

Traffic Rules of Japan

1. Rules of Passage

There are usually “roadway” and “sidewalk” in the road.
(Some parts of the road have “cycle track”, too.)

(1) Rules for Bicycles

Bicycles have to keep to the left of the roadway.



In the below cases, you can also ride a bicycle on the sidewalk.

- The road has the traffic sign shown on the right.
- You are **under 13 years old**, or **70 years old and over**.
- You have **physical impairment**.
- You are compelled to do so;



because, going the roadway is dangerous due to road construction/parked cars, or the roadway is narrow and heavily trafficked, etc.

Bicycles have to **yield to pedestrians** on the sidewalk.

(When riding on the sidewalk, you have to keep to the roadway side.)



When there is the traffic sign shown on the left, **be sure to stop** and look both ways to ensure safety.

(2) Rules for Pedestrians

Pedestrians have to walk on the sidewalk.
When there is no sidewalk, pedestrians have to keep to the right edge of the road.



2. Rules for Crossing the Road

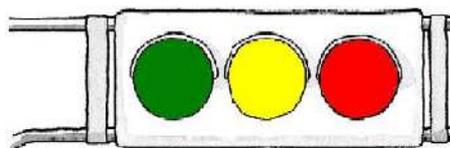
Colors of traffic lights

Red : “Stop. Do not cross.”

Yellow: “The light is about to turn red.”

(Don't begin crossing the road. If you are on the way, hurry up and get to the other side quickly.)

Green : “You can cross.” (Ensure the safety before crossing.)



(1) Rules for Bicycles

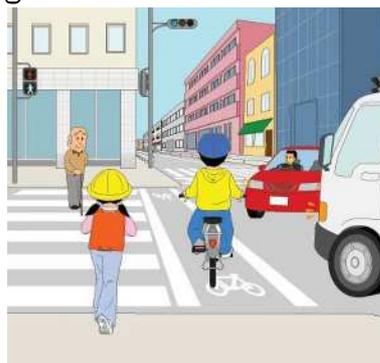
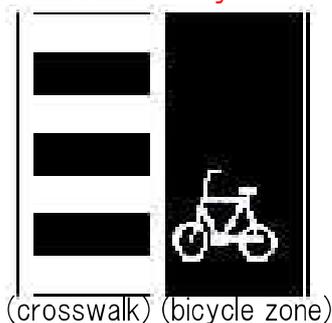
Bicycle is categorized as the light vehicle.

So, when riding a bicycle, observe the signals for automobiles. However, if the signals for pedestrians have the description “For pedestrians and bicycles only”, you must observe the signals for pedestrians.

For Bicycles

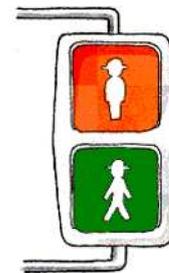


If a crosswalk has a **bicycle zone**, cross along this zone.



(2) Rules for Pedestrians

When crossing the road, observe the pedestrian lights and use the crosswalk. If there is no traffic light, look both ways and cross at a nearby crosswalk.



Flashing green lights have the same meaning as that of yellow lights. Wait for the green light for crossing.



Inquiries

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【English】 Kanagawa Prefectural Government Counseling Services for Foreign Residents.

(1st, 3rd & 4th Tue. 9:00 to 12:00 and 13:00 to 16:00) Tel: 045-896-2895

【URL (Multilingual)】 <http://www.pref.kanagawa.jp/docs/k2w/cnt/f11914/>