

8) Riding at night

Riding at night is even more dangerous than riding in the day. This is why Endorsement 6 (learner's) licensed riders are prohibited from riding at night. The majority of fatal crashes happen after dark.

One of the major problems for motorcyclists driving at night is alcohol abuse. Driving after drinking is a problem for motorcyclists, whether they have been drinking or they are trying to avoid being hit by impaired drivers.

Another major problem when driving at night is reduced visibility. You cannot see or be seen as well at night as you can in the day.

Other considerations

Keep your headlight clean

Use your high beam

Get all the light that you can. Use your high beam whenever you are not following or meeting another vehicle.

Wear reflective clothing

Remember to take warmer clothing if you're going to be out at night.

Reduce your speed

If there is something lying in the road ahead, you will not be able to see it until you are very close to it. If you are going too fast, you may not be able to avoid it. It is important to reduce your speed at night, particularly on roads that you don't know well.

Use the car ahead

If there is a car ahead, you can use it to your advantage. Its lights can give you a better view of the road ahead than your own light. Car taillights bouncing up and down can alert you to bumps or rough pavement.

Increase distance

Distance is more difficult to judge at night than in the day. You can make up for this by allowing extra distance. Follow at a greater distance from the vehicle ahead. Leave more room on either side of you when riding alongside other vehicles. Give yourself more distance to pass. (For more information, see the *Saskatchewan Driver's Handbook*.)