

**en español:** <https://bikemonterey.org/resources/en-espanol>



**Below are some of California's bike laws.**

*What about biking on sidewalks or in crosswalks, e-bike regulations, and other topics?*

See section 3 of the **Tips for Bicycling Monterey County** 20-section guide at [bikemonterey.org](https://bikemonterey.org).

Poster created 11 May 2024. For any changes to California bicycle laws, contact Bicycling Monterey <https://bikemonterey.org> or California Bicycle Coalition <https://calbike.org>

1. **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.*)
2. **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.*)
3. **Proper lane usage.** Details and tips online. (*CVC Section 21202 - Operation on Roadway.*)
4. **Earbuds.** Leave at least 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.*)
5. **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).*)
6. **Alcohol/drugs.** Don't get a BUI! (*Bicyclists may not ride while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. CVC 21200.5.*)
7. **Helmets for minors.** If you're under 18, not wearing one may result in a citation. (*Bicyclists and bicycle passengers under age 18 must wear an approved helmet... CVC 21212.*)
8. **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.*)
9. **Lights, reflectors.** The following equipment is required on bicycles ridden at night (*CVC 21201*):
  - 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 front of bike, and a white or red reflector on each side of back of bike, or reflectorized tires

*For 15 years, Bicycling Monterey is a grassroots volunteer effort.*

**To contribute, use QR code or go to <https://bikemonterey.org>. Thank you!**

