



# QUICK TIPS for Motorcycle Riders



## Safety

- **Take a safety course:** The Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) offers basic and advanced rider courses in all 50 states. Call 1-800-446-9227 to find a class near you.
- **Wear protective gear,** including bright clothing and a helmet that meets U.S. Department of Transportation standards.
- **Maintain proper lane position:** Stay out of rear-corner blind spots and give yourself room for emergency maneuvers. Don't weave in and out of traffic.
- **Flash your brake light** before slowing down and stopping.

## Group Riding

- **Hold a rider's meeting:** Discuss route, rest/fuel stops & hand signals (see back). Assign lead and sweep riders
- **Keep group manageably sized:** The ideal group consists of 5-7 riders. For larger groups, break into smaller sub-groups with lead and sweep in each.
- **Ride prepared:** At least one rider per group should carry cell phone, first-aid kit, and tool kit.
- **Avoid** side-by-side formations.
- **Check riders** following in rear-view mirror periodically.

## Preventing Motorcycle Theft

- **Lock it up:** Lock everything from the ignition (don't forget to remove the key!), to the forks or disk brakes (with brightly colored tags). Lock the bike to a secure stationary object (i.e., light pole).
- **Lock bikes together** if traveling together.
- **Add an audible alarm** to your bike.
- **If traveling and staying in a hotel:** Locate security camera and park bike in camera's view.
- **If parking in a garage:** Block bike with cars, close garage door and make sure it's locked.
- **Do not store motorcycle's title on bike:** The safest place is at home.
- **Uniquely mark bike, then photograph it:** If stolen, describe markings to law enforcement.
- **ALWAYS** ride with bike registration and insurance ID card on you.

Information on this flyer was collected from the Motorcycle Safety Foundation®. For additional safety information, please visit [www.msf-usa.org](http://www.msf-usa.org).

# MSF's Guide to Group Riding: Hand Signals

**Stop**—arm extended straight down, palm facing back



**Single File**—arm and index finger extended straight up



**Turn Signal On**—open and close hand with fingers and thumb extended



**Slow Down**—arm extended straight out, palm facing down



**Double File**—arm and index finger extended straight up



**Fuel**—arm out to side pointing to tank with finger extended



**Speed Up**—arm extended straight out, palm facing up



**Hazard in Roadway**—on the right, point with right foot; on the left point with left hand



**Refreshment Stop**—fingers closed, thumb to mouth



**You Lead/Come**—arm extended upward 45°, palm forward pointing with index finger, swing in an arc from back to front



**Highbeam**—tap on top of helmet with open palm down



**Comfort Stop**—forearm extended, fist clenched with short up and down motion



**Follow Me**—arm extended straight up from shoulder, palm forward



**Pull Off**—arm positioned as for right turn, forearm swung toward shoulder



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