

NEW BICYCLE RULES IMPLEMENTED FROM JUNE 1, 2015

Bicycle traffic violations and bicycle-related accidents have been on the rise in Japan for the past years. In response to this, a revised traffic law went into effect nationwide. Understand it better:

2 or more traffic violations in a period of 3 years



3-hour traffic safety course (¥5,700) within 3 months of receiving the order

Failure to take the course:

FINED UP TO
¥50,000

Prohibited from riding before taking the safety course

LIST OF TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS

REMEMBER!

In principle, all kinds of bicycles ("mama-chari" and road bikes alike) are considered **VEHICLES** and should go on the road with the cars.

On sidewalks and side strips, pedestrians always have the priority. When riding along with pedestrians, ride SLOWLY, keep a safe distance and stop whenever necessary.

1. Ignoring traffic lights

2. Entering off-limit areas



3. Riding too fast on pedestrian-only areas of **sidewalks**

4. Ignoring traffic lane division

5. Disturbing pedestrians flow while riding on **side strips**

6. Ignoring a closed railway crossing gate



7. Violating safety regulations at intersections

8. Ignoring priority rules while entering intersections

9. Violating safety regulations at circular junctions

SIDEWALKS:

- clear division with road (obstacles such as guard rails, plants or different-level)

SIDE STRIPS

- same level as road, with no physical obstacle (markings on the road)

VS



Either way, pedestrians ALWAYS have the priority!!!

10. Not stopping at stop signs and intersections



11. Violating safety regulations while riding at sidewalks



12. Riding with malfunction brakes

13. Riding a bicycle under the influence of **ALCOHOL**

14. Violating safe-riding regulations

A few examples:

- ALWAYS ride in the same direction as the cars, on the left side of the left lane.
- NEVER ride one-handed while using umbrellas or cellphones or carrying big objects.
- Take extra care with crossings and corners with bad visibility.
- Do not wear earplugs while riding.