

Left, Right, Left...

As a driving instructor at FedEx I learned quickly that our most frequent accidents were backing up and at intersections.

As motorcyclists we don't really back up that much, but we do cross a lot of intersections. Accidents in intersections are one of the most fatal for all motor vehicles. Four wheels or two wheels it doesn't matter, when vehicles going opposite directions collide, the results are never good and for us on two wheels the results can be catastrophic.



What can we, as bikers, do to help prevent these types of accidents and keep ourselves safe?

The very first thing we can do is the first thing we learn when we are taught to drive... when approaching an intersection, **always look to the left, then to the right, then again to the left** before proceeding.

If our light is stale (meaning it's been green a while), we need to slow down as we approach the intersection. If the light changes to yellow/red, we can safely stop. If it stays green, look both ways (left, right, left) and continue. Keep your eyes on the cars at the light make sure the wheels are still. If they start to roll, don't be shy, give a little tap on the horn. This may upset some drivers, just wave and smile and move on safely.

The same applies to stop signs. If you see those wheels start to move, get on that horn. **Make sure you are seen.** Make eye contact with the driver of the other vehicles.

When we are stopped at intersections, make sure the cross traffic stops completely before proceeding. Once again: left right, left.

It's the rainy season for us down here. It's also cooler. When it rains, it takes longer for the streets to dry. Approach wet intersections slowly and carefully. Allow adequate distance to stop safely without skidding those tires.

The bottom line to intersections is "left, right, left". Don't be afraid to move those helmets from side to side and proceed with caution.

Have a great, safe Holiday Season.

Till then, think safe, ride safe, be safe.
It's not about the destination, it's about the ride.

Ted and Carrie Geier

Chapter Z Chapter Educators

Master Tour Riders

ATGATT is where we are at!