

Motorists and horse riders both have a right to use the road. They also share a responsibility to consider each other's needs.



Many riders have taken the British Horse Society's national Riding and Road Safety test. More information about the riding test and a leaflet for riders, *Road Sense for Riders*, is available from: The British Horse Society, Stoneleigh Deer Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2XZ.



The British Horse Society is a Registered Charity No. 210504.

Department for Transport

Produced by the Department for Transport and The British Horse Society.

Printed in Great Britain on material containing 75% post consumer waste and 25% GCF pulp. Published by DTI © Crown Copyright, March 2005. T 145-727.

HORSE SENSE

## Horse Sense for Motorists



The British Horse Society

**THINK!**  
Have some horse sense on the road

### As a motorist you should:



• Look out for horses being led or ridden on the road.



• At left-hand bends and on narrow country roads – take extra care and keep your speed down.

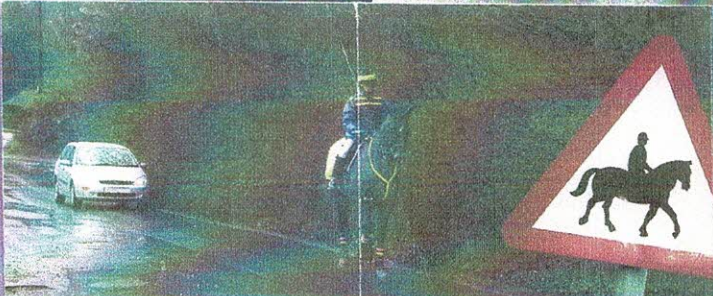


• When you see a horse rider on the road – **slow down**.



• When behind a horse rider – give them plenty of room and be ready to stop.

• Do not sound your horn or rev your engine – horses are powerful but vulnerable animals, easily scared by noise and may panic around fast moving vehicles.



### THINK! Have some horse sense on the road



• When overtaking – pass wide and slow.



• Horse riders are often youngsters – so take extra care.

• For increased safety, riders may ride in double file when escorting a young or inexperienced horse rider.

• Watch out for horse riders' signals and heed a request to slow down or stop.

Riders should signal their intentions but drivers should be aware that horses are vulnerable and a sudden young or frightened horse may have poor judgement.



Mutual courtesy and care between motorists and riders is important to prevent intolerance and improve safety. A horse rider should acknowledge a courtesy, however a wave or acknowledgement is not always possible as two hands are often needed to keep control of the horse, but a nod and a friendly smile are the least you should expect.



• Look out for horse riders turning right.



Horse riders keep to the left of the road even when turning right – it is unsafe for them to position a horse between lines of traffic where they can panic, sandwiched with no escape route.

• Watch out for horse riders on roundabouts.



When on a roundabout, horse riders will normally signal right only when approaching exits they DO NOT intend to use. Horse riders will keep to the left within the roundabout until reaching their exit, when they signal left.

• Treat all horses as a potential hazard and expect the unexpected!