

From July 1, 2023, specific small motorized bicycles that do not require a driver's license will be allowed on public road.

※Those under 16 years old are prohibited from driving.

Motorized bicycle

Requires license

General motorized bicycle
(current motorized bicycle)

Legal speed limit : 30km/h

Conventional traffic rules for motorized bicycles are applied.

Specified small motorized bicycles

Not requires license

- The size of the vehicle must be less than 190 cm in length, and less than 60 cm in width.
- Maximum speed must be set at 20km/h or less.
- Can not change the top speed setting while driving.
- The motor must be electric.
- The automatic transmission system must be installed.
- The maximum speed indicating light and blinker must be installed and conform to safety standard.
- License plate must be attached.
- You must cover the compulsory automobile liability insurance.
- You must wear a helmet. (Obligation to strive hard)

Maximum speed indicating light turns green.

Mode switching



Exceptional specified small motorized bicycles

- Maximum speed must be set at 6km/h or less.
- Maximum speed indicating light blinks green.

Make sure the vehicle classification before you drive. The rules vary depending on the classification of the vehicle. All of them are motorized bicycles, but the maximum speed and the place where you can drive vary depending on the vehicle classification.

How to drive specified small motorized bicycles and exceptional specified small motorized bicycles



Drive on the roadway in principles



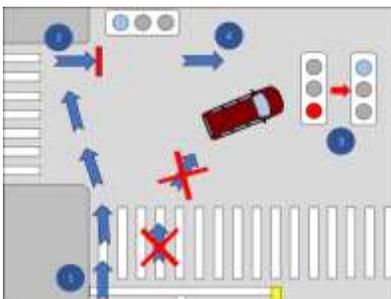
On the street where there is a division between sidewalk or roadside stripe and roadway, you must drive on the roadway. You must drive on the left side on the roadway, especially on the left edge when you drive the road where there is no vehicle traffic zones.



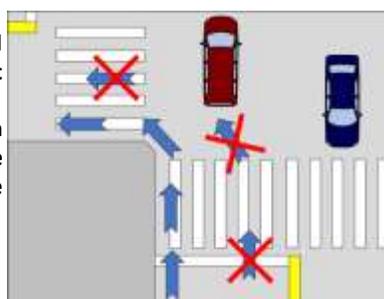
You may drive on the bicycle path.

On the road with vehicle lanes, you must drive on the leftmost lane.

How to turn



At any intersection, specified small motorized bicycles must make "two-step right turns".*
* Cross the street on a green light, then turn the vehicle right to cross again after the front signal turns green.



When turning left, you must turn on the left turn signal beforehand, drive along the left edge of the road and sufficiently decelerate to turn without blocking the crossing pedestrians.

Exceptional cases where driving on sidewalks are allowed



Only if all standards for exceptional specific small motorized bicycle are met, driving on the sidewalk is allowed. However, not all sidewalk is allowed, only those are indicated with signs of "Standard Bicycles and Pedestrians Only".

When driving on the sidewalk, vehicle must proceed the part of the sidewalk that is closer to the roadway from the center of the sidewalk or designated area for bicycle.

Yield to pedestrians on the sidewalk.

