



FREE!



**BIKE
SMART**

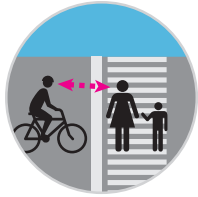
**The Official Guide
to Cycling in NYC**

nyc.gov/bikes

Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor, New York City

Janette Sadik-Khan
Commissioner, NYC DOT

NYC BIKING LAWS



Yield to pedestrians

Ceda el paso a los peatones
讓路給行人



Stop at all red lights and stop signs

Deténgase en las luces rojas del semáforo y las señales de pare (STOP)
在號誌轉為紅燈後和 STOP (暫時停車) 標誌前停下



Ride in the direction of traffic

Circule en el sentido del tránsito
順著交通方向騎乘



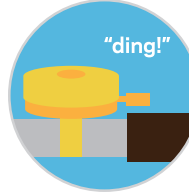
Stay off the sidewalk unless you're under 13

No use las aceras a menos que tenga menos de 13 años de edad
離開人行道除非您是13歲以下



Use a white headlight and red taillight at night

Use una luz delantera blanca y una luz trasera roja por la noche
晚上使用白色頭燈和紅色尾燈



Use a bell to signal presence

Utilice el timbre para indicar su presencia
使用鈴鐺提示他人



Do not wear more than one earphone while riding

Utilice únicamente un solo auricular cuando ande en bicicleta
騎車時切勿雙耳佩戴耳機

About This Guide

It's never been better to ride a bike in NYC!

With more than 800 miles of bike lanes city-wide, travel on two wheels is safe, easy and fun. *Bike Smart: The Official Guide to Cycling in New York City* contains everything you need to know to ride around town, ranging from basic tips for locking your bike to how to use the latest bike infrastructure. Get ready to ride!

Helmets in NYC

Helmets are required by New York State Law for cyclists 13 years old or younger.

74% of cyclist fatalities result from head injuries.



Wear a helmet whenever you ride.



Always buckle the chin strap.



Replace your helmet after any crash and whenever you see signs of damage.

Did You Know?

NYC DOT has distributed and fit over 75,000 free helmets since 2007. Call 311 to schedule a helmet fitting!



Common Helmet Mistakes

Helmets only work if you wear them correctly. Avoid these common mistakes to get the most out of your helmet.



Tilted

Wear your helmet level on your head, about two finger-widths above your eyebrows.



Loose Straps

Make sure the straps are snug. Only about two fingers should fit beneath the chin strap.



Size

Your helmet should fit snugly on your head and not rock side-to-side. Use the foam pads that came with the helmet or the internal adjuster to fine-tune.



Backwards

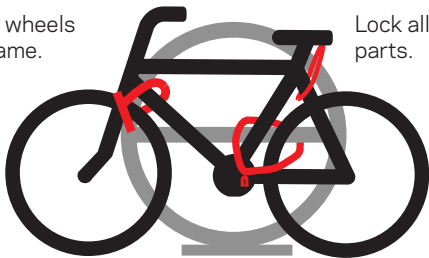
The widest part of the helmet should rest against the back of your head. Most helmets have a sticker inside indicating the front.

Locking Your Bike

Use a U-lock or heavy chain.

Lock your wheels to your frame.

Lock all "quick release" parts.



Lock to designated bike racks where available.

Do not lock to trees or subway railings.



Look up! Make sure you can't lift your bike over the object to which it is locked.

NO



YES



Bring Your Bike Inside

If you work in a commercial office building with a freight elevator, the "Bikes in Buildings" law provides a way for your employer to request indoor access for your bicycle.



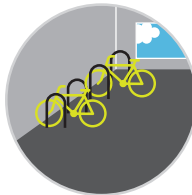
How an employer can request indoor bike parking:



Employer assesses the number of bikes it would like to accommodate.



Employer files a Tenant Request for bike parking with the Building Owner or Manager.



Within 30 days of receiving Tenant Request, Building Owner must:

Implement and post a *Bicycle Access Plan* or Request an exception for A) alternate bicycle parking facilities or B) the absence of freight elevators in the building within 15 days of receipt of Tenant Request.

For details and forms visit
www.nyc.gov/bikesinbuildings

NYC Bike Map

Know Your Lanes

New York City's more than 800 miles of bike facilities are classified into three categories:

Bike Path

On-street bike paths are protected from vehicular traffic by parked cars or a physical barrier. Off-street bike paths exist along much of the City's waterfront and in many parks.



Bike Lane

Bike lanes are painted onto the road, usually next to the parking lane, and are marked with bike symbols. Some lanes have a painted buffer to further separate cyclists from moving vehicles.



Shared Lane

Shared lanes are used by cyclists and motorists. They are marked by "sharrows" (bike symbols & chevrons) and signs. Sharrows are placed just far enough from the curb to help you avoid opening car doors.

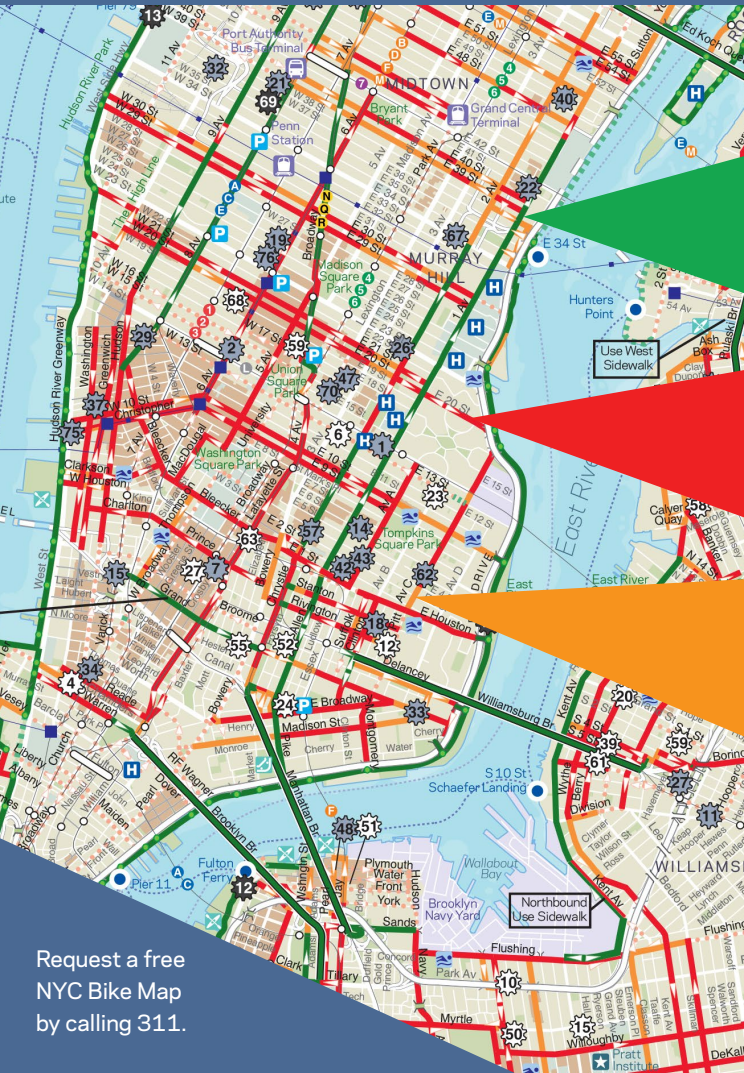


Did You Know?

Cyclists must always travel with the direction of traffic, even in a bike lane. Two-way bike lanes are clearly indicated by a dashed yellow center line and directional arrows.



Request a free NYC Bike Map by calling 311.



Take the Lane

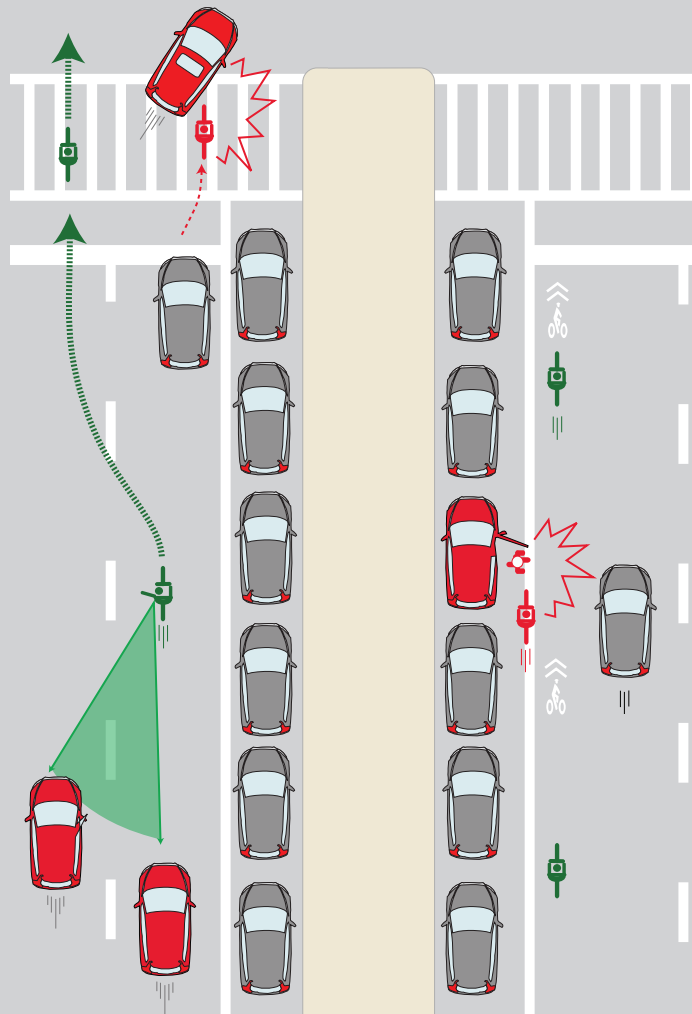
Don't Get "Doored"

You have the right to ride in the center of travel lanes when necessary for your safety.

Take the lane when preparing to turn, in areas with low visibility, and in places where the street is too narrow to allow a bicycle and a vehicle to travel safely side by side.

Look, signal and look again before you change lanes.

If you feel uncomfortable merging, stop and wait until the cars have passed.



Do not hug the parking lane.

Leave room (at least 3 ft.) between you and parked cars.

Ride on the "Sharrows."

On shared lanes, the bike symbol and chevron markings are placed just far enough from the curb to help you avoid opening car doors.

Watch parked cars carefully.

Look inside before you pass to see if there are people inside. Watch car tail lights and taxi on/off duty lights to anticipate driver actions and exiting passengers.

Read the Road



A dashed bike lane line indicates that cars may enter the bike lane.



A mid-block dashed line indicates an active driveway.



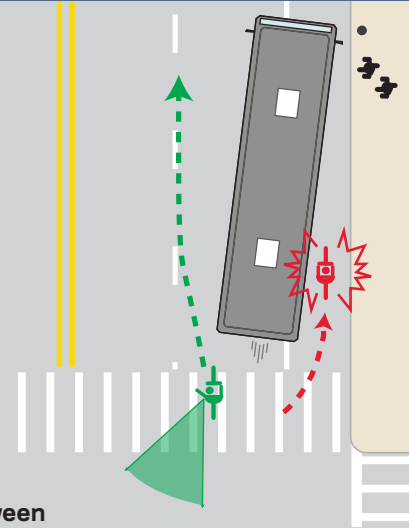
At intersections, the dashed line with chevrons indicates that cars may turn across your path.

Blind Spots

Buses

DO NOT pass a bus on the right.

Buses frequently pull to the curb.



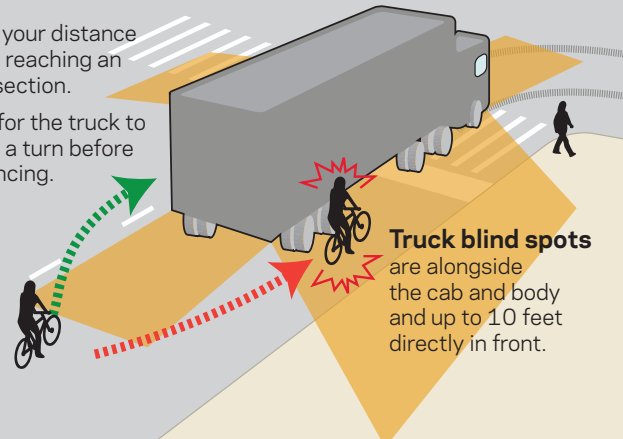
Trucks

Leave extra room between you and trucks.

Trucks have larger blind spots than cars. Never assume truck drivers can see you.

Keep your distance when reaching an intersection.

Wait for the truck to make a turn before advancing.



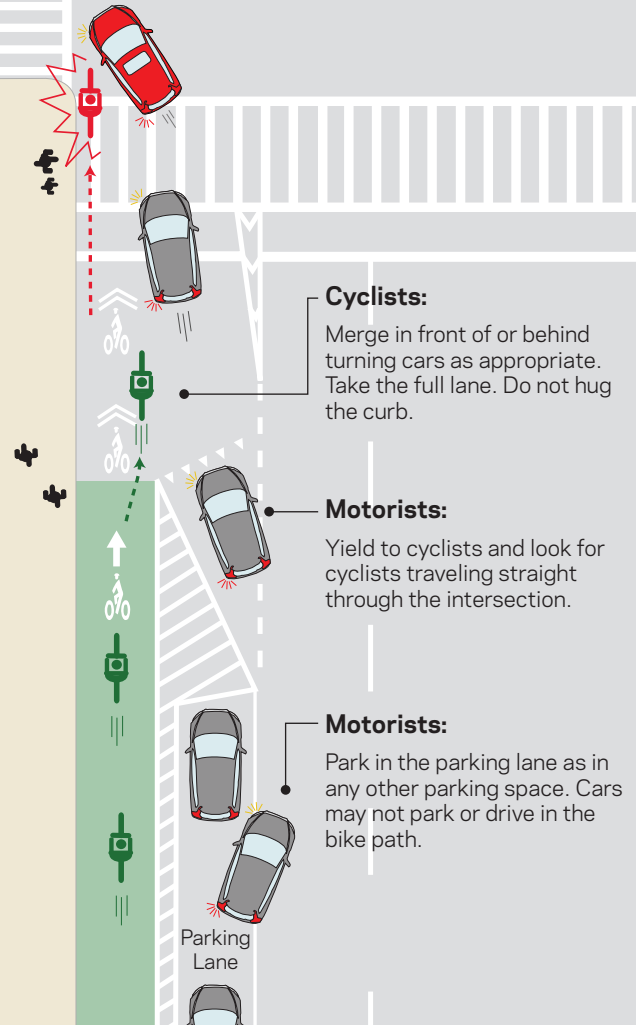
Truck blind spots are alongside the cab and body and up to 10 feet directly in front.

Parking Protected Paths



Parking protected bike paths have reduced cyclist, pedestrian and vehicular injuries up to 60%.

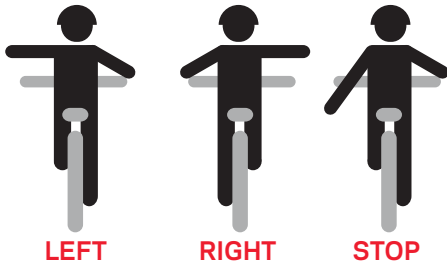
Using Mixing Zones



Tips for Turns

Look over your shoulder for cars and signal before making a turn or changing lanes. Double check to make sure it is safe to move.

Use hand signals to tell drivers where you are going.



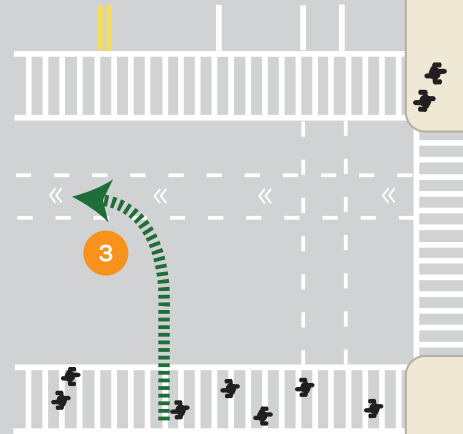
Shown from rear.

Don't change lanes abruptly. Signal your intended route well in advance of your turn.

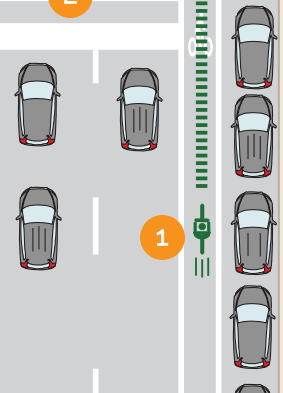
If you feel uncomfortable merging or turning, pull over to the side of the road and wait until the cars have passed.

Using a Bike Box

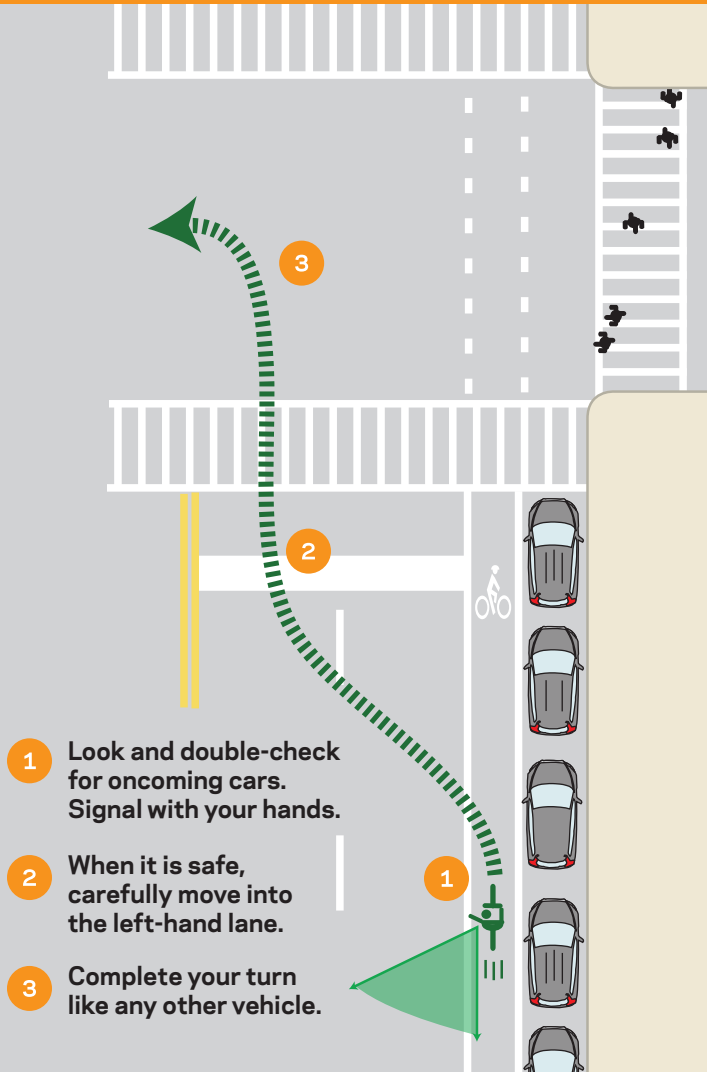
Bike boxes are installed where two bike facilities intersect to increase the visibility of cyclists stopped at **red** lights. **Only use a bike box when you approach the intersection at a red light.**



- 1 Only enter the bike box on a red light.
- 2 Position yourself ahead of the cars.
- 3 Turn when the light turns green.

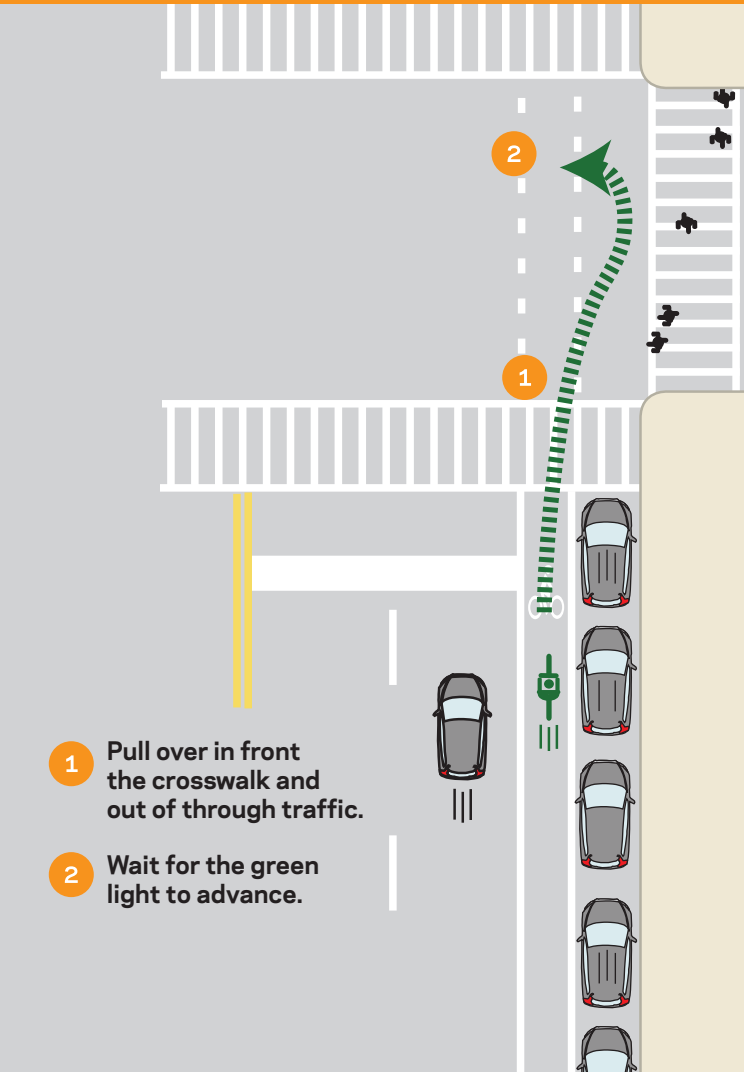


"Vehicular Style" Turning



- 1 Look and double-check for oncoming cars. Signal with your hands.
- 2 When it is safe, carefully move into the left-hand lane.
- 3 Complete your turn like any other vehicle.

"Pedestrian Style" Turning



- 1 Pull over in front of the crosswalk and out of through traffic.
- 2 Wait for the green light to advance.

NYC Bike Resources

City of New York

NYC Dept. of Transportation Bicycle Program nyc.gov/bikes

NYC Dept. of City Planning nyc.gov/planning

NYC Dept. of Parks & Recreation nyc.gov/parks

Citi Bike citybikenyc.com

Cycling Education and Advocacy Organizations

Bike New York (Free Cycling Lessons) bikenewyork.org

Bike the Bronx (Bronx Advocacy) bikethebronx.com

Recycle-A-Bicycle (Youth Cycling Programming) recycleabicycle.org

Transportation Alternatives (Cycling/Ped Advocacy) transalt.org

VeloCity (Youth Cycling Planning Education) velocity-rides.org

Cycling Clubs

Century Road Club Association (Competitive) crca.net

Fast & Fabulous (LGBT) fastnfab.org

Five Borough Bicycle Club (Recreational) 5bbc.org

Major Taylor Iron Riders (Recreational) majortaylorironriders.com

New York Cycle Club (Recreational) nycc.org

Staten Island Bicycling Association (Recreational) sibike.org

WE Bike (Women) webikenyc.org

Weekday Cyclists in NYC (Recreational) weekdaycyclists.org

National Cycling Groups

Bikes Belong www.bikesbelong.org

League of American Bicyclists www.bikeleague.org

National Center for Bicycling and Walking www.bikewalk.org

Last updated Spring 2013



For a free NYC Bike Map
call 311 or visit nyc.gov/bikes



NYCDOT



NYC_DOT