

How to Ride a Motorcycle in Wet or Icy Weather

By eHow Cars Editor

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Wet pavement, particularly just after it starts to rain, along with mud, snow and ice, can mean disaster for motorcyclists who aren't particularly careful. Here are some pointers for operating safely in wet and icy conditions.

Instructions

Difficulty: Easy

Step1

Avoid slippery spots if possible. Always drive on the driest pavement you see ahead of you.

Step2

Reduce your speed - particularly on curves - because it's harder to stop on slippery surfaces. Don't forget, the speed limits posted on curves apply to good surface conditions.

Step3

Use both brakes and remember that the front brake is more effective than the back, even on slippery pavement. Squeeze the brake lever gradually to avoid locking the front wheel.

Step4

Avoid using the front brake, though, on extremely slippery surfaces, such as ice. Squeeze the clutch, look for an escape route and gradually coast to a stop. (Attempting this maneuver at anything other than the slowest of speeds could be dangerous.) If you must ride on icy or snowy roads, keep your bike straight up and proceed as slowly as possible. Avoid sudden moves and abstain from any quick changes in speed or direction, which can cause skidding on slippery surfaces.

Step5

Turn, brake, accelerate and change gears as little and as gradually as possible. Make no changes at all in very slippery places, such as a patch of ice, until you've crossed it.