

# ELECTRIC SCOOTERS



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



WITH THE GROWTH  
IN POPULARITY  
OF ELECTRIC  
OR E-SCOOTERS  
IT CAN BE  
CONFUSING TO  
UNDERSTAND  
WHAT THE LAW  
IS IN RELATION  
TO THEIR USE. IN  
ADDITION THERE  
IS A GOVERNMENT  
TRIAL TAKING  
PLACE IN MANY  
TOWNS AND

CITIES WITH DIFFERENT RULES TO FOLLOW SO  
BEFORE PURCHASING OR USING AN E-SCOOTER  
YOU NEED TO FAMILIARISE YOURSELF WITH  
WHAT YOU CAN AND CAN'T DO.

**THIS GUIDE SHOULD OUTLINE THE KEY THINGS  
YOU NEED TO KNOW TO MAKE SURE YOU USE YOUR  
E-SCOOTER LEGALLY.**

## Privately owned e-scooters

- ▶ They can only be ridden on private land with the permission of the land owner.
- ▶ E-scooters are classed as a motor vehicle under the Road Traffic Act 1988 but as they cannot be insured, registered for road use and do not comply with any of the requirements under the Road Traffic Act they are not able to be ridden on a public road, pavement or public place.
- ▶ E Scooters are 'Powered Transporters' and fall within the definition of a motor vehicle for the purposes of the Road Traffic Act 1988. They cannot be registered for road use with DVLA or insured by private individuals.
- ▶ They are not able to be ridden on roads, cycle paths, pavements, bridleways or other public places legally.
- ▶ Anyone using a private e-scooter on a road or public place is committing a number of road traffic offences which carry penalties.

## The penalties

- ▶ A fine of £300 and up to six points on your driving licence if you have one.
- ▶ The E Scooter can also be seized under S.165A Road Traffic Act 1988 as it will have no insurance or S.59 Police Reform Act 2002 if it is being used in a way that causes harassment, alarm or distress.

## Trial rental e-scooters

There are also a number of UK Government trials underway to pilot the use of rental e-scooters in some towns and cities. The rules surrounding these are different to the ones that relate to private e-scooters.

## These scooters are not toys and should not be used by children or given to children to use.

- ▶ They can only be used within the area designated by the rental company.
- ▶ You must have a driving licence with a category Q (this is included within categories P, AM, A or B).
- ▶ You must register with the rental company and have rented the vehicle correctly.
- ▶ They must be ridden following in accordance with the relevant Road Traffic legislation and the guidance of the rental company.
- ▶ If anyone is found to be riding one of these e-scooters in a way that contravenes the law they are liable to be reported and may have points on their licence.
- ▶ You are strongly advised to wear a helmet when using an e-scooter as they can travel up to speeds of 15.5 mph however there is no legal requirement to wear one.

