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The Motor Accident Guide (“MAG”), a publication by the State Courts of Singapore, was launched by The Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon on 23 April 2014.

About the MAG

The MAG provides the general public and others involved in motor accident claims, e.g. insurers, vehicle repair workshops and lawyers, with useful information so that they will have a better opportunity to resolve their accident claim cases amicably and avoid incurring unnecessary costs and expenses for litigation.

The MAG contains a range of liability indications for a series of different motor accident scenarios, including those involving motorists, pedestrians, cyclists and passengers. Each motor accident scenario is complemented by simple text, pictures and diagrams. The ranges with respect to liability are based on actual awards given in locally decided cases, where applicable. Quick tips on what to do when one is involved in an accident are available in the MAG. The possible defences that one may raise when defending a claim are also referred to in the MAG. Samples of the more common motor accident scenarios depicted in the MAG are set out below.

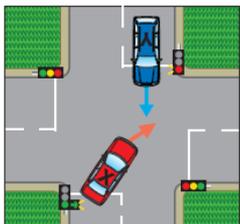
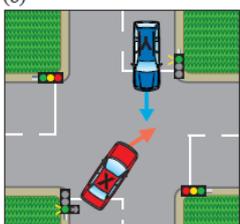
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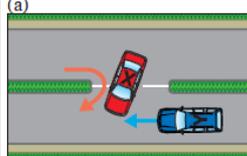
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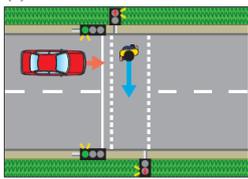
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SCENARIO	REASON(S)	X %	Y %
Y-JUNCTIONS (Uncontrolled)			
1.  <i>Diagram 1.1</i> Vehicle X – Turning into the major road from a minor road with a “stop” line/ “stop” sign at the junction adjoining the major road Vehicle Y – Moving straight ahead on the major road from the right	Reason(s): Driver Y on the major road has right of way, but should keep a lookout for vehicles entering the major road from an adjoining minor road. Driver Y should also take evasive action to avoid a collision. Driver X approaching the major road from a minor road should stop at the stop line or parallel broken white lines to give way to oncoming traffic on the major road. ¹⁶	80	20

CROSS-JUNCTIONS (CONTROLLED)

SCENARIO	REASON(S)	X %	Y %
(a)  <i>Diagram 1.13</i> The “green arrow” is lit up in favour of Vehicle X and the traffic light is showing “red” against Vehicle Y.	Reason(s): Driver X turning right when the “green arrow” is lit up has right of way. Driver Y moving straight across the junction must stop in compliance with the “red” light.	0	100
(b)  <i>Diagram 1.14</i> The traffic lights are showing “green” for both Vehicle X and Vehicle Y and the “green arrow” in favour of Vehicle X has not come on/lit up.	Reason(s): Driver Y moving straight across the junction on “green” light has right of way, but should keep a lookout for vehicles turning across his path at the junction. Driver Y should also take evasive action to avoid a collision. Driver X making the right turn should give way to oncoming traffic from the opposite direction. ²²	80	20

U-TURNS or 3-POINT TURNS at any junction (Uncontrolled)			
15. (a)  <i>Diagram 1.44</i> Vehicle X – Making a U-turn Vehicle Y – Moving straight ahead in the opposite direction			
SCENARIO	REASON(S)	X %	Y %
Where U-turn is not permitted (See Diagram 1.44 above)	Reason(s): Driver X should not make a U-turn in the absence of a “U-turn” sign. ⁴⁵ Driver Y travelling straight has right of way, but should keep a lookout for vehicles turning across his path from the opposite direction. Driver Y should also take evasive action to avoid a collision. Driver X when making a U-turn at any junction should stop at the intersection to give way to oncoming traffic.	90	10

SCENARIO	REASON(S)	X %	Y %
PEDESTRIAN CROSSING (Pedestrian has no right of way)			
1. (a)  <i>Diagram 2.1</i> Vehicle – Going straight, on “green” Pedestrian – Crossing road, on “red man”	Reason(s): The pedestrian should not have crossed when the “red man” is lit. ¹¹¹ Note(s): A driver still has to keep a proper lookout for and give way to pedestrians even when the lights are in his favour. ¹¹²	20	80