

E-scooter

E-scooters have been in use as a means of transportation in Austria for several years now.

As they are used on public roads, there are also rules on how to use them properly and safely.

This folder provides an overview of the most important of these rules.



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E-scooters are treated in the same way as bicycles in Austria's road safety regulations¹. This means that all the rules of conduct, regulations for cyclists and equipment regulations for bicycles also apply to e-scooters:



WHAT IS ALLOWED

E-scooters: Maximum continuous output power:



250 watts and

design speed: max. 25 km/h

User



Children (under 12 years): with a bicycle helmet and together with a person aged at least 16 or

Children (under 12 years): with bicycle helmet and in possession of a bicycle pass Children from the age of 12

RECOMMENDED²



"Remember:

Wearing a helmet protects you from being seriously injured, so always wear a bicycle helmet!"



Conduct:



Correct use of roads and paths:

Designated bike paths should be used (cycle paths, cycle lanes, footpaths and cycle lanes, multi-purpose lanes)

If no bike paths are available:

You must use the road

Fittings:



Two independently acting braking devices

A device for emitting acoustic warning signals

Reflectors:

- white reflector at the front (may be connected to the headlamp)
- red reflector at the rear (may be connected to the rear light)
- ring-shaped white or yellow reflectors on the sides of the wheels/tyres

Lights:

- bright white light at the front
- red light at the rear



Conduct:



Using the e-scooter while under the influence of substances such as alcohol or drugs (limit: 0.8 per mille – as for bicycles)

Using the e-scooter on motorways or expressways

Using the e-scooter on pavements, footpaths and zebra crossings (along them – as for bicycles)

Travelling the wrong way along a one-way street if there is no exception for bicycles.

More than one person travelling on an e-scooter at the same time

Making calls without hands-free equipment while using an e-scooter

Parking e-scooters on pavements causing an obstruction: e-scooters may only be parked on pavements with a minimum width of 2.5 m.

- Austrian Highway Code 1960 together with other ancillary laws and ordinances
- NB: An amendment to the law is currently being drafted requiring e-scooter users to wear a helmet. This change in the law may come into force soon.