

Rider Education Report

Professional: As an adjective, 1. relating to or belonging to a profession. 2. engaged in a specified activity as one's main paid occupation rather than as a pastime. As a noun, 1. a person engaged or qualified in a profession. 2. a person engaged in a specified activity, especially a sport or branch of the performing arts, as a main paid occupation rather than as a pastime. The previous definition was taken from Dictionary.com.

A professional is a member of a profession or any person who works in a specified professional activity. The term also describes the standards of education and training that prepare members of the profession with the knowledge and skills necessary to perform their specific role within that profession. A profession is a job at which someone works and for which they have had training. Medieval Europe recognized three professions: divinity, medicine, and law. These were called "learned professions". These statements are taken from indeed.com.

I would like to think that we as motorcyclists can be professional in our role as highway users. And being **SMART** about motorcycling will help us be just like that.

S – This stands for Study. Acting professionally while riding our motorcycle will not come naturally to everyone. Hobbies are often undertaken to expand our lives and broaden our horizons. Reading about the unique characteristics that make any hobby special will also help us grow and become more proficient riders. Subscribe to enthusiast publications and look for motorcycle related posts.

M – This stands for Maturity. And it does not necessarily mean old. Professional riders are mature individuals of any age. They know when to speak up and when to stay quiet. They study the situation before they act upon it. A mature rider knows when additional throttle is the right solution to a traffic situation and when braking or a change of lane is a better choice. Like the tale of the tortoise and the hare, patience and consistency can often prove to be the path to victory.

A - This stands for Attitude. Riding a motorcycle rarely goes as smoothly as planned. There always will be obstacles to overcome during our ride. Road surface change from use and from weather. Traffic patterns change with the time of day and the growth of the community. Natural hazards change with the seasons. We can choose to react and get angry, or we can be professional and plan to be ready to adjust the ride as necessary.

R - This stands for Respect. I believe you get what you give. Professionals will treat others the same way they want to be treated, and they earn respect for doing so. On the road, other motorists will observe our actions like keeping a proper following distance, signaling our lane and direction changes, and taking turns in traffic. They will see us as an equal and respect that we have the same rights they have to use the highway.

T - This stands for training. A true professional never stops trying to learn. They make every action a training session and review what they did the last time to learn to do it better the next time. They enroll themselves in training opportunities, even if they have taken them in the past, to stay fresh and in touch with the latest information.

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