

# WHEELS YIELD TO HEELS

## How to share trails with horses

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Image supplied by the Victorian Government  
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Australia



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**As prey animals, horses can be easily startled. If you meet a horse on the trails, here's what you can do as a motorcyclist to keep everyone safe:**





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## OFF-ROAD MOTORCYCLISTS

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- When approaching a horse from in front, move to the side of the trail and turn off your motorbike. Say hello so the horse knows you are a human.



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## OFF-ROAD MOTORCYCLISTS

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- If you're on a hill, move to the low side of the trail. Most predators will try to attack from above so the horse will feel less threatened if you are lower down.



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## OFF-ROAD MOTORCYCLISTS

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- If the horse is frightened, take off your helmet and get off your bike to show that you're a person and not a predator.



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## OFF-ROAD MOTORCYCLISTS

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- When approaching a horse from behind stop your bike and say hello. The rider may want to turn to face you to show the horse you're not a threat.



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## OFF-ROAD MOTORCYCLISTS

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- When safe, pass the horse slow and wide, ideally giving 3 meters of space. Horses can kick for self defence. Giving extra space will keep you safe in case the horse kicks.



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## EQUESTRIANS

- When meeting other trail users steady your mount and exchange greetings.
- Remember that a well-trained horse is essential for safe riding.



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## LEARN THE SIGNS OF A SCARED HORSE

- Eyes wide
- Nostrils flared – may make a loud blowing sound from their nostrils
- Ears rapidly move back and forward
- Head is elevated and neck is braced