

# Be safe, be bike wise

YOUR GUIDE TO SAFE OFF ROAD BIKING



fighting crime  
protecting communities

If you own or ride an off road vehicle here is some really useful advice to help make sure you ride legally.



## The law

All bikes including quad bikes, monkey bikes, scooters and small machines with a petrol engine and mini motors and go peds powered by an electric motor are classified as not suitable for use on roads or pavements. This means these bikes come under the laws for motorcycle safety. It does not matter how small the bike is, how slowly it travels or it has been designed for children.

## Thinking of buying a bike?

- Check the bike has a visible identification number on the frame and an engine number
- Get proof of purchase from the seller.

**Remember** it's your responsibility to ride legally. Ignoring the law is no defence. Breaking the law can have serious consequences. You run the risk of:

- Having your bike seized
- An anti-social behaviour order (ASBO)
- A heavy fine
- A civil claim for injury to yourself or others

**For more information:** [www.merseyside.police.uk](http://www.merseyside.police.uk)

## + Advice for riders:

Protect yourself from accidents and injury by wearing full protective clothing at all times and a helmet that fits correctly and is securely fastened.

Transport your off-road bike to a legitimate riding area in a van or trailer.

Ride in an area where off road vehicles can be lawfully ridden, such as on private land with the permission of the landowner or at an organised, supervised off road centre.

Look into organised motorbike groups in your local area.

Contact your local council for a list of areas where can ride freely.

Contact the Auto-cycle Union (the governing body for the sport), for a full list of venues and events near you:

**Web:** [www.acu.org.uk](http://www.acu.org.uk)

**Tel:** 07788 566 400

## Don't:

Ride on pavements, public land, parks, pathways, or public bridleways.

Ride unlicensed on public roads.