



## Be cool.

### **Know California bike laws.**

#### **Below are some of them.**

Wonder about local ordinances on **sidewalk** riding?  
Other concerns? See [bikemonterey.org](http://bikemonterey.org) or call 831.375.6278

1. **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.)*
2. **Alcohol/drugs.** Don't get a BUI! *(Bicyclists may not ride while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. CVC 21200.5.)*
3. **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).)*
4. **Traffic lights.** "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. See tips online.
  - A white headlight, or white lamp attached to the rider, visible from 300 feet in front of and from the 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](http://BikeMonterey.org), learn how to advocate for bike lanes and other infrastructure improvements.

**Also on the website:** Tips for Bicycling Monterey County, a 20-section guide; Monterey County Bicycling Resources, a 30-section guide to resources and bike community leaders; Master Calendar for Bicycling Monterey County, including activities, events, meetings, and more for people of all ages, interests, and abilities who ride all types of bikes; bike-and-ride tips; HER Helmet Thursdays project—200+ businesses and organizations with discounts Thursdays for males and females who bike; **and much more!**

**[BikeMonterey.org](http://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 <http://marilynch.com/blog/resources/en-espanol>*