

Do you know the law?

E-BIKES AND E-SCOOTERS

The Government have set out a series of regulations relating to the use of e-bikes (also referred to as 'electrically assisted pedal bikes' or EAPCs). According to current legislation, e-bikes can be used on public roads without a license or insurance, provided that:



- Cycles are fitted with pedals that are capable of propelling the bike
- Maximum continuous rated power of the electric motor does not exceed 250 Watts
- Electrical assistance must cut-off when the vehicle reaches 15.5 mph
- The rider is not under 14 years of age

An e-bike which complies with the regulations listed above is not considered to be a motor vehicle under terms stated in the 'Road traffic regulation act 1984 and the 'Road traffic act 1988. As a result, e-bikes meeting these requirements do not need to be insured or registered as a motor vehicle and are not subject to vehicle excise duty (road tax). A vehicle that does not comply with the above EAPC classification will need to be registered, insured and taxed as a motor vehicle. The rider will also need an appropriate driving licence and will need to wear an approved motorcycle safety helmet.

To learn more, visit: www.gov.uk/government/publications/electrically-assisted-pedal-cycles-eapcs/electrically-assisted-pedal-cycles-eapcs-in-great-britain-information-sheet

What about e-scooters?

E-scooters are classified as powered vehicles so the rules that apply to motor vehicles also apply to e-scooters, including the need to have a valid licence, insurance and tax. It isn't currently possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them on the road or in public spaces. If you use an e-scooter illegally:

- Your scooter may be seized
- You may incur a fine
- You may receive up to six points on your license



Trials of rental e-scooters are currently taking place legally in various locations across the UK. To find out more, visit: www.gov.uk/guidance/e-scooter-trials-guidance-for-users

If you would like further information please visit
<https://www.hampshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/advice-escooters/>

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