Your ability to brake in a turn and to brake hard in an emergency situation are important riding skills.

When descending a long, steep grade, use engine compression braking by downshifting, with intermittent use of both brakes. Continuous brake application can overheat the brakes and reduce their effectiveness.

Riding with your hand on the front brake lever or your foot resting on the rear brake pedal may overheat the brakes, reducing effectiveness.

For information on how to apply the brakes in various riding situations, see the following section, *Riding Your ATV*.