

Traffic Rules for Specified Small Motorized Bicycles (Electric Scooters)

The new rules for the specified small motorized bicycles will be applied starting July 1, 2023.

What are specified small motorized bicycles?

Motorized bicycles that meet all the following criteria

[Vehicle Size]

Length: Up to 190cm Width: Up to 60cm

[Vehicle Structure]

- Cannot accelerate over 20km/h
- Cannot change the top speed setting while driving
- Automatic Transmission (AT)
- Maximum speed indicating light installed etc.



Relevant NPA
webpage

From July 1, 2023, vehicles that may look like electric scooters but fall out of these criteria will remain subject to the traffic rules for general motorized bicycles or motor vehicles according to their vehicle classifications. Driving license is required to drive these vehicles.

Drivers' age limit

- Must be 16 years old or above**

Those under 16 years old are prohibited from driving specified small motorized bicycles.

Basic traffic rules you should know before you drive

- Compliance with safety standards**

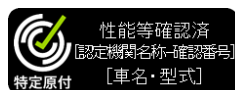
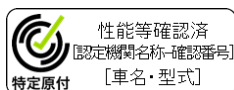
To drive specified small motorized bicycles,

- 1) The vehicles must meet the safety standards set by the Road Transport Vehicle Act,
- 2) You must be covered with compulsory automobile liability insurance, and
- 3) Number plates must be attached to the vehicles.

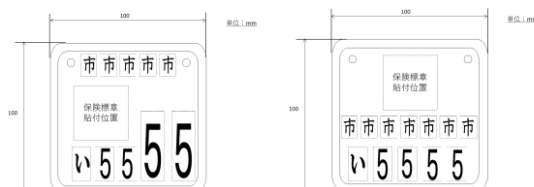
※ Due to safety reasons, municipalities will sequentially issue number plates that are smaller than conventional one to fit within the vehicle width.

You may apply for small number plates even if you already have conventional number plates issued. Please install them to ensure safety.

Performance
Certificates



Small Number Plates



- Driving under the influence of alcohol is absolutely prohibited**

Do not drive after drinking alcohol.

Driving under the influence of alcohol is an extremely serious and dangerous crime.



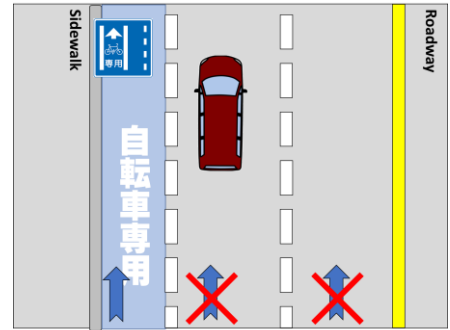
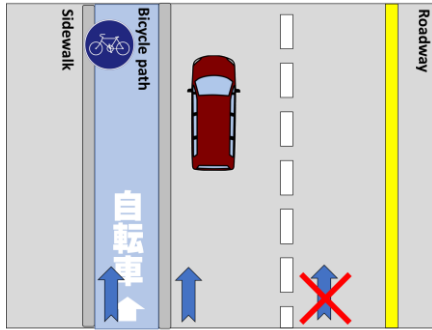
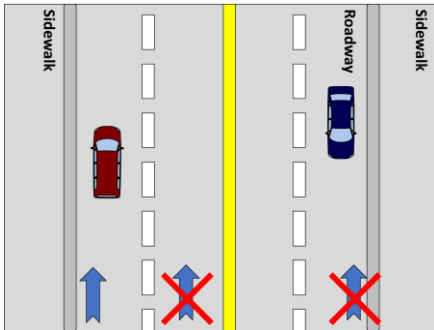
Drivable Lanes

○ Drive on the roadways

Drive on the roadways. (You may also drive on the bicycle path).

Drive on **the left edge of the road.** **Do not drive on the right sides.**

【Driving lanes for specified small motorized bicycles】



“Bicycles and Specified Small Motorized Bicycles Only”

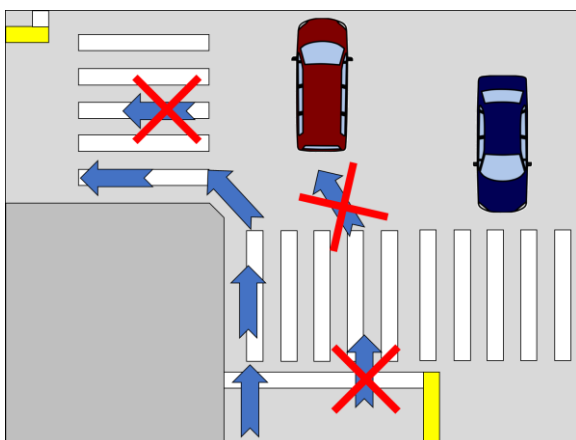
“Traffic Lanes Exclusive for Standard Bicycles”



○ How to turn

• Turing Left

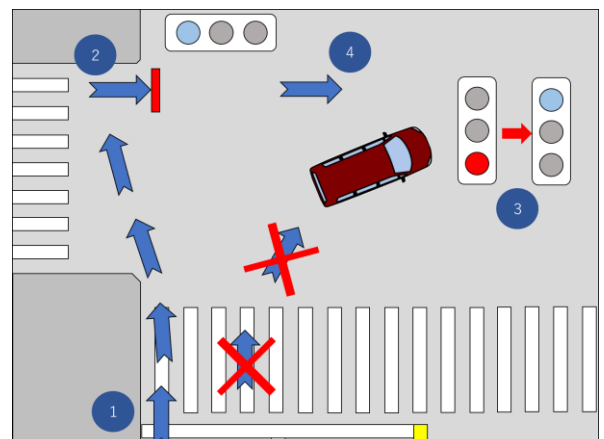
When turning left, ensure safety of the rear, **turn on the left turn signal** beforehand, proceed along the left edge of the road and sufficiently decelerate to **turn without blocking the crossing pedestrians.**



• Turning Right

At any intersection, specified small motorized bicycles **must make '2-step right turns'.** (※)

※ Cross the street on a green light, then turn the vehicle right to cross again after the front signal turns green.



Basic Traffic Rules

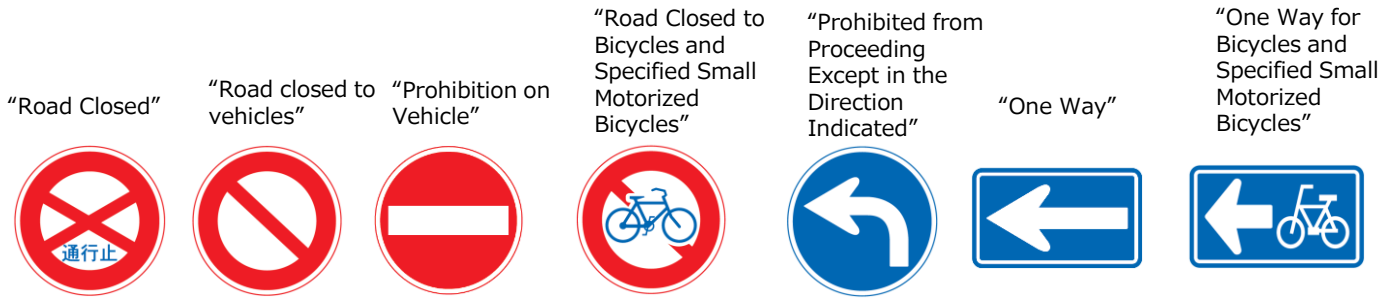
○ Obey the traffic light signals

You must obey the traffic light signals .

○ Prohibition of entry

Do not drive on streets or part of the streets where its passage/traffic is prohibited by road signs.

【Major Relevant Road Signs】

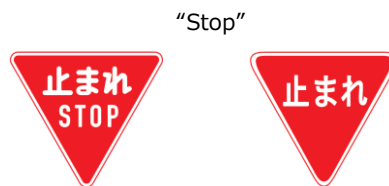


Traffic of specified small motorized bicycles is prohibited

Must also obey these signs

○ Where to stop

At stop signs, stop immediately in front of the stop lines (or immediately in front of the intersections if there are no stop lines).

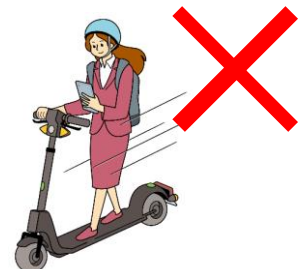


○ Yield to Pedestrians/Pedestrians First

When pedestrians are crossing or about to cross the pedestrian crossings, stop immediately in front of the pedestrian crossings (or immediately in front of the stop lines) and yield to pedestrians.

○ Other rules to follow

It is prohibited to drive while talking on your smartphones or focusing attention on their screens.



Exceptional cases where traffic on sidewalks are allowed

The vehicles which meet all the criteria of **exceptional** specified small motorized bicycles may drive on sidewalks indicated with signs of “Standard Bicycles and Pedestrians Only”.

【Criteria of **exceptional** specified small motorized bicycles】

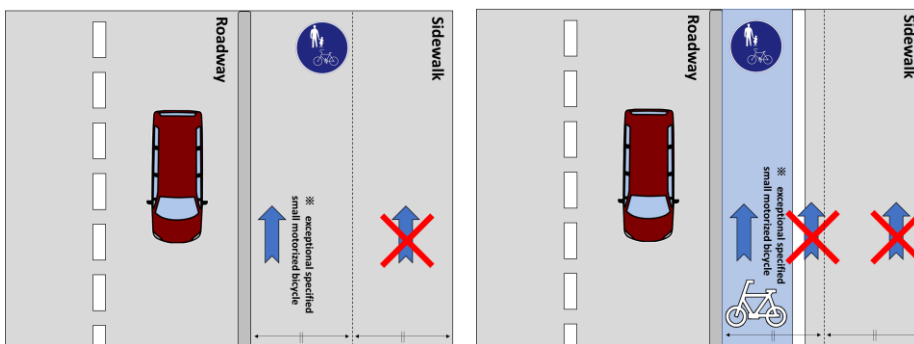
- Flickering maximum speed indicating light (green lights)
- Cannot accelerate over 6km/h etc.
- ※ vehicles that can accelerate over 6km/h with throttle operations do not meet the criteria of exceptional specified small motorized bicycles and thus may not drive on sidewalks.

When driving on sidewalks, drive on the near-road side of pedestrian sidewalks or on “the part of sidewalk for use by standard bicycles”.

On sidewalks, do not prevent pedestrians from proceeding.

【Driving on sidewalks】

“Standard Bicycles and Pedestrians Only”



For safe driving

○ Wearing Bike Helmets

Wear bike helmets to protect your heads and mitigate damage from traffic accidents.

In case of traffic accidents

If traffic accidents occur, the drivers of the specified small motorized bicycles must rescue the injured and immediately report the accidents to the police. Otherwise, the accidents will be treated as hit-and-run cases.

In case of traffic accidents, the drivers must take the following actions:

- (1) To prevent blocking other traffic and sequential accidents, pull off to safe places (e.g., road shoulders or blank spaces) and turn off the engine.
- (2) If there are injured persons, conduct possible rescue activities e.g., stop the bleeding by using gauze or clean handkerchiefs until physicians and ambulances arrive. Do not move the injured, particularly if the head is injured. However, promptly rescue and move the injured to a safe place when sequential accidents by the cars behind may occur.
- (3) Report the location of accident, number of the injured and degrees of injuries, degrees of property damage, load of the accident vehicles to the police officers and receive instructions.