

Riding Safely On Your Own

A **WESTCYCLE** best practice guide.



Be Alert

Be Predictable

Be Courteous

Helping cyclists and drivers to share the road safely is something that everybody wants. That's why WestCycle and the Government of Western Australia (Road Trauma Trust Account) have got together to produce a series of easy-to-read 'Best Practice' guides.

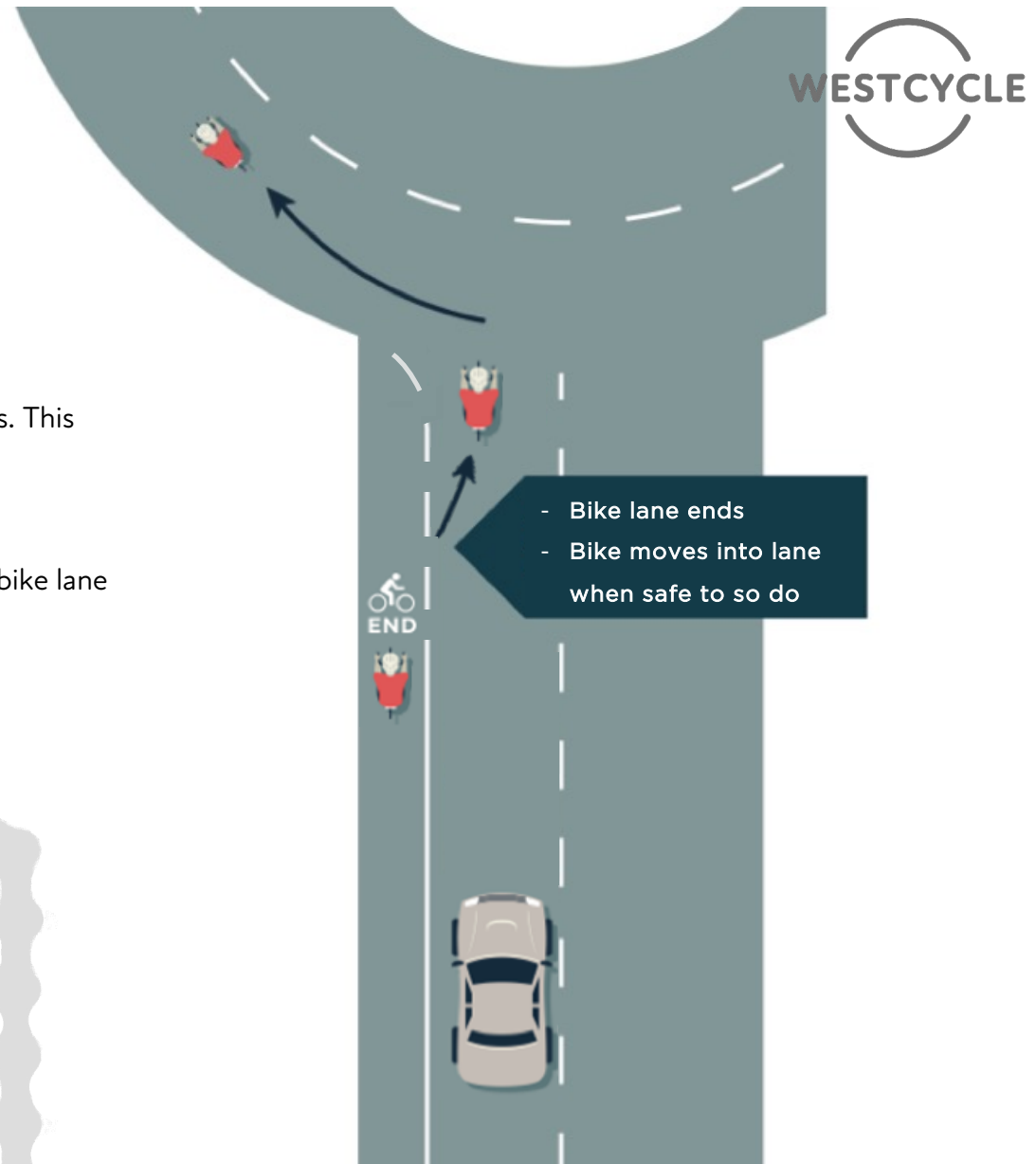
This particular guide is for people riding on their own. There are two more guides. One for people riding in groups and another for people who drive. Together, these guides show how we can help to make our paths, roads and communities safer places for all.



Be Alert

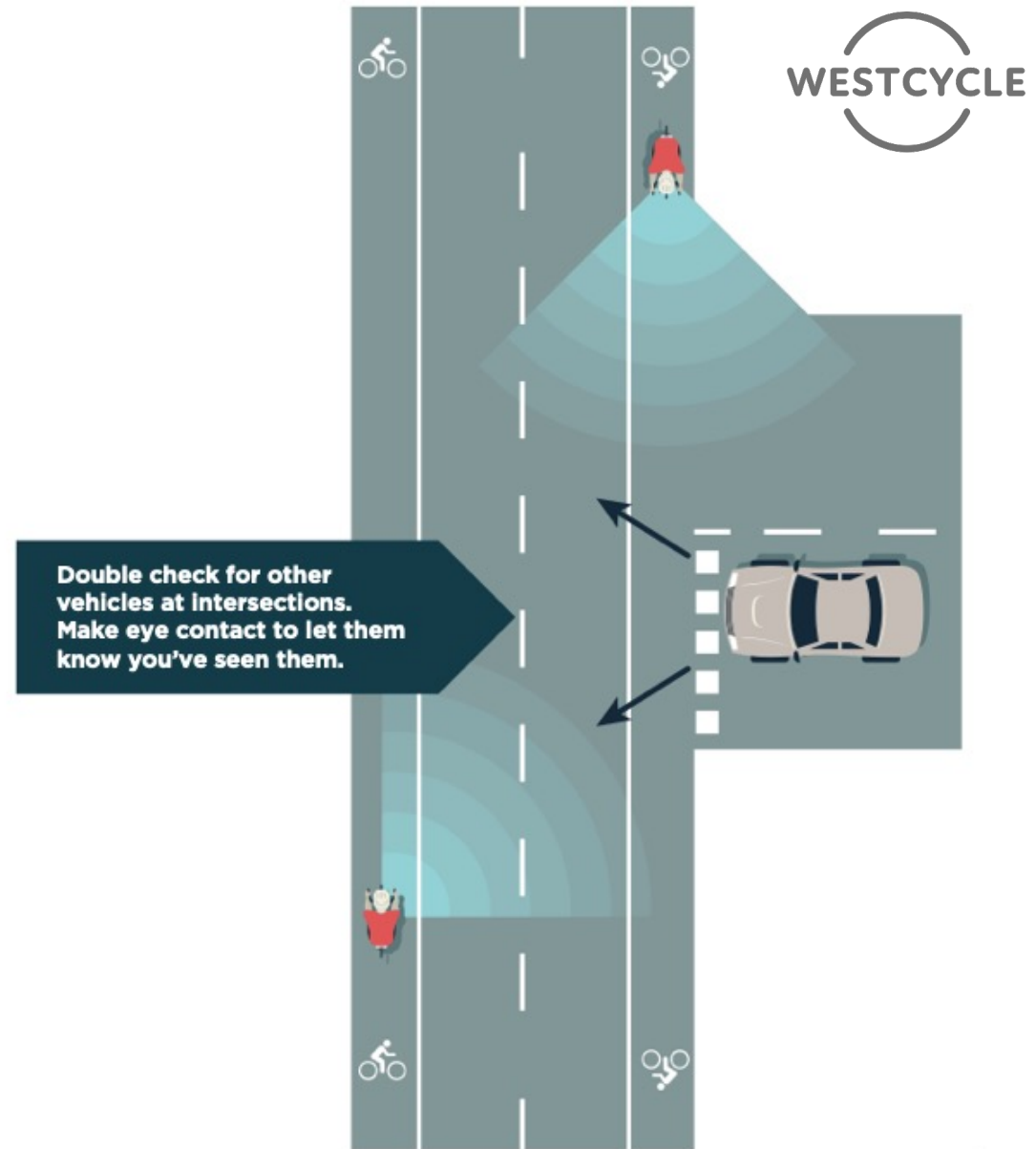
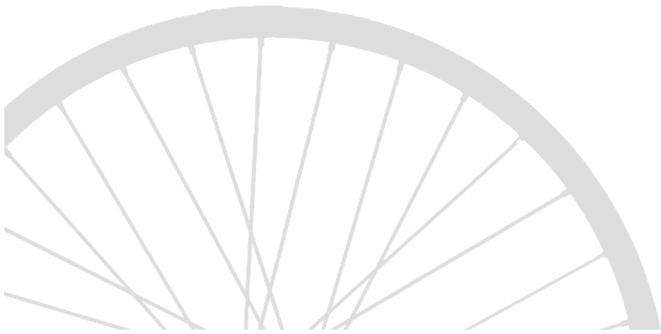
Make yourself visible at roundabouts and intersections

- Check it's clear and signal your intentions to other road users.
- Move into the lane when approaching roundabouts as the bike lane ends. This should only be done when it is safe and practicable to do so.
- Join the roundabout when it is safe to do so.
- Stay in the lane as you navigate the roundabout and then return to the bike lane once safely out of the roundabout.
- Double-check for other vehicles at intersections.
- If a vehicle ahead of you is turning left, wait behind them.
- Always be sure to thanks other road users for their patience.



Adjust your riding to suit the weather and light conditions

- Wet weather can make the road slippery and reduce visibility. It also takes longer to slow down or stop.
- Give yourself more time to react by slowing down and leaving more space.
- Never use earphones when riding.
- Ride bright. Consider wearing light coloured or reflective clothes.
- Use your lights at night, in low light and poor weather conditions.



Watch out for people opening doors or pulling out of driveways or parking spaces

- Look for the typical signs, eg: drivers moving around in their car, brake lights on, or interior lights going on or off.
- Ring your bell or call out to let people know you are there.
- Give yourself time and room to react or stop and ride clear of the opening path of car doors.
- If the road is narrow, slow down and prepare to stop.



If safe, ride out from parked vehicles so you are out of the door opening zone



Be Predictable

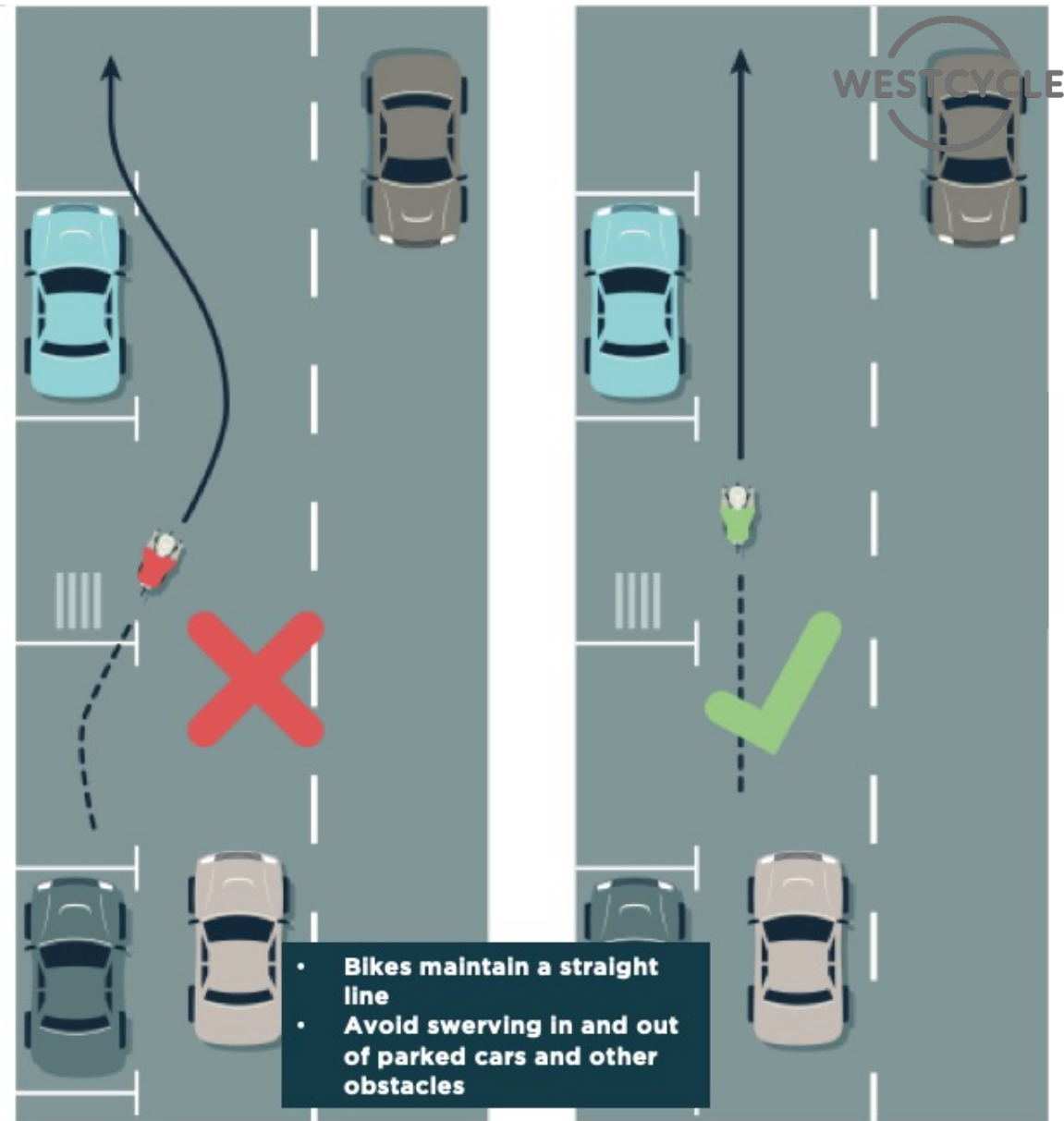
Keep a straight line and ride at least 1m out from the gutter

Signal well in advance before pulling out, changing lanes or turning

- This will give other people more time to react.

Ride consistently and avoid sudden stops

- Follow any recommended speed limits for paths but always adjust your riding to suit the conditions. If lots of people are using the path, slow down and prepare to stop.



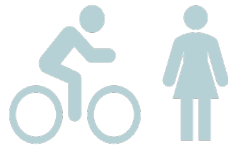
Be Courteous



Always ride single file on paths. Use bike lane where possible



Ring your bell to alert others



Only pass when it is safe. Move back left when clear



Pedestrians always have right of way



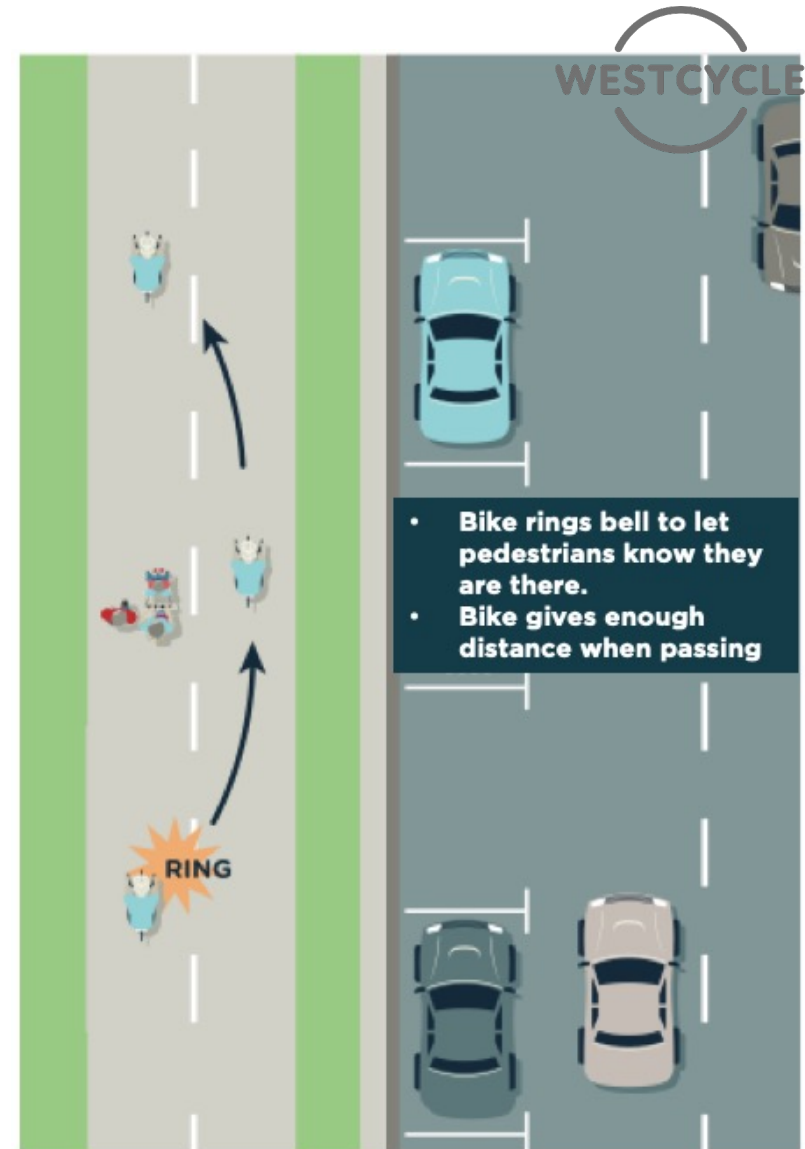
Pay close attention to driveways



Don't use mobile phone while riding



Give a thumbs up or wave to say "thanks"



- Bike rings bell to let pedestrians know they are there.
- Bike gives enough distance when passing

Be Alert Be Predictable Be Courteous

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Other guides in this series:

Riding safely in a group

Driving safely with bike riders



ROAD
SAFETY
COMMISSION

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