Always ride on the right, with the traffic flow. You’ll be more visible to cars and safer, especially at intersections. And—it’s the law.

Be predictable—ride in a straight line. Learn how to look behind you without swerving.

Don’t hug the road edge—leave some room to avoid hazards. Don’t allow cars to squeeze by dangerously in narrow lanes—force the passing situation that it is. In very wide lanes (below), move out a bit further to remain visible to cars.

Ride in a straight line. Avoid dodging between parked cars.

Also, look inside parked cars before passing. Especially if you see a driver or can’t see, avoid the “door zone”—the 4 feet along parked cars where doors may suddenly open.

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Intersection positioning
Avoid you or a car cutting the other off. At intersections without turn lanes:
1) when clear, merge into the left part of the lane to turn left; 2) to go straight, move out a bit into the lane—to prevent right turn cutoffs; 3) stay right for a right turn.

You may also make a “pedestrian-style” left turn. Go straight through the intersection, stop, turn your bike left 90 degrees, then proceed as if you were coming from the right.

If there are any turn lanes, ride in the right-most lane going to your destination.

Trail Etiquette
Keep right, pass on the left. Announce intentions to pass. Move off trail when stopped. Yield to other users as shown on left.

In each case above, cyclists biking legally on the right side of the road are within the view areas of the turning motorists.

Bike safety tips from the League of Illinois Bicyclists, www.bikelib.org