

# E-Bike & E-Scooter Safety



E-bikes and e-scooters are rapidly increasing in popularity since they provide more independence, allowing you to travel farther and faster. But there are important factors to consider before using an e-bike or e-scooter. Follow these helpful tips.

## E-scooter laws

- California's law permits anyone over the age of 16, who has a learner's permit or license, to operate an e-scooter.
- E-scooter riders must know traffic laws, because they must share the road with vehicles.
- Users can ride in bike lanes if the posted speed limit is 25 mph or slower.
- California law prohibits riding e-scooters on sidewalks and pathways unless marked otherwise.
- Signal your presence before passing others on any shared roads, paths, trails, or elsewhere.
- Watch for possible icy or slippery road conditions
- For the safety of everyone, slow down when passing pedestrians and walkers. What might seem like a slow speed to you, may seem fast to others. Going too fast can cause unpredictable reactions, increasing the chances of injury.

## Safety tips and rules of the road

- The same rules of the road for motorists, apply to e-bikes and e-bicyclists (California Vehicle Code, CVC §21230).
- By law, cyclists 17 years and under **must** wear a helmet.
- Be 100% predictable in your actions.
- Be seen—wear bright clothing and/or have reflective gear.
- Taking turns with vehicles at intersections after coming to a complete stop?
- Scanning before merging onto roads, changing lanes or crossing streets?
- Giving pedestrians the right-of-way?
- Knowing how to stop abruptly and dodge obstacles without swerving into vehicle lanes?
- Maneuvering heavy e-bikes traveling at high speeds that take longer to stop?

