



ARE YOU THINKING OF GETTING A MOBILITY SCOOTER?

Mobility scooters can be an important part of everyday life for people with limited mobility. Mobility scooters don't need to be registered and you don't need a licence to ride one. With their numbers steadily rising, it's important to know how to stay safe while using your mobility scooter.

Choosing a scooter that's right for you



Some things to consider when selecting a scooter:

- How far will you travel?
- What kind of terrain?
- Do you need to transport your scooter in a car?
- How tall and heavy are you?
- Do you need to be able to carry bags?

A responsible vendor will assess these points and many more when helping you choose the best scooter for your needs.

Scooter prices range from \$1,500 to well over \$10,000 and bigger isn't necessarily better.



Who can use a mobility scooter?

Roads and Maritime Services requires that a user has a reasonable need to use a mobility scooter because of physical disability or limited mobility.

You should also be able to:

- Operate controls and manoeuvre the scooter
- Keep your balance and adjust your body position when travelling across uneven ground
- Spot obstacles and avoid collisions
- Judge speeds and distances
- Use good judgement to protect your safety and the safety of others.

It's recommended that you speak with your doctor before making the decision to become a scooter user.

Your rights and responsibilities

Mobility scooter users are classified as pedestrians and fall into the same category as motorised wheelchairs.

In general, you can go most places a pedestrian can go. However, not all facilities are designed to accommodate scooters and you should be prepared to leave your scooter outside and walk short distances. Scooters are big, heavy and cumbersome. Travel slowly and safely, especially in crowds, and take care around pedestrians.



Road rules

Mobility Scooter users are classified as pedestrians and the same road rules apply.

As a mobility scooter user, you:

- must ensure your scooter cannot travel faster than 10km/h
- should ride on the footpath where possible. Where this is not possible, ride as close to the edge of the road as possible and face the traffic
- cannot use bicycle lanes
- cannot enter the roadway where pedestrians are prohibited (e.g. freeways)
- must not be affected by alcohol or drugs when travelling on a road or footpath
- must not cause a traffic hazard.



Staying safe

Some tips to help you stay safe:

- Make sure you are fit and well
- Plan the safest route ahead of time
- Take extra care on uneven ground and when driving down ramps and driveways
- Attach a safety flag and wear bright clothing or a hi-vis vest to increase visibility
- Be aware that changes in medication and your health may affect your ability to safely operate your scooter
- Wear a safety helmet
- Steep hill climbs will drain your battery and travelling down steep hills will wear your brakes
- Don't turn the scooter on hills or uneven ground as they may roll over
- Check your tyre pressure regularly
- Service your scooter regularly as recommended by the manufacturer
- Centre any cargo to avoid loading your scooter unevenly



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