Free sample from The Scooter Rider Skills, Safety & Commute Planner. This is worksheet 4 of 11. Get all 11 worksheets: scootermatch.com/kit

Braking Distance Test

Measure how far YOUR scooter really takes to stop, then keep that gap

Rider	**Date**
Scooter	**Surface and weather**

Stopping distance depends on your brakes, tires, weight and the pavement, so no chart can give you yours. Measure it. The only printed numbers below are arithmetic: how many feet you travel each second at a given speed, before the brakes even start working. The site's safety guide puts it simply: at 15 mph a scooter covers roughly 22 ft every second.

Feet travelled per second (mph x 1.467)

Speed	Feet per second	In half a second	In one second
5 mph	7.3 ft	3.7 ft	7.3 ft
8 mph	11.7 ft	5.9 ft	11.7 ft
10 mph	14.7 ft	7.3 ft	14.7 ft
12 mph	17.6 ft	8.8 ft	17.6 ft
15 mph	22.0 ft	11.0 ft	22.0 ft
20 mph	29.3 ft	14.7 ft	29.3 ft

Everything you travel while noticing a hazard and moving your hands is added to the braking distance you measure below. That is why the Level 3 following gap is your measured distance plus one reaction length.

How to run the test

- [ ] Empty, dry lot; helmet on; a partner with a tape measure if you can
- [ ] Chalk a brake line. Ride toward it at a steady speed (check the display) and squeeze both brakes as your front wheel crosses it

- [ ] Mark where the front wheel stops; measure from the brake line; three runs per speed
- [ ] Start at 5 mph and only go faster once the slower stops are clean, with no skid

Your measured stops

Speed	Run 1 (ft)	Run 2 (ft)	Run 3 (ft)	Average (ft)	Wet test (ft)
5 mph					
8 mph					
10 mph					
12 mph					
15 mph					

Your following gap

At this speed	Measured stop (ft)	+ one second of travel (ft)	= gap to keep (ft)
8 mph		11.7	
10 mph		14.7	
15 mph		22.0	

Retest after new tires, brake pads or a change in the weight you carry. Wet pavement stretches the distance, more on solid tires than air-filled ones.

Researched guidance, not professional advice. Wear a certified helmet every ride. Scooter laws differ by state and city: check yours.