

●P.5

4. Mopeds

A moped is a self-propelled vehicle that does not need to follow tracks or overhead wires, and is one of the following vehicles, excluding light vehicles, small-sized vehicles for movement, vehicles for those with disabilities, remote control small-sized vehicles and wheeled walkers, or similar.



- General moped

A general moped is a two-wheeled or three-wheeled vehicle using a motor with a total engine displacement of 50 cc or less or rated motor output of 0.60 kW or less. For vehicles with three wheels or more, if they have over 0.5 meters of distance between the left and right wheels and have an enclosed cab, it refers to those with a total engine displacement of 20 cc or less or rated motor output of 0.25 kW or less. The term excludes the following.

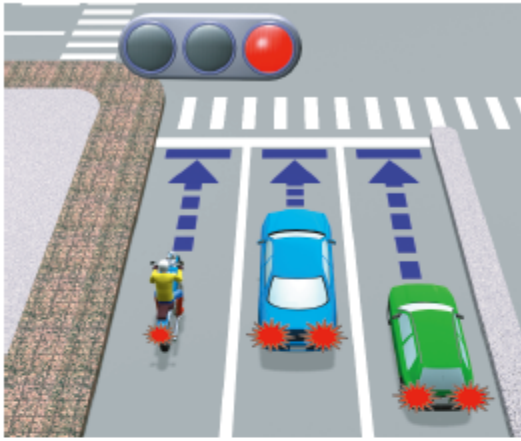
- Specified small moped

Specified small moped is a moped whose size and construction does not obstruct the passage of other vehicles on bicycle paths and which meets the criteria specified by law as those that do not require a high level of skill to ride (among these, those that meet the criteria specified by law as those that can proceed on sidewalks, etc. are called 'special specified small mopeds').

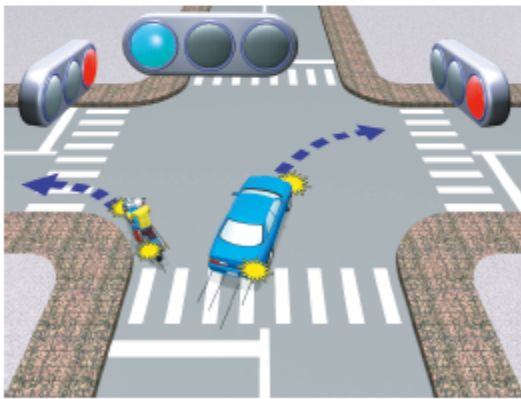
●P.20

Signal Type	Signal Meaning
<p data-bbox="277 1081 516 1123">● Green Light</p>  <p data-bbox="277 1570 728 1653">● Right turn using the two-step method</p>  <p data-bbox="277 1877 499 1960">Proceed to opposite side and change direction.</p> <p data-bbox="539 1877 776 1931">Proceed when facing signal turns green.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="825 1081 1348 1197">① Pedestrians and remote control small-sized vehicles You may proceed. <li data-bbox="825 1205 1348 1641">② Vehicles (except for specified small mopeds and light vehicles) and streetcars You may² proceed straight ahead or make a left or right turn. Note that general mopeds performing a right turn using the two-step method³ should proceed straight ahead to the point where they will turn to the right, change direction at that point, and then wait for the facing signal to turn green. <li data-bbox="825 1649 1348 2013">③ Specified small mopeds and light vehicles (bicycles, carts) You may proceed straight ahead or make a left turn. To make a right turn, proceed straight ahead to the point where you will turn to the right, change direction at that point, and then wait for the facing signal to turn green.(Right turn using the two-step method)

● **Red Light**



● **Vehicles in the process of making a right or left turn**



① **Pedestrians and remote control small-sized vehicles**

You must not cross the street.

② **Vehicles and streetcars**

You must not proceed beyond the stop line.

③ **Vehicles and streetcars already turning left within the intersection**

You may continue to proceed even if the signal on the left is red.

④ **Vehicles and streetcars already turning right within the intersection**

You may continue to proceed even if the signal on the right is red. In this situation, the vehicle or streetcar must not obstruct the progress of oncoming vehicles or streetcars proceeding in accordance with the green light.

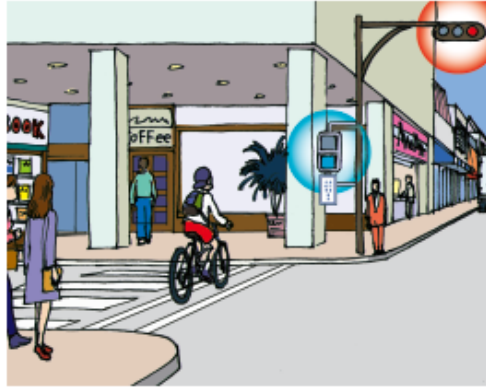
However, specified small mopeds, light vehicles and general mopeds making right turns using the two-step method must stop at the point where they turn to the right while the signal on the right is red.

Signal Type	Signal Meaning
<p>● Green Arrow</p>	<p>① Vehicles</p> <p>You may proceed in the direction indicated by the arrow. (If the green arrow is indicating right, you may also make a U-turn.) However, if the green arrow is indicating right, specified small mopeds, light vehicles, and general mopeds turning right using the two-step method may not proceed.</p>

① Signals with Human Outlines

Traffic signals having signals with human outlines apply only to pedestrian traffic, remote control small-sized vehicles and to special specified small mopeds and regular bicycles¹ that access pedestrian crossings.

Also, if the traffic signal is accompanied by a signboard indicating “pedestrians and bicycles only²”, pedestrians, specified small mopeds and other bicyclists must also obey the signals.



Some traffic signals for pedestrians only (or for pedestrians and bicycles only) change to green before the traffic signal for vehicles. You should be aware of this and take care before proceeding.

*1 Regular bicycle

A bicycle whose body size and construction meet certain requirements. Refer to P.50 for details.

*2 Signboard showing “pedestrians and bicycles only”



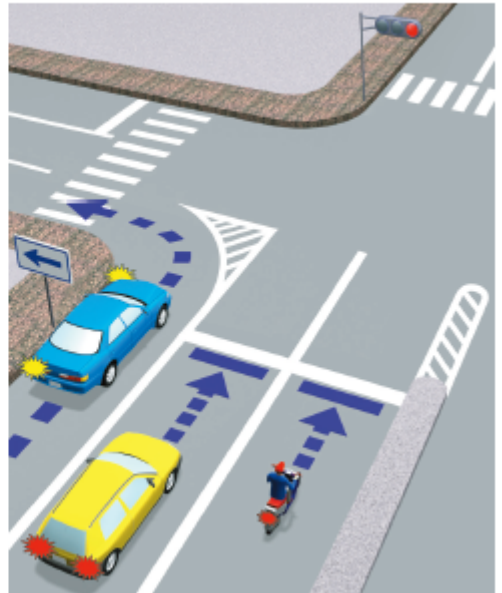
● Types of Signals with Human Outlines and Their Meanings

	Green Light	Flashing Green Light	Red Light
Signal Type			
Signal Meaning	Pedestrians and remote control small-sized vehicles may proceed. Special specified small mopeds and regular bicycles proceeding across the pedestrian crossing may proceed straight ahead or turn left. Riders of special specified small mopeds or regular bicycles who wish to turn right may go straight ahead to the point where they will turn right and change direction at that point.	Pedestrians and remote control small-sized vehicles may not begin to cross the street. Pedestrians and remote control small-sized vehicles in the process of crossing the street must immediately either finish crossing to the other side or return to the side they started from. Riders of special specified small mopeds or regular bicycles who wish to access the pedestrian crossing may not begin to cross the street.	Pedestrians and remote control small-sized vehicles may not cross the street. Riders of special specified small mopeds or regular bicycles who wish to access the pedestrian crossing may not begin to cross the street.

5 “Left Turn Permitted” Signboard

If a signboard showing a blue arrow pointing left on a white background (left turn permitted) is mounted at the left side of the road or on the traffic signal, vehicles may turn left, **taking care to watch for pedestrians and other vehicles**, even when the signal ahead of them is red or yellow. (This also applies to situations where a police officer, etc., is displaying hand signals, etc., with a meaning identical to a red or yellow signal.)

When making a left turn as described above, you must not obstruct the progress of pedestrians, specified small mopeds or bicyclists crossing with the signal.



●P.32~P.35

8. Closed to Two-Wheeled Vehicles and General Mopeds



The road is closed to two-wheeled vehicles and general mopeds.

(307)

10. Closed to Specified Small Mopeds and Bicycles



The road is closed to specified small mopeds and bicycles.

31. Specified Small Mopeds and Bicycles Only



- ① Designates a bicycle path or a dedicated road for bicycles.
- ② Access by vehicles other than specified small mopeds and bicycles (excluding those prohibited from accessing the bicycle path), pedestrians and remote control small-sized vehicles are prohibited.

(325-2)

32. Regular Bicycles and Pedestrians, etc. Only



- ① Designates a bicycle and pedestrian only road.
- ② Designates a pedestrian walkway that can be accessed by specified small mopeds and bicycles (excluding those prohibited from accessing the bicycle path).
- ③ Designates a sidewalk that can be accessed by special specified small mopeds and regular bicycles.

(325-3)

38. Specified Small Mopeds and Bicycles One-Way



Specified Small Mopeds and bicycles are not permitted to proceed in a direction opposite that indicated by the arrow.

(326-2-A・B)

47. Two-Step Right Turn for General Mopeds



When executing right turns, general mopeds must proceed along the side of the intersection and use the two-step right turn method.

(327-8)

48. Direct Right Turn for General Mopeds



When executing right turns, general mopeds must move to the center of the roadway beforehand (to the right side of the roadway if the road is one way) and use the direct right turn method.

(327-9)

9. Side Strip

(1) Pedestrians, special specified small mopeds and light vehicles may use this part of the road.

(2) If the side strip is wide (more than 0.75 meters in width), vehicles may enter it to park or stop provided they leave an open space of 0.75 meters or more left side of the vehicle.

10. No Parking or Stopping Side Strip

(1) Pedestrians, special specified small mopeds and light vehicles may use this part of the road.

(2) Vehicles may not enter it to park or stop.

26. Special Specified Small Mopeds and Regular Bicycles Permitted to Access Sidewalk

Indicates that special specified small mopeds and regular bicycles are permitted to access the sidewalk.

27. Special Specified Small Mopeds and Bicycle Zone within Sidewalk

Indicate the part of the sidewalk special specified small mopeds and regular bicycles should use where they are allowed to access the sidewalk.

I Basic Principles of Road Use and Exceptions to Them

*1
Accessing the Sidewalk
 Regular bicycles may access sidewalks in the following cases:

- ① When it is indicated on road signs, etc. that bicycles may access the sidewalk.
- ② When the bicycle is being ridden by a child under thirteen years of age, by an elderly person aged 70 years or over or a person with a physical disability.
- ③ When traffic conditions make accessing the sidewalk unavoidable to ensure safety.

Regular bicycle is a bicycle with four wheels or less that is 1.9 meters or less in length and 0.6 meters or less in width with no side-car or seat other than the rider's seat.

- ① On roads with separate roadway and sidewalks or side strips, vehicles must proceed in the **roadway**.¹ In addition, vehicles other than specified small mopeds and two- or three-wheeled bicycles may not use the bicycle path.
- ③ Special specified small mopeds and light vehicles may proceed on the side strip which set on left edge of road.

Point

Types of Side Strips

Side Strips	No Parking or Stopping Side Strips	Side Strips for Pedestrians
May be used by pedestrians, special specified small mopeds and light vehicles.	May be used by pedestrians, special specified small mopeds and light vehicles.	May be used by pedestrians.

3 Roads Without Vehicular Lanes

On roads without vehicular lanes¹, automobiles and general mopeds must proceed **on the left side** of the road and specified small mopeds and light vehicles must proceed **along the left edge** of the road.

Point

Exclusive Lane for Bicycles

Lanes are sometimes designated by signs or pavement markings as exclusive lanes for regular bicycles. In such cases, specified small mopeds and light vehicles including regular bicycles, may access such lanes.



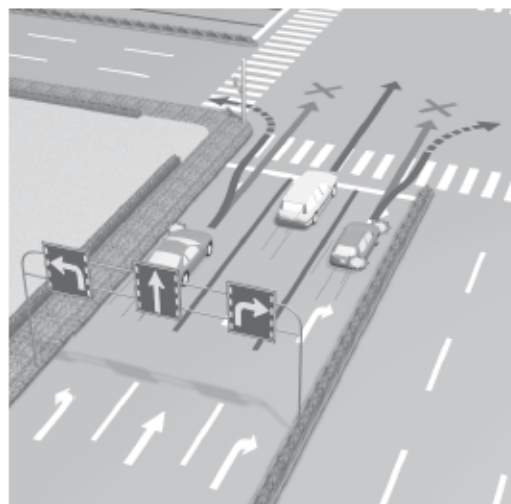
4 Separate Lanes for Traffic Proceeding in Different Directions

On roads with multiple lanes of traffic, if **separate lanes** for traffic proceeding in different directions are indicated by signs or markings at an intersection, automobiles and general mopeds must proceed through the intersection in the direction indicated for their lane.

However, the above indications may be disregarded in the following cases.

- ① If an emergency vehicle is approaching.
- ② If disregarding the indications is unavoidable due to road construction, or similar.

Note that specified small mopeds, light vehicles, and general mopeds intending to make a left turn or a right turn at an intersection where the two-step method is stipulated, must proceed along the left edge of the road.



RT Law 35 I

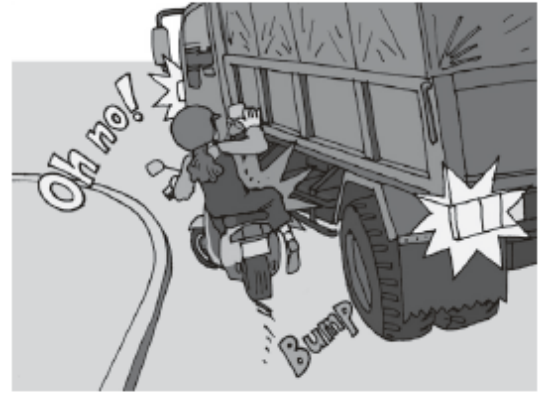


Quick Hint

For general mopeds, at intersections where right turns are made using the two-step method (see previous page), they must keep to the left edge of the road and continue straight ahead to the other side of the intersection, regardless of designated lanes by direction of travel.

2 Avoiding Cutting Off Others when Executing Right or Left Turns

A **wheelbase differential** occurs when a vehicle executes a right or a left turn. Large vehicles have a correspondingly large wheelbase differential, and there is also a blind spot (from the viewpoint of the driver) at the left rear. It is therefore important to be careful to avoid cutting off pedestrians, specified small mopeds or cyclists who may be proceeding on the left side of the vehicle.



In addition, two-wheeled vehicles passing through intersections should exercise caution to avoid being cut off by larger vehicles.



Quick Hint

Other Speed Limits

- The maximum speed limit for emergency vehicles is 80 km/h.
- Due to its structure, special light equipment is not allowed to exceed a speed of 15 km/h.
- Some regular motor vehicles equipped as crop spraying vehicles have a structure that limits their speed to 35 km/h.
- Due to its structure, specified small mopeds are not allowed to exceed a speed of 20 km/h.


1 Be Considerate Towards Bicycles, Etc.

Specified small mopeds and bicycles are a type of vehicle, so on roads where there is a clear distinction between footpath and road, the general rule is that they must ride on the road.¹ Where there is a bicycle path, bicycles must ride on that. Drivers must exercise caution when a specified small moped or bicycle is traveling on the road and drive considerately, so they may travel safely.

2 When Passing Near a Bicycle, Etc.

When driving near a specified small moped or bicycle, you must anticipate the specified small moped or bicycle wobbling or other movements of the specified small moped or bicycle and either leave a safe, wide berth or slow down. At intersections, the driver should be careful to avoid hitting specified small mopeds or bicycles passing on the left and check that the rider of the specified small moped or bicycle is aware of the vehicle as the vehicle enters the intersection.

* 1
See P.50 for exceptions to bicycles using the road.

 **Quick Hint**

Specified small mopeds

Anyone over the age of 16 can ride a specified small moped regardless of whether they have a driver's license or not. As such, they may be riding on the road without fully understanding the traffic rules.

Drive considerately, as you would when passing by pedestrians and bicycles.

Review

Mark each of the following statements true or false to check your comprehension of the preceding section.

1. When passing near a pedestrian, specified small moped or bicycle, you must leave a safe, wide berth or slow down.

* 1
Light vehicles...

Even in locations where overtaking is prohibited, overtaking light vehicles such as bicycles and specified small mopeds is permitted.

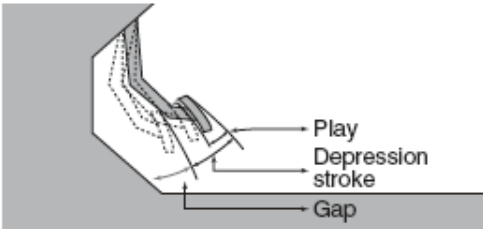
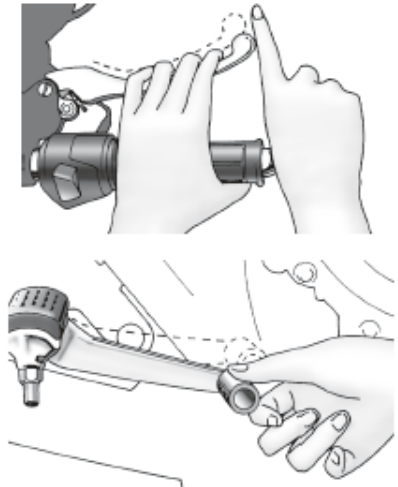
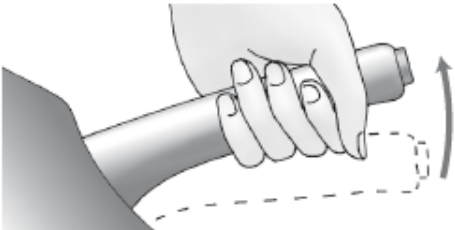
Traffic violation
Violation of the right-left turning method for automobiles, etc. at intersection

2 When the Earthquake Early Warning is Announced

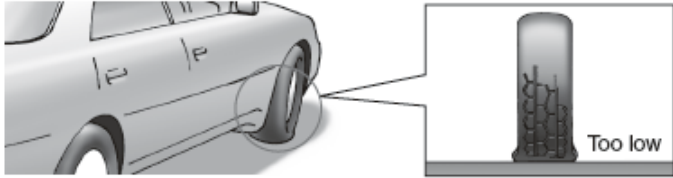
Earthquake Early Warning is supposed to be announced by the Meteorological Agency. If the seismic intensity level of the expected earthquake is more than just under 5, any area, etc., which is estimated to experience a seismic intensity level of 4 more will be announced before the vibration arrives.

If you are notified that an emergency earthquake advance report has been announced while driving, you should stay calm and alert surrounding drivers with their hazard lights, then slowly reduce speed, avoiding sudden braking.

(2) Checks Performed from the Driver's Seat (check from perimeter of two-wheeled vehicles)

Item to check	Procedure for four-wheeled vehicles	Procedure for two-wheeled vehicles
<p>Depression stroke of brake pedal, pull stroke of brake lever, and brake effectiveness</p>	<p>Check that the gap between the pedal and the floor and the resistance to depression of the pedal are appropriate when the pedal is depressed fully.</p>  <p>Note: If the gap to the floor is small or the resistance to depression feels weak, there is a risk that a brake fluid leak or air in the system could degrade the effectiveness of the brakes.</p>	<p>Check brake lever and/or brake pedal for correct amounts of both play and resistance to pulling or depressing.</p> 
<p>Pull stroke of parking brake lever or depression stroke of parking brake pedal</p>	<p>Pull (depress) the lever (pedal) fully and check that the range of movement is neither too large nor too small.</p>  <p>Note: For automobiles equipped with electric parking brakes, visually inspect the vehicle to see if any warning lights related to the braking mechanism are turned on.</p>	<p>Note: With hydraulic brakes, there is a risk that a brake fluid leak or air in the system could degrade the effectiveness of the brakes if the gap between the lever and the grip is small, the movement of the pedal is too large, or if the resistance to pulling (depression) feels weak when the pedal is pulled (depressed) forcefully.</p>

(4) Checks Performed from the Perimeter of the Vehicle

Item to check	Procedure for four-wheeled vehicles	Procedure for two-wheeled vehicles
Tire pressure	<p>Check the deflection of the portion of the tire that contacts the ground to determine if the tire pressure is sufficient.</p>  <p>Note: For automobiles equipped with a tire pressure monitoring device, visually inspect the tire pressure display from the driver's seat to see if it is at the specified level.</p>	

1 Registering an Automobile, Etc.

Automobiles (excluding light special equipment and regular motorcycles with an engine displacement of 125 cc or less or rated motor output of 1.00 kW or less) must be **registered** (by **notification**) and bear an **identification plate** (license plate). In addition, mopeds must be declared and bear an identification plate (license plates).

(2) The Inspection Sticker

When an automobile passes inspection, it is issued a vehicle inspection certificate and **inspection sticker**. The inspection sticker must be displayed by sticking onto the inside front windshield² to be easily visible facing forward and from the driver's seat.

The inspection sticker indicates **the next inspection month** (and year).

Inspection Sticker for Four-Wheeled (greater than 660cc) and Two-Wheeled Vehicles



Inspection Sticker for Regular Motor Vehicles 660cc or Less




"5" indicates the year in which the inspection certificate expires, and "11" indicates the month in the inspection sticker.

The following pages, please replace “mopeds” with “general mopeds” due to the change in the definition of terms due to the revision of the law.

15 / 17 / 20 / 21 / 22 / 32 / 40 / 53 / 56 / 68 / 69 / 73 /
82 / 83 / 85 / 112 / 114 / 124 / 125 / 126 / 131 / 133 / 201 /
240 / 285 / 288 / 316

※However, regarding the following points, the description of "mopeds" remains the same as before.

17: **5** (3) / 53 :  Quick Hint / 62 / 63 / 83 : **Mopeds** /
83: **Point** The 1st line / 137: **7** **1** The 1st line / 298 / 299 / 302 / 339