

Best Safety Practices for All-Terrain Vehicles

Always:

1. WEAR YOUR HELMET AND EYE PROTECTION

A significant number of ATV-related deaths result from head injuries due to the rider not wearing a helmet. This protection is so important that some states even require it (especially for kids) for this very reason.

2. Take A Safety Course

Safety courses not only teach riders how to operate the vehicle safely, but they can show you evasive maneuvers that can keep the vehicle from rolling onto you.

3. Inspect Your Vehicle Before Each Ride

Ensure that all parts are in working order- Headlights, tail lights, tires, brakes, and controls. If something isn't working quite right, don't ride again until the fix is addressed.

4. Ride An ATV Appropriate for You

ATVs come in all shapes and sizes. Make sure that you're riding an ATV designated for your age, size, and experience level.

5. Cover Exposed Skin

To avoid scrapes and cuts, wear protective long clothing such as pants, long-sleeves, gloves, & over-the-ankle boots. All riding wear should fit properly and be secured in the right places.

6. Operate During Daylight Only

Just like night time driving, night time ATV'ing comes with even more risks; less visibility, more animal activity, and higher likelihood of getting lost.

7. Maintain A Safe Speed

ATV riding is full of rocky, muddy, rugged, and uneven terrain. If you add speed to this mix, you increase your chances of being thrown from the vehicle.

8. Know First-Aid Basics

Be able to treat yourself with first-aid basics in cases of minor injuries. Having a first aid pack with you is highly recommended and can help keep major injuries from becoming worse.

9. Ride In Familiar Areas

Ride in familiar areas so that you can easily call for help if needed. GPS systems are highly suggested for unknown areas, because that they may assist you with trail guidance. Otherwise, have a map with useful locations marked. **Always tell someone where you are going.**

10. Supervise Riders Under 16

ATVs are fun, but they are not toys for kids. Supervise all riders under 16 years of age so you can ensure that protective gear, slow speeds, & safety rules are meeting the recommendations.

Never:

- **Ride A Three-Wheel ATV (Banned in 1988)**
- **Operate While Under The Influence of Drugs or Alcohol**
- **Ride on Public or Paved Roadways**
- **Exceed The Passenger Limit**
- **Allow Kids or Teens To Carry Passengers**



All-terrain vehicles (or ATV for short) are a thrilling way of exploring and gaining access to off-road terrain that standard vehicles can't normally access. However, with this extra freedom comes extra risk. Follow Haylor, Freyer & Coon's Best Safety Practices to keep your ATV riding fun and injury-free.