

PERSONAL MOBILITY DEVICES (PMDs)

Personal mobility devices

Examples include e-scooters and e-skateboards.

New rules for personal mobility devices (PMDs) commenced on 1 December 2021 to allow PMDs on footpaths, shared paths, bicycle paths and some roads in Tasmania.

Privately owned PMDs and e-scooter 'hire and ride' commercial services will be covered by these rules.

What is a PMD?

PMDs are small, electrically powered devices designed to transport one person over short to medium distances.

A device is a PMD if it is electrically powered and:

- has at least one wheel
- is less than 125cm long, 70cm wide and 135cm high
- is less than 45kg
- is not capable of travelling faster than 25km/h
- is designed for use by one person.

Who can ride a PMD?

- A person must be 16 years or older to ride a PMD.
- Children under 16 will still be permitted to use low-powered e-scooters which do not exceed 200 watts and 10km/h.

Do I need to wear a helmet?

Yes. All PMD users must wear an approved helmet.

Can I carry a passenger?

No. PMDs are designed for use by one person and PMD users cannot carry a passenger or animal.

Where can I ride a PMD?

- footpaths
- shared paths
- bicycle paths
- local roads which have a speed limit of 50km/h or less, no dividing lines or median strip, and no multiple lanes if a one-way road.
- PMDs cannot be ridden on a footpath where a 'no personal mobility device' sign has been installed.

Speed limits for PMDs?

- 15km/h on footpaths
- 25km/h on shared paths, bicycle paths and roads.
- PMD users must also ride with due care and attention, as well as consideration for other road users. This means that even if users comply with the speed limits for PMDs, they may be liable for a fine if they are riding irresponsibly.

To share footpaths and roads with others, PMD users must:

- give way to pedestrians on footpaths and shared paths
- travel a sufficient distance from pedestrians in order to stop safely to avoid a collision
- keep to the left unless overtaking or it is impracticable to do so
- ride with due care and attention
- ride with consideration for other road users.

What are the rules for mobile phone, alcohol and drug use?

- PMD users must not use their mobile phone while riding a PMD.



- PMD users must not ride under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Can I ride a PMD at night?

PMDs must not be used at night unless the device or PMD user has:

- a white light visible from the front of the PMD
- a red light that is visible from the rear of the device
- a red reflector visible from the rear of the device.

Not covered by these regulations:

- E-bikes and powered bicycles
- PMDs that are bigger or faster than allowed

Both are covered by the Vehicle & Traffic Act 1999 & Road Rules 2019

Commercial PMDs

Users of commercial 'hire and ride' operators should check the additional operating conditions of their devices.

Full details of the Tasmanian Government Personal mobility devices rules can be viewed at: www.transport.tas.gov.au/road_safety_and_rules/personal_mobility_devices

child safety is no accident

