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RTT Cheat Sheet

The essentials of the Riding Theory handbook on two pages. The test: 50 questions in 50 minutes, pass with 45 correct.

Key numbers

<200cc
Class 2B petrol motorcycles (electric: below 15 kW)
p.3

1 yr
to pass the practical test after the RTT
p.4

1 yr
holding Class 2B before the Class 2A test
p.3

10
minimum age of a child pillion passenger
p.88

10-20 mm
clutch lever free play
p.18

15-20 mm
front brake lever and rear pedal free play
p.17

20 mm
maximum drive chain slack
p.25

1.6 mm
minimum tyre tread depth
p.16

120°
angle of your arms on the handlebar
p.20

0-20 km/h
speed range for 1st gear
p.34

3,000–4,000
rpm to change up a gear
p.35

¾ s
average rider reaction time
p.44

3 s / 6 s
following gap; 6 s when tailgated, wet, at night
p.43

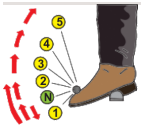
12 s
scan ahead; clear road needed to overtake
p.53, 81

6 s / 8 s
gap to turn left / right from a minor road
p.45-47

11 m
emergency brake course stop from about 30 km/h (wet)
p.97

Controls and gears

Left hand	clutch lever	**Right hand**	throttle, front brake
Left foot	gear pedal	**Right foot**	rear brake



- Twist the throttle **towards you** for more engine speed. Front brake: pull gradually with four fingers. Rear brake: press gently; hard locks the wheel. p.27-28
- **Neutral** is between 1st and 2nd (green 'N' light). Lower gear = more pulling power: use it to move off and go uphill. p.28
- Changing gear: clutch in fully, close the throttle, move the pedal once, release the clutch gradually. p.36
- Vibrating because you are too slow for the gear: change down. p.35

Checks before riding

- Tyres: tread, damage, pressure. Wrong pressure makes the motorcycle unstable. p.14-16
- Engine oil: check cold, on level ground. Chain slack no more than 20 mm. p.16, 25
- Mirrors: adjust while seated, not on the main stand; you see the tip of your shoulder. p.26
- Throttle, clutch and brakes work smoothly. A stuck throttle: clutch in, engine off, brake. p.26
- Removing the catalytic converter or other unapproved changes: illegal modification. p.18

Posture and riding gear

- Knees grip the fuel tank lightly; arms at about 120°, elbows slightly bent; arches of the feet on the footrests. p.20
- **Helmet**: rider and pillion, chin strap fastened. Bright or reflective clothing; a white helmet at night; gloves. p.19-20
- Headlight on **at all times**, day and night. p.62
- Pillion: hold your waist with both hands, feet on the footrests. Adjust your mirrors after they sit. p.88

Braking

- **Emergency stop**: both brakes hard without locking, body straight, knees on the tank; clutch in just before you stop. p.38
- **Engine braking**: close the throttle in gear with the clutch out. Useful on wet roads and long slopes (2nd gear on steep descents). p.37
- Clutch in too early: you free-wheel and take longer to stop. Brakes overheating: brake fade. p.37-38
- Wet road: about twice the stopping distance. Stopping distance = reaction + braking distance. p.38, 44

Lanes, junctions and overtaking

- Changing lane: **mirrors, signal (3 s), blind spot**. A growing image in your mirror is closing in on you. p.49-51
- Keep left; riding slowly in the right lane is road hogging. Ambulance: pull in left or right. p.49
- Uncontrolled junction: straight across, give way to straight traffic from the right; turning right, give way to straight traffic from all directions. p.56-57
- Roundabout: give way to traffic on your right. Yellow box: do not block it. Flashing amber: lights out of order. p.57-60
- Overtaking: one vehicle at a time, never near crossings or junctions. On the left only when the vehicle ahead turns right, you turn left, or on one-way roads. p.53-55, 85
- U-turn only where a U-turn sign allows it. Filter lane: give way to pedestrians and traffic from the right. p.46-48

Bends, weather and expressways

- Bends: slow down and change gear before; steady speed through; speed up on the exit. **Lean with** on gradual bends, **lean out** on sharp, slow corners. p.65-66
- Rain is most slippery at the start. Steel plates, manhole covers and road paint are slippery. Aquaplaning: ease off the throttle. Skid: steer into it. p.9, 63, 69
- Strong wind: slow down, lower gear, firm grip. After a flood, brake on and off to dry the brakes. p.64
- Expressways: no learners; build up speed on the slip road. Breakdown: shoulder, hazard lights, sign 20 m behind, wait behind the guardrail. p.66-67

Circuit courses

- Crank course: look along your path, not at the obstacle. Slalom: rear brake without fully closing the throttle. p.92-94
- Narrow plank: look beyond its end, half-clutch, rear brake for speed. p.95
- Stalled on the slope: brake at once, Neutral, restart. Emergency brake: stop within 11 m. p.96-97

Defensive riding

- **Know, Slow, Show, Go** at junctions. Give-way rules give nobody the right of way. p.82-83
- Two-vehicle crashes are the biggest category. Rear-ending someone: usually your fault. p.78
- Tailgated? Widen the gap in front. Oncoming car drifting over? Move left and slow; leave the road as a last resort. p.79-82
- Heavy vehicles have blind spots at the front, sides and rear: do not ride in them. p.9
- Pass parked cars about 1 m away; cyclists and pedestrians with their backs to you 1.5 m. p.71-76
- Do not ride tired, angry, on drowsy medicine or after drinking. p.6, 68

Emergencies

Front brake fails	rear brake and change down to 2nd
Puncture	grip firmly, steer against the pull, brake gently
Engine seizes	clutch in at once, brake gently to the side
Accident, no injury	move aside, settle it or tell your insurers
Bus lane hours	enter only to avoid a collision

p.89-90; engine seizure: general advice, not in the handbook

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Based on the official Riding Theory handbook; page numbers are the handbook's. An unofficial study aid, not a Traffic Police publication: where anything differs, the official handbook prevails. The handbooks are free from the Traffic Police Online Learning Portal.

Practise questions, mock tests and flash cards at **www.sgdriving.net**