

# Are electric scooters legal in the UK?



You can legally buy e-scooters in the UK but you cannot ride them on a public road, cycle lane or pavement.

You can only ride e-scooters on private land with the landowner's permission.

This is because e-scooters are legally classed as motor vehicles and so must be taxed, insured, licensed and have a valid MOT. They must also have number plates, signal lights and visible rear lights. As most e-scooters do not have these features, they cannot be used legally on UK roads.



## **What happens if I am stopped by the police?**

You will be advised on the law, may be asked to take your e-scooter home and may also risk the scooter being seized.

### **Depending on the seriousness of the offence you may also receive a Fixed Penalty Notice of:**

- £300 and six penalty points for driving with no insurance
- £100 and three to six penalty points for driving with no licence

### **Other offences you should be aware of that will also result in penalties include:**

- Riding on the pavement which may result in a £50 Fixed Penalty Notice
- Using a mobile phone while riding which may result in a £200 Fixed Penalty Notice and six penalty points
- Riding through red lights – Fixed Penalty Notice of £100 and possible penalty points

## **Alcohol and e-scooters**

If you are caught riding your e-scooter while over the legal drink drive limit then you will face the same penalty as someone caught drinking driving in a car. This includes a fine imposed by a court, a driving ban and possible imprisonment.

## **E-scooters and anti-social behaviour**

If you're using an e-scooter in public in an anti-social manner, you can also risk the e-scooter being seized under Section 59 of the Police Reform Act.

