

Can I ride an e-scooter?



It is currently against the law to ride a private e-scooter on a public road or pavement.



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We understand that buying an e-scooter can be tempting, especially as you can get them from many popular retailers.

However, the current law is clear

You can buy one but you can't ride it on a UK public road, cycle lane or pavement. The only place an e-scooter can be used is on private land.

Why is this?

E-scooters are classed as a motorcycle as defined in Section 185 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and, because of their low speed, within the subclass of moped.

This means that e-scooters must abide by the same road traffic legislation as mopeds and motorcycles, such as:

- MOT
- Licensing
- Tax
- Insurance

What happens if I've been stopped by Nottinghamshire Police?

Section 165 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 provides the power to seize privately owned e-scooters for driving without insurance or a driving licence.

If you are stopped while riding an e-scooter, you may be given a warning by an officer and your details will be recorded.

If you are stopped a second time your e-scooter will be seized and retained by police.

However, it is legal to ride a 'Link' e-scooter. Nottingham City has launched an e-scooter trial which makes it legal to ride a 'Link' e-scooter on roads, cycle paths and cycle lanes. Link e-scooters are neon yellow & grey in colour.

Link e-scooters in partnership with Nottingham City Council can be hired by the minute which is accessed using an app.

The rider must have a provisional/full driving licence, and be at least 18 years old. Wearing a helmet is recommended.