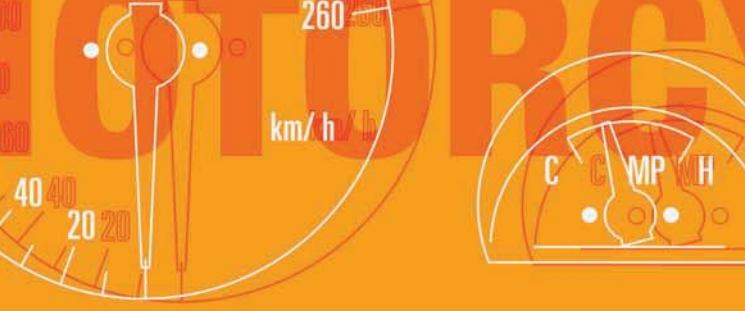


DON'T BUNGLE YOUR

outing



Québec 



TAKING AN UNKNOWN OUT HAS ITS RISKS

Before taking to the road with a new motorcycle or lending it to a friend, give the matter some thought.

In effect, 25% of motorcycle riders involved in a fatal accident have owned their bike for less than three months, and 17% are not the owner.

Take the time to gradually familiarize yourself with a new or borrowed motorcycle.

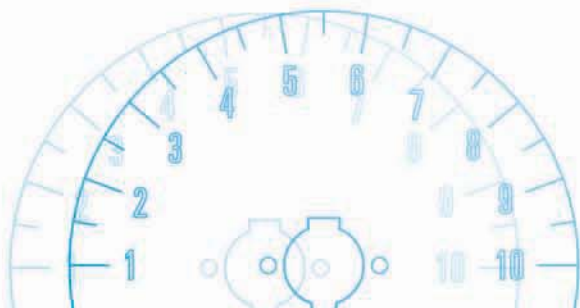
A double dose of prudence is called for if you are a new rider or haven't operated a motorbike for a while.

A RISK THAT IS NOT WELL-KNOWN...

Were you aware that motorcycle accidents often involve only one vehicle?

In 41% of fatal motorcycle accidents, there was no other vehicle involved. The vast majority of those accidents occur in curves, with speeding a factor.

Motorcyclists must master operating techniques and obey traffic rules as well as speed limits, to make the joy of riding last.





REMINDER OF OPERATING TECHNIQUES TO PUT INTO PRACTICE

1 Starting position

- Grip the handlebar firmly and apply the front-wheel brake.
- Lean the motorcycle slightly to rest it on your right leg.
- Squeeze the clutch lever and shift into first gear.
- Have your left foot on the ground, right foot on the footrest and apply the rear-wheel brake.
- Let go of the front-wheel brake.
- Look far ahead.
- Check the rearview mirrors and blind spots.
- Ease off the clutch lever until you reach the point of friction, let go of the rear brake and use the throttle to move forward.

2 Riding slowly

- Hold your self straight astride the motorcycle.
- Look far ahead.
- Squeeze the fuel tank with your knees.
- Accelerate smoothly.
- Change gears progressively.

3 Emergency braking in a straight line

- Look far ahead.
- Hold the handlebar firmly.
- Apply both brakes as firmly as possible without jamming the brakes.
- Downshift if the situation allows.



4 Turning at slow speed, using your counterweight

- Turn the front wheel in the direction of the turn.
- Lean the motorcycle to the inside of the turn.
- Look in the direction you want to go.
- Shift your body in the opposite direction of the turn to act as a counterweight.
- Accelerate slightly.

5 Steering to avoid an obstacle

- Slow down before reaching the obstacle.
- Evaluate which side to choose to get around the obstacle.
- Release the brakes.
- Steer around the obstacle.
- Resume your position.

6 Curves

- Slow down before reaching the start of a curve.
- Place yourself so as to get the best view of the curve.
- Look far ahead into the curve.
- Countersteer when entering the curve.
- Keep the motorcycle in a lean.
- Keep a constant speed in the sharpest part of the curve until exiting.
- Gradually accelerate once out of the curve to straighten the motorcycle..

GETTING READY TO RIDE

Mandatory or recommended equipment

- A helmet with a face shield, rugged clothing, boots, and gloves.

Pre-ride check

- Check the mechanical components, fluid levels, tires, lights and turn-signals.
- Check the route map.
- Estimate the time needed to reach your destination.
- Leave sufficiently ahead of time.

Factors that influence motorcycle operation

- *The rider's state of health:*
Be in good physical and mental condition. Not be under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medication that could affect vehicle control;
- *Condition of the vehicle:*
Do periodic maintenance;
- *Weather conditions:*
Sun, rain, fog, wind, etc. Check the forecast before leaving and adapt driving to the weather;
- *Visibility:*
Daytime or evening. Make sure you can see the road clearly and be easily seen;
- *Types of road:*
Divided highway, country road, paved or gravel surface, multiple lanes, potholes or presence of road work crews;
- *Traffic:*
Fluid or stop-and-go.

For safe riding

- Master the techniques for operating a motorcycle and obey traffic rules.
- Be vigilant in the face of traffic conditions.
- Try to predict what might happen on the roadway.
- Use good judgment to select the best solution.
- Develop your motorcycle handling skills in normal and emergency situations.

Look as far ahead as possible

- In the city:
Look at least 12 to 15 seconds travel distance ahead of you;
- Outside urban areas:
Look at least 20 seconds travel distance ahead.

Minimal following distance

- Keep a separation distance equivalent to 2 to 3 seconds between vehicles, whatever the travel formation.

Risk of collision

- At intersections, when passing another vehicle, with one ahead or behind.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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