direction as traffic.** Bikes travel like cars, **not** like pedestrians. *(Bicyclists on the shoulder of a roadway must ride in the same direction as the traffic. CVC 21650.1.)*
6. **Proper lane usage.** See tips and details online. *(CVC Section 21202 - Operation on Roadway.)*
7. **Permanent seat.** *(The bicycle must have a permanent seat. Passengers must have a separate seat. [Passengers] under four years old, or weighing 40 pounds or less, must be restrained and protected from moving parts of a bicycle. CVC 21204.)*
8. **Helmets for minors.** If you're under 18, not wearing one may result in a ticket. *(Bicyclists and bicycle passengers under age 18 must wear an approved helmet... CVC 21212.)*
9. **Lights, reflectors.** The following equipment is required on bicycles ridden at night *(CVC 21201)*. Local bike shops have great selections. You can also rig up your own lights from inexpensive supplies.
 - ✓ A white headlight, or white lamp attached to rider, visible from 300 feet in front of and from sides of the bicycle
 - ✓ A red reflector visible from 500 feet when illuminated by a motor vehicle's headlights
 - ✓ A white or yellow reflector on each pedal visible from 200 feet to the front and to the rear of the bicycle
 - ✓ A white or yellow reflector on each side of the front of the bicycle, and a white or red reflector on each side of the back of the bicycle, or reflectorized tires

Be safe.

Follow safe riding practices *and* advocate for better infrastructure!

At BikeMonterey.org, learn how to advocate for protected bike lanes and other infrastructure improvements.

Also on the Bicycling Monterey site: Tips for Bicycling Monterey County, a 20-section guide, with an extensive section on riding skills, safety, and laws; Monterey County Bicycling Resources, a 33-section guide to resources and bike community leaders; Master Calendar for Bicycling Monterey County, including activities, events, meetings, and more bike-and-ride tips (taking your bike aboard a bus or other motor vehicle); and much more, for people of varying abilities, ages, and interests, who ride all types of bikes.

BikeMonterey.org - Questions? Not online? 831.375.6278

Resources in Spanish: *Leyes de ciclismo de California – y más recursos sobre transporte en bicicleta, vaya a <https://bikemonterey.org/resources/en-espanol>*