

Fact Sheet

New Road Safety Rules:

Scooters, skateboards and roller blades

Effective 9 November 2009

From November 2009, there will be some changes to Victoria's road safety rules.

The changes include new rules affecting scooters, skateboards and roller blades.

Road safety reason

Unless properly used, scooters, skateboards and roller blades can be dangerous. Drivers have difficulty seeing you in traffic especially if you are being towed or slipstreaming, which is why this activity is now illegal.

Remember drivers are more likely to be looking for cars and other vehicles, not scooters, skateboarders and roller bladers.

Scooters, skateboards and roller blades

Scooters, skateboards and roller blades are called Wheeled Recreational Devices in the road rules.

A scooter has two or more wheels and a footboard supported by the wheels.

It is steered by handlebars, designed to be used by one person and propelled by any one or more of the following: gravity, the user pushing one foot against the ground, an electric motor or motors (with the maximum power output of 200 watts).

Wheeled Recreational Devices can travel on footpaths and on roads where the speed limit is 50km per hour or less.

The road safety rules

- Wheeled Recreational Devices can't be towed, or slipstream and must not be used on the road at night (except crossing at the shortest route, for example at an intersection).
- Scooter riders are required to wear an approved bicycle helmet.

What you have to do

When riding your scooter, skateboard or roller blades, don't hold onto other vehicles to be towed, or sit so close behind them that you are carried along in their slipstream.

Also do not use a wheeled recreational device in areas that have the sign below displayed.





Why the change?

These changes will help to meet targets set as part of the Victorian Government's road safety strategy *arrive alive 2008-2017*, which aims to reduce the road toll by a further 30 per cent by 2017.

Reviewing our road rules helps to make sure they are meeting current traffic conditions and assists road users get to where they are going as safely and efficiently as possible.

The new road safety rule being introduced will ensure that road rules are consistent across Australia, to minimise confusion for people travelling interstate.

More information

For more information about the new road rules visit the VicRoads website at vicroads.vic.gov.au/roadrules or call 1300 360 745.

The information in this fact sheet was current at the time of printing and is intended as a guide only. For full details about the Road Safety Road Rules 2009 see vicroads.vic.gov.au

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