

A feeling of freedom

Moped and MC bike



It is probably with a great feeling of freedom that you get on your moped for the first time this spring. With your Moped Licence in your pocket, you can now go wherever you want without having to think about timetables or asking your parents for a lift. However, if you are going to keep yourself and others safe, it is important that you are aware of the rules that apply on the road for mopeds and quad bikes. So that you can safely ride your moped to your school, training and friends, the gig studio or leisure centre or wherever you fancy going - we want to tell you about what can happen if you do not pay follow the rules!

What is the difference between Class I and II mopeds?

Moped Class 1 (EU moped)

- Built for max. 45 km/hour
- Must not exceed a speed limit of 45 km/hour
- Must be registered and fitted with a number plate
- Requires motor insurance, even if not in use

Rider requirements

- You must be 15 years of age
- You must wear a crash helmet
- You must have a valid AM licence or higher category driving licence

Do not forget - you cannot ride your Class 1 moped along public cycle paths and footpaths or on motorways and dual carriageways.

Moped Class 2

- Built for max. 25 km/hour
- Requires motor insurance, if in use

Rider requirements

- You must be 15 years of age
- You must wear a crash helmet
- You must have a driving licence that is valid for a Class II moped
- You must always have the Motor Insurance Certificate with you when you ride your moped

Quad bike (four-wheel motorcycle)

- Must be registered as a motorcycle and fitted with a rear number plate
- Max. engine power is 15 kilowatt (around 20 hp)
- Must be MOT tested (annual vehicle safety test)
- Motor insurance is mandatory
- Must be designed and approved for carrying passengers. See Vehicle Registration Certificate for details of what applies to your particular bike

Rider requirements

- You may ride your moped on public roads and streets
- You must have a category B driving licence or alternatively, a category A1 or A licence, issued before 19 January 2013
- You must wear a crash helmet unless your quad bike is fitted with a seatbelt in which case, this may be used instead

Requirements for you who like to ride Cross/ MC bikes

- Licence plate
- MOT (annual vehicle safety test)

Rider requirements

- You must have a driving licence valid for Categories A1, A2 and A
- Fully paid vehicle tax
- Motor insurance cover
- You must not exceed current speed limits
- You must wear a crash helmet unless your bike has a body strap and seatbelt
- Your quad bike may carry one passenger if it is designed to do so and is registered as a passenger vehicle. If your quad bike is fitted with a sidecar then one passenger may sit in that

Consequences if you do not follow traffic safety rules for mopeds and other vehicles

Us Police Officers often see moped riders getting into trouble because they have not followed the local traffic safety rules. To help you avoid getting into the same sort of trouble, we want to tell you about the rules that apply on the road.

Souped-up mopeds Driving a souped-up moped is illegal. There are many ways in which you can soup up your moped. As a souped-up moped is normally classified as a motorcycle, driving a souped-up moped without a motorcycle licence means that you are actually committing the traffic offence of driving without a licence which, if repeated, is seen as a serious traffic offence.

Consequences

- You get fined for unlawful driving
- Your parents get fined for allowing you to ride your moped unlawfully
- Your moped is confiscated
- Your moped will be made legal on the road again – expensive!
- You lose your moped licence or licences
- You might have a problem getting a provisional driving licence for car or motorcycle
- Your optional damage insurance cover, if you have one, is invalidated
- Your vehicle warranty is invalidated
- You could cause a traffic accident and injure or fatally injure another person

Not wearing a crash helmet All moped riders and passengers must wear an approved safety standard crash helmet.

If not, you may get

- Fines
- Head injuries

Driving a stolen moped As a buyer, you are responsible for making certain that the vehicle you buy has not been stolen. When buying a moped, make sure you are given a purchase receipt and all accompanying documents. Class 1 mopeds should come with a Certificate of Registration. Make sure too that the moped has the correct frame number. You can always call the Police to check whether or not the moped you want to buy has been stolen.

Consequences

- Your moped is taken away from you (confiscated and returned to its rightful owner) without you getting a penny in compensation
- You get fined for handling stolen goods

Dangerous driving As a moped rider, you must be responsible and not reckless. This means, among other things, that you must not ride your moped along pedestrian and cycle paths, across public parks and open spaces, etc., as this type of behaviour may frighten and make other people feel unsafe.

Possible consequences

- You may be convicted for dangerous driving
- You may lose your moped or driving licence

There are many other road safety rules that you ought to be aware of. Learn and follow them so that you can safely enjoy the freedom of your moped!