

## This helmet attachment could save lives

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In 2007, 72.34 motorcycles per 100,000 registered ended up in a fatal crash, according to the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). For the sake of comparison, the number for cars is 13.10 for each 100,000. In 2010, there were 3,615 motorcycle fatalities in the United States. That's down from a high of 5,312 in 2008.

Moral of the story: Safety equipment is incredibly important for motorcyclists. In fact, the NHTSA estimates helmets saved the lives of 1,658 motorcyclists in 2006.



With that in mind, [Quirky](#) [1]—a website that backs inventions—is offering a safety product called Signal to help ensure other drivers on the road anticipate and see motorcyclists.

Signal is an adjustable attachment that hooks onto the back of almost any helmet—make sure the helmet meets the safety standard set by the U.S. Department of Transportation—and syncs with your lights via RFID signals. Essentially, it means that any turn signals or sudden stops will light up the back of your head as well as the back of your bike, making your intentions clear to fellow

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motorists when stopping or turning.

The device doesn't sound like it would be too heavy. It's main components are Lumigram—the fiber-optic fabric—and stretching reflector fabric, plus a few plastic parts.

*Photo courtesy of [Quirky](#) [1].*

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### **Links:**

[1] <http://www.quirky.com/products/249-Signal-led-brake-light-helmet?r=dd7314af31b3001b4ec3b1f6409c80de>