

# Bicycle Lanes



Bike lanes make it easier for bicycles and vehicles to share the road. Bike lanes help calm traffic and reduce conflicts between cyclists and motorists, making streets safer for everyone.

- Cyclists must always travel in the same direction as traffic on the right side of the road.
- When cycling beside parked cars, watch for doors opening.
- It is illegal to walk, park or drive a car in a bicycle lane.
- Cyclists must follow the same rules of the road as a motor-vehicle, including traffic signs and lights.
- Motorists must provide 1m of distance when passing a cyclist travelling in a bike lane.

**Drivers and cyclists are safest when everyone follows the rules of the road.**

For more information on using bicycle infrastructure in Ontario visit: [www.mto.gov.on.ca](http://www.mto.gov.on.ca) and search for bicycle safety.



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## A Quick Guide to Using



## Bicycle Infrastructure



# Shared Lanes



Bicycles are vehicles and are entitled to use most traffic lanes alongside cars, regardless of the infrastructure available. Shared lanes are like regular traffic lanes, but they often have painted bike symbols with directional arrows. These “sharrows” let cyclists know where it is safe to ride, and remind motorists that they must give the right of way to the bicycle as a slower moving vehicle.



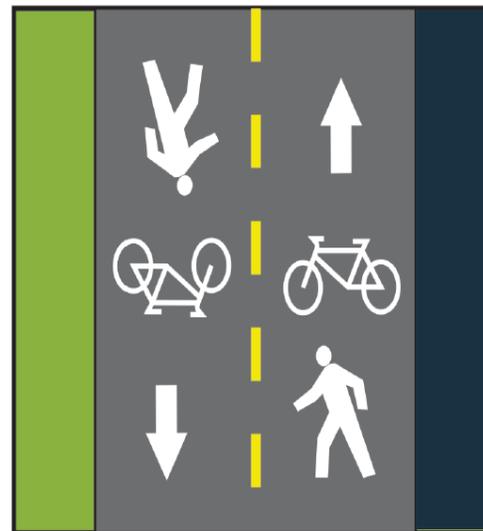
- Cyclists should ride over the centre of the symbols as the markings are the safest travel area of the roadway.
- If there is a **Single File** sign, motor-vehicles must follow behind the cyclist until they are clear of the roadway.
- If there is a **Share the Road** sign, cyclists should ride to the right where it is realistic and safe. A cyclist can take up as much of the road as they need, and a vehicle can only pass if they can give the cyclist 1m of space.
- Cyclists are expected to follow the same rules of the road as a motorist, including traffic signs and lights.



# Multiuse Paths

Multiuse paths are shared by cyclists and different types of pedestrians, like people who walk, use wheelchairs, motorized mobility aids, in-line skates or skateboards.

- All users should keep to the right.
- Cyclists should travel at a slow speed and use a bell to alert pedestrians that they are approaching from behind.
- Pedestrians should keep their pets on a leash.
- Electric bicycles and scooters should not use multiuse trails. They travel too fast and pose a safety risk. E-bike riders are encouraged to use their pedals, and scooters without pedals should avoid multiuse paths.



# Sidewalks



When adults ride on the road and follow the same rules of the road as motor-vehicles, they are more visible and behave more predictably. This helps drivers to know where cyclists are and what their travel intentions are so they can keep cyclists safe.

Children under the age of 14 have not yet developed the thinking skills to safely navigate traffic. Check with your municipality to learn about bylaws regulating cycling on sidewalks by children and youth.

