



So in Summary....

Electric Scooter are NOT legal to use on the road or on the pavement in England.

Riders risk a £300 fixed penalty notice and six points on a driving licence



Electric Scooters

Important

Information



Are electric scooters legal in the UK?

The electric scooter is powered partly by a battery motor and is therefore classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicle (PLEV) by the Department for Transport (DfT), making it **illegal to use a privately owned electric scooter on UK roads and pavements***. However, it is legal to use them on private land and property.



Using them on the road commits the offence of using a motor vehicle with no insurance, and risks a £300 fixed penalty notice and six points on a driving licence.

Can electric scooters be used on the road?

No, an electric scooter cannot be ridden on the road for a couple of reasons. The DVLA requires electric vehicles to be registered and taxed in order to use the road. However, because the adult electric scooter falls within the PLEV category (Personal Light Electric Vehicle) its power and low maximum speed mean it cannot be used on public roads in the UK. This rule also extends to pavements.

Can you ride electric scooters on public footpaths?

No, under the Highway Act, electric scooters are not allowed to be used on a footpath unless needing to do so in order to park. Some of the same restrictions apply to other spaces, which are nevertheless accessible to the public, such as car parks, public squares that are not restricted to pedestrian use, privately owned roads, industrial estates, and university campuses.

There are no statutory restrictions on the use of powered transporters on private land, which is not accessible to the public. The permission of the owner and/or occupier of the land will be required however.

*There are government approved trials of e scooters in set areas where insurance is provided by the rental company that owns the scooter. Full details of these trials and guidance for users can be found at www.gov.uk

Can you use an electric scooter on Cycle lanes, bridleways, and restricted byways?

No, powered transporters are prohibited from using cycle tracks, cycle lanes on roads, or other spaces dedicated to pedal cycle use only (section 21(1), Road Traffic Act 1988). EAPCs and mobility scooters are exempt from this ban.

In addition, powered transporters cannot be used on bridleways or restricted byways (section 34, Road Traffic Act 1988).

Do you need a licence for adult electric scooters?

No, you are not required to have a driver's licence or learners permit in order to use an electric scooter ***because it cannot be used on roads.***

Do I need to register or tax an adult electric scooter?

No, you do not need to register an electric scooter and it is tax exempt ***because it cannot be used on roads.***

Do I need to insure an adult electric scooter?

No, insurance is not required to ride an electric scooter. The reason why they do not need insurance is because ***they cannot legally be used on a road*** therefore any ***E-scooter devices users are committing the offence of using a motor vehicle on the road without insurance as well as other road traffic offences.***

Can Scooters be used on private land?

When PLEVs are used on private land with the permission of the landowner, then the legal conditions mentioned above do not apply.