



Guidelines & Information for E-Scooters Starting in May 2026

Where are e-scooters allowed to be ridden?

In general, the same traffic rules apply to e-scooters as to cyclists. Therefore, existing bicycle facilities must be used in accordance with applicable regulations.

Roadway

If no bicycle lane is available, the roadway may be used. If there is a bicycle path or a shared-use path (where use is not mandatory), riders may choose between the roadway and the bicycle path.

Bicycle Path

If there is a mandatory bicycle path, it must be used.

Bicycle lanes

Bicycle lanes are separated from the rest of the roadway by markings and must be used by e-scooters.

Multi-purpose lanes

Multi-purpose lanes are areas at the edge of the roadway intended primarily for cyclists. E-scooter riders must also use them.

Radfahrerüberfahrten

To cross roadways safely, use existing crosswalks for cyclists.

Bicycle Lanes

E-scooters are permitted on bicycle lanes. When doing so, you must follow the traffic rules in effect there.



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Sidewalks and bike paths

On sidewalks and bike paths, special consideration must be given to pedestrians and cyclists. Neither obstructing nor endangering other road users is permitted. In areas separated by physical barriers or markings, only the section designated for cyclists may be used.

Residential streets and shared spaces

In residential streets and shared spaces, speed must be adjusted to local conditions. Sidewalks may only be used there if this has been expressly permitted by the competent authority.

Where are e-scooters not permitted?

Certain traffic areas are generally off-limits to e-scooters.

Sidewalks and Walkways

Riding on sidewalks and walkways is strictly prohibited.

In exceptional cases, the competent authority may grant permission to ride there. If such an exception is granted, however, riders must proceed at walking speed only. This information is posted on the official notice board of the respective municipality; additional information may be provided by the municipality. There is no specific traffic sign for this exception.

Pedestrian crossings

Pedestrian crossings (zebra crossings) may not be used to cross the roadway on an e-scooter.

Pedestrian Zones

Riding e-scooters is generally not permitted in pedestrian zones.

If cycling is expressly permitted in a pedestrian zone, e-scooters may also be ridden there. In such cases, speed must always be adjusted to pedestrian traffic, and special consideration must be given to pedestrians.



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What is the speed limit for e-scooters?

The maximum speed limit is 25 km/h.

Can two people ride on an e-scooter?

No. An e-scooter is approved for use by one person only. A second person is not allowed to ride on the e-scooter, regardless of age or height.

Are children allowed to ride on an e-scooter?

No. Children are not permitted to ride on the same e-scooter, either as the driver or as a passenger.

At what age is riding permitted?

Riding an e-scooter is generally permitted from age 12. With a valid bicycle license, this is possible from age 10 (in some cases, from age 9).

Children under 12 years of age are not permitted to ride alone on public roads—with the exception of residential streets. They must be accompanied by a supervising adult who is at least 16 years old.

Helmets are mandatory for riders under 16 years of age.

Is it legal to ride an e-scooter while under the influence of alcohol?

For e-scooter and e-bike riders, the legal limit is less than 0.5 blood alcohol content.

Where can an e-scooter be parked?

E-scooters must be parked in such a way that they do not tip over and do not obstruct anyone. Parking at bicycle racks is, of course, permitted.

Is it allowed to use a phone while riding?

No. Using a phone without a hands-free device while riding is prohibited. This rule applies to both e-scooters and e-bikes.