

## Riding ATVs the Right Way

If you have experienced all terrain vehicles in action, whether it was for sport and/or utility purposes, then you know the reason behind the growing popularity of their use. ATVs can perform multiple tasks very effectively and because of this they appeal to a diverse audience. For many of you, your ATV adventures have just begun. Whether you plan to rent ATVs for recreational riding or are thinking of buying your own for a farm utility vehicle, there are several aspects of quads that should be taken into consideration in order to find the best four-wheeler for your money.

Nearly anyone who knows what ATVing is also knows that the sport appeals largely to a young population. This known fact is also the root of much controversy. Many people protest the use of ATVs by children under 12 and others even believe teenagers under the legal driving age should be banned from driving ATVs. There are actually no strictly enforced regulations or age limits for riding ATVs.

Court cases have ruled with requests that ATV manufacturers print a recommended age limit for certain size engines. Manufacturers now recommend that ATVs with engines larger than 70cc are for ages 12 and up. A 90cc engine is recommended for 16-year-olds and up. These recommendations are not enforced, which frustrates some people, however, ATV manufacturers continue to make ATVs for the young crowds. Several companies have released an ATV model for riders as young as six-years-old.

The age limit is ultimately up to you, but no matter how old you are, it is important to find the right ATV style to ride whether it is a rental or your own. If you have a choice when renting ATVs, find one that suits your comfort with respect your weight and height. Rentals are typically for sport riding; therefore the ATVs will have a light design with less body plastic in comparison to a utility ATV.

Utility ATVs ( i.e. [http://www.atv-parts-n-accessories.com/atv\\_shoppers\\_guide.htm](http://www.atv-parts-n-accessories.com/atv_shoppers_guide.htm)) have a few features characteristic only to its classification. They are always the ATVs with a larger body and most utility quads have racks for equipment carrying. The suspension on a utility ATV is generally stiffer than the sport styles because you need a smoother ride when carrying a work load.

Sport and sport/utility ATVs are those used for racing and thrill riding. The suspension on these styles is longer to endure hard landings. SUV ATVs may still have small carrying racks for work as well, but the sport styles have as little body material as possible for speed. All ATV styles have a common characteristic, which is their ability to endure rough rides on the toughest terrain.

As you familiarize yourself with ATV riding you will learn which quad styles suit your body and riding type the best. ATVing is similar to many consumer products in that it is wisest to try them out first hand in order to make the best decision. If you are trying ATVing for the absolute first time, start with a smaller engine, just to get the feel, and then move up as you gain confidence.

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### About the Author

Mitch Johnson is a successful freelance author that writes regularly for <http://www.atv-parts-n-accessories.com/> , a site that focuses exclusively on atv reviews, as well as tips on choosing parts and accessories. His articles have also been featured on recreational automotive sites such as <http://www.go-cart-plans-n-kits.com/> and <http://www.best-scooters-n-mopeds.com/>