

Shared path courtesy

Good path behaviour will create a better environment for all users.

You can assist in improving path safety by:

- Overtaking pedestrians with plenty of room to spare. At least a metre of space is recommended.
- Slowing right down if there are any small children or animals up ahead as they can be very unpredictable.
- Always ringing your bell when approaching pedestrians or slower moving cyclists from behind. Use the bell about 30 metres before reaching them.
- Read the body language of other path users. Look for signs that they are aware of your presence and watch out for inattentive or erratic behaviour.

Path hazards

Report serious path hazards (e.g. poor lighting, low overhanging branches, potholes etc) to one of the following organisations:

- Relevant local council
- Main Roads WA on telephone 1800 800 009
- Department for Planning and Infrastructure via the online Hazard Report Form at www.dpi.wa.gov.au/cycling



Riding safely on shared paths



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Shared path rules

Shared paths are those that are signed with both bicycle and pedestrian symbols. Only children under 12 years of age can ride on a footpath.

Other shared path rules include:

- By law you must have a bell on your bike.
- You must keep left unless overtaking.
- You must ride in single file unless overtaking.
- You must give way to pedestrians at all times.
- You must use lights on your bicycle at night.
- Where a path intersects a road, always signal your intention to turn, and remember that you must give way to motor vehicles using that road.

Reckless cycling

Under the Road Traffic Code, it is an offence to put other path users at risk.

Although there are no posted speed limits on paths, a police officer can issue an infringement if they believe you are riding at a speed deemed to be reckless for the given terrain, weather, path condition etc. **Fines of up to \$800 apply.**

Reporting a crash

If you are involved in a crash on a path that involves another cyclist, a pedestrian or an animal, and either party is injured or property damage is estimated to exceed \$1000, the incident must be reported to the police.

Cycling at night

Riding at night requires some additional equipment and greater awareness. You should:

- Ride within the range of your headlight. If your braking distance is greater than the amount of path being shown by the light you should slow down.
- Make sure you have a white front light and a red rear light fitted that are in good working order. A red rear reflector and yellow reflectors on both wheels and pedals must also be fitted.
- Make sure your headlight is correctly adjusted so that it illuminates the path and is not shining in the eyes of oncoming cyclists or pedestrians.
- Wear light-coloured clothing and preferably something reflective to increase visibility.

