

Safety Tips for Motorists and Cyclists:

The Dutch Reach and Avoiding the Door Zone

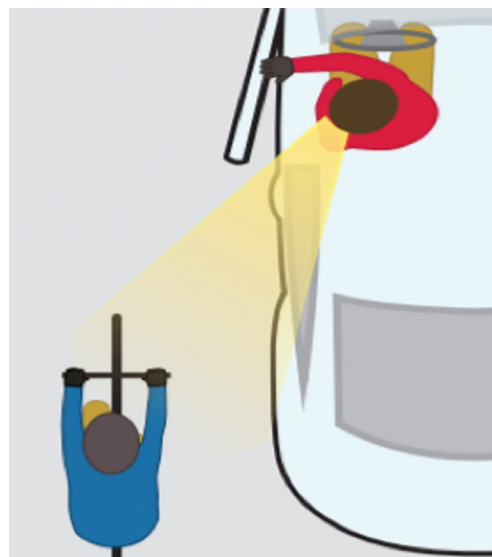
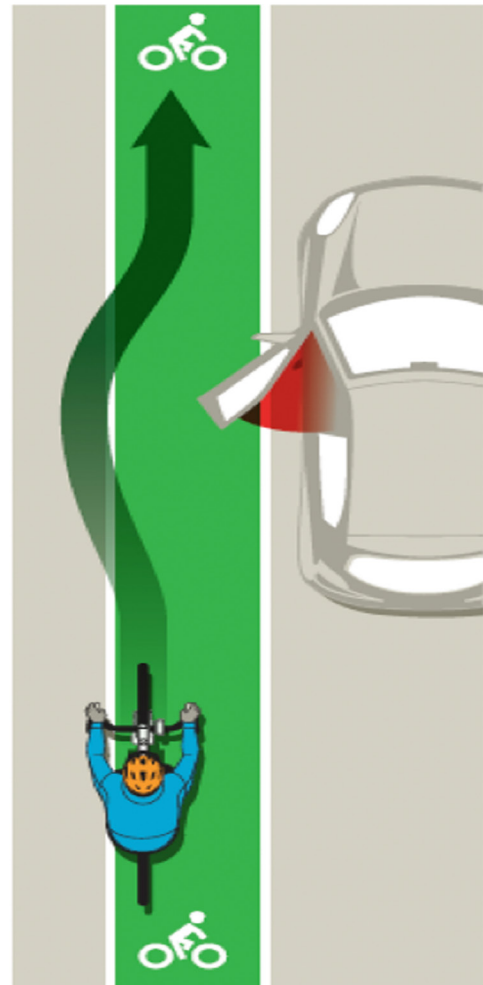
- “Dooring” is a collision involving a person riding a bike crashing into an open car door, usually after a driver or passenger has parked and is exiting their vehicle.
- Parked cars are one of the most significant hazards faced by bike riders traveling in roadways.
- It is the legal responsibility (CVC 22517) of a driver to check for cyclists before exiting their car, however, they don't always do so.

Avoiding the Door Zone as a Cyclist

- Treat all parked cars as serious hazards and ride at least 3 feet away from them. It may be necessary to switch lanes to avoid the door zone.

Avoid Dooring as a Driver or Passenger: Implementing the “Dutch Reach”

- The “Dutch Reach” is a simple and effective way to avoid dooring. To perform a Dutch Reach, open your car door with your opposite hand. This forces you to turn and look behind you for cyclists that may be entering your door zone.



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