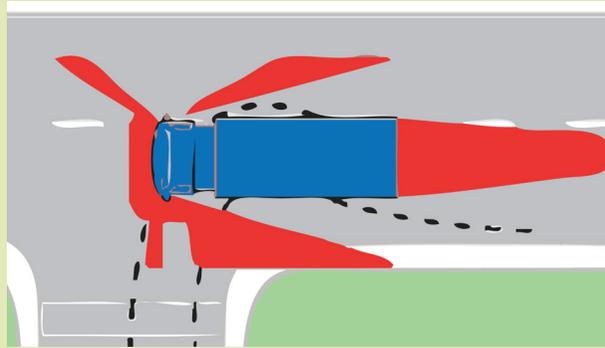


# Tips for cyclists

## Cycle sensibly and confidently to help stay safe

- Stay alert and look out for buses and trucks.
- Recognise that truck or bus drivers may not be able to see you.
- Anticipate that a bus will often stop at marked bus stops.
- Stay within marked cycle lanes, where available.
- Wait for the right moment to pass a stationary bus or truck.
- Don't weave through traffic, as this makes it harder for truck and bus drivers to anticipate where you are.
- Never cycle up the left side of a truck or bus stopped at an intersection, unless you're in a cycle lane.
- Look out for trucks or buses turning left from beside or behind you.
- Take up a visible position at lights: three metres out in front and not by the left kerb or very close to the truck or bus.
- Wear bright, visible clothing, especially at night or in poor weather.
- Although it's legal to ride two abreast, ride in single file to let following traffic pass.
- Remember that, when turning, the trailer of a long vehicle will track inside the path of the cab.

## Blind spots



The blind spot can be the full length of the vehicle, leaving the driver unable to see anyone cycling beside them on the left.

Remember, if you can't see the driver or their mirrors, then they can't see you.

**Don't risk your life by trying to pass trucks or buses on the left-hand side when they are stopped at intersections or are about to turn.**

## Our contact details

For more information on how to share the road safely, visit [www.nzta.govt.nz](http://www.nzta.govt.nz). Or go to [www.can.org.nz](http://www.can.org.nz) to find out about the Cycling Advocates' Network's *Being cycle aware* workshops.

For general enquiries and contact information for the NZ Transport Agency, please check our website [www.nzta.govt.nz](http://www.nzta.govt.nz) or email us at [info@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:info@nzta.govt.nz).

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# Safety tips for cyclists and truck and bus drivers



Cycling is on the increase in New Zealand and although it is generally becoming safer, by following a few simple tips we can prevent crashes.

Most cyclist and truck or bus collisions happen when vehicles turn left at traffic lights or other intersections. Cyclists are more vulnerable than other road users and more likely to be harmed in a crash.

It is in the best interests of operators, drivers and cyclists to prevent crashes by being aware of each other and behaving responsibly.



## Tips for truck and bus drivers

- Stay alert and look out for cyclists, particularly on your left side.
- Only pass cyclists when it's completely safe to do so. Wait for the right moment and give them plenty of room. Ideally, allow 1.5 metres between you and the cyclist.
- Some cyclists can travel quickly (40km/h or more), so allow extra time for overtaking or delay passing them until it's safe.
- Remember your huge size in comparison with the vulnerable cyclist – an adult cyclist may only be the height of your wheels.
- Stay alert, even in stationary traffic – pedestrians and cyclists may weave through slow traffic.
- Get the best mirror system you can, including a Fresnel lens. By fitting the lens to the passenger side window of your cab, you can make it easier to see cyclists on the left-hand side of your vehicle.
- Don't cross stop lines or infringe on cycle advanced stop boxes.



- Don't closely follow cyclists – it can be intimidating.
- Consider installing truck under-run side protection.
- If in doubt, slow down around people cycling, especially near schools.

### When turning left

- Always signal and do so well in advance. A cyclist already on your left-hand side or in front of you can't see your indicators.
- Look for cyclists on your left-hand side. If you even suspect they are there, pause to let them get out of your way, especially when pulling away.
- Remember that if you have passed a cyclist just before approaching a traffic signal, driveway, bus stop or junction, it is very likely they will end up on your left-hand side or just in front of you. Assume the cyclist is in one of your blind spots.
- Be careful when swinging out wide to turn left. Cyclists may not correctly interpret your intentions.

