

Don't ride without a pre-ride check:

# TCLOCS

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation developed TCLOCS, a pre-ride checklist that helps you take care of your ride so your ride can better take care of you.



## TIRES

Check air pressure, wheels, brakes and spokes.



## CONTROLS

Check levers, hoses, cables and throttle.



## LIGHTS and electrical switches.

Make sure all are working properly.



## OIL and fluids

Check oil, coolant and hydraulics. Look for leaks.



## CHASSIS

Check drive train, chain and suspension. If you add a passenger, adjust accordingly.



## SIDE STAND (kickstand)

Make sure spring and stand operate reliably.

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**REMEMBER: RIDE SAFE. RIDE SMART.**  
**MotorcycleSafetyDE.org**

# RESPECT ~ your ~ RIDE

Safer motorcycle rides start with these tips.



ARRIVE ALIVE **DE**

## TAKE YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY SERIOUSLY. TAKE A TRAINING COURSE.

Eighteen Delaware motorcyclists died in 2012. About 90% were men, with nearly half of them riding cruiser bikes and 15% on sport bikes. Most fatalities occurred from March to October, while most injuries occurred May to September. Historically, riders aged 45–54 are over-represented, but in 2012 younger riders (aged 25–34) accounted for more than 50% of fatalities.

Inexperience or lack of judgment cost them their lives. Delaware's motorcycle safety courses only cost about \$50. Whether you're a novice or seasoned rider, take a safety course. You'll learn riding and assessment skills that could save your life. Completing the course also saves you 10% on your bike's liability insurance. Learn more at [MotorcycleSafetyDE.org](http://MotorcycleSafetyDE.org).

## WHAT GEAR YOU SHOULD WEAR.

- **HELMET:** DOT-approved, buckled correctly to chin and, preferably, full-faced.
- **EYEWEAR:** protective goggles, riding glasses or face shield on helmet.
- **GLOVES:** leather or reinforced fabric, preferably with upper hand protection.
- **JACKET/PANTS:** leather, denim or reinforced fabric with back, elbow and shoulder protection.
- **BOOTS:** motorcycle-type or heavy work boots—no sneakers, sandals or loafers.

## TAKE TURNS SLOWER AND LIVE.

- In turns, excess speed can kill.
- Begin braking before entering a turn.
- Slower in, safer out is the smarter way.

## SHARE THE ROAD.

US DOT statistics say motorcyclists are 34 times more likely to die in a crash than someone in an automobile. So share the road with cars and trucks and practice these safer ride recommendations.

- Stay out of cars' blind spots.
- Wear bright-colored riding gear for visibility.
  - Don't split lanes.
  - Don't ride on shoulders or side by side.
- Don't expect drivers to see you; many are distracted.
  - Use extra caution in intersections.

## BE VIGILANT FOR THESE RIDING HAZARDS.

- Loose sand, gravel and road debris.
- Slippery or wet surfaces.
- Railroad crossings and metal bridges.
- Uneven and grooved surfaces.

## KEEP YOUR EYES—AND MIND—ON THE ROAD.

Motorcycling is inherently dangerous. You're perched on two wheels, not planted on four. Don't let your eyes or mind wander. Focus solely on the circumstances surrounding you, constantly scanning ahead for the unexpected, and have an escape plan ready to enact immediately. You'll be more likely to arrive alive.

## ALCOHOL AND MOTORCYCLES DON'T MIX.

- Never ride buzzed or drunk.
- Park your bike if you're going to drink.
- Let a designated driver take you home.
- Get your bike the next day.

