



INTERSECTION TACTICS

Intersections, are places where many riders have serious problems. An intersection is any place where two paths of travel cross, so you can expect conflicts at alleyways, driveways and commercial entrances as well as in major intersections. Because of the traffic density, reduced sight lines, restricted roadways, and general confusion, the probability of serious problems is maximized at intersections. If there is any place in your travels where you have to concentrate on the business at hand, it's at intersections. If you encounter a problem at an intersection, it's likely to be a serious one, and you will probably have a very limited time to deal with it. The answer to dealing with intersection problems is in the way you approach them.

Here's the sequence of events you should follow:

- . Check and adjust your Space Cushion and Following Distance
- . Scan the intersection while you are still a few seconds away
- . Check traffic control devices and estimate which way the traffic will be flowing when you arrive at the intersection. Any light that is green when first observed is "stale", you can expect it to change before you arrive
- . Adjust speed to assure a smooth pace of travel through the intersection, without having to stop, if possible, or a smooth deceleration and stop
- . Adjust lane position or lane for maximum conspicuity
- . Check oncoming traffic for turning vehicles, and side streets for vehicles waiting to enter the roadway
- . Cover brakes to reduce reaction time and to alert drivers behind as you get close to the intersection
- . Make a decision to proceed through the intersection, or to stop, as you approach the Decision Point {the point after which you cannot safely stop before the intersection), and execute your decision.

RIGHT OF WAY is a heavily abused legal concept. Traffic control devices and the right of way rules assign priority for movement according to traffic volume, speed, roadway design and hazards present. Many drivers ignore them and others make mistakes.



You should yield not only to those other vehicles who deserve it under the Right of Way rules but also to those drivers who violate the rules at traffic control signals. In the long run, it does not matter who is right, it matters whether or not you are alive and well. Right of way is something to be given, not something to be taken.

