

SCOOTER Ready



E-SCOOTER GUIDE

E-scooters are a great way to make short trips around the city. They're quick, convenient and accessible for a wide range of people. The Scooter Ready programme supports people to be safe and enjoy their scooters. This guide covers safe use of an e-scooter in an urban environment.

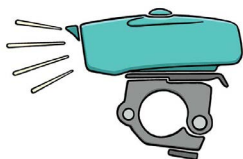
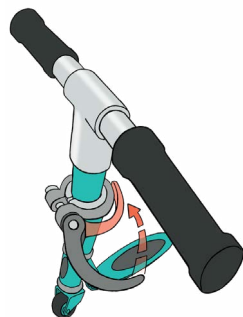
About e-scooters

Most e-scooters reach speeds of around 20-25km/h and can travel about 20-30km on one charge. They can carry up to 100kg.

Many e-scooters fold for storage/transport. Keep in mind they are heavy, about 15kg.

Start safe - checklist:

- ✓ Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency recommend you wear a helmet when riding a scooter.
- ✓ It is also important to wear comfortable shoes in case you need to hop off in a hurry.
- ✓ Before you ride, check your scooter is charged and secure all clamps. Check your hand brake works and your tyres are inflated.
- ✓ Check your route to avoid busy roads, narrow paths/lanes or areas with crowded footpaths. Avoid steps and steep inclines if possible.
- ✓ Carry your gear in a backpack. Handbags, satchels, or shopping bags can swing and throw you off balance.
- ✓ Take an extra set of lights and reflective gear if riding in dim or dark conditions. The built in rear light is very low and not easily seen by other road users.
- ✓ Keep both hands on the handlebars at all times.
- ✓ Ride single - do not take passengers on your scooter.



Legislation and rules

E-scooters are classed as 'wheeled recreational devices'. They are covered by the Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004. Section 11 covers requirements for users of 'wheeled recreational devices'. This includes any vehicle with wheels under 355mm in diameter, propelled by the rider and/or an auxiliary motor not exceeding 300W power output.

Read the full legislation here: www.legislation.govt.nz

Contact your local Council or scooter-share operator for site specific rules.

Learning the ropes

How to use an e-scooter

Most e-scooters are simple to operate. Your model may vary. Check your User Manual if you are unsure.

1. First, unplug your scooter if charging. Set up the handlebars and lock these in.
2. Turn on the on/off button (short key press). The battery indicator will light up showing you how many bars of charge you have. Use a long key press to turn off.
3. The on/off button may also turn on the lights, using a second short key press.
4. Check your hand brake(s) is working before setting off. This should feel quite firm. Most e-scooters do not have a foot brake.
5. Find a flat, clear area to start riding. Kick up your stand and start pushing the scooter with your foot. Your front foot should be near the front of the scooter deck.
6. Once you reach walking speed you can use the throttle. Push down the thumb throttle to get assistance from the motor.
7. Practice steering around objects until you are confident maneuvering. Practice shoulder checks and quick stops.
8. On steeper inclines you may need to assist the motor by pushing with your foot, or walk.
9. To slow down, release the throttle and apply the brake gently.

Parking

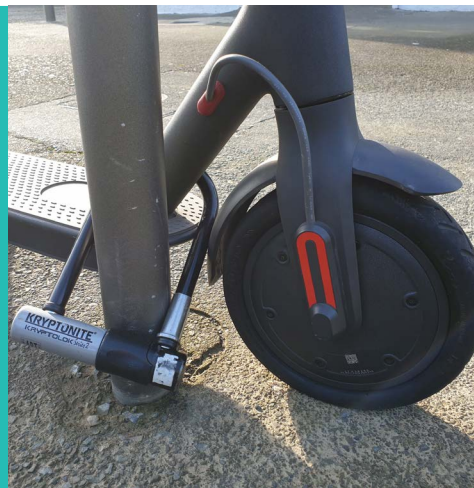
When finished fold the scooter and take it with you.

If you need to leave it outside, lock it safely to a bike rack or other solid street furniture.

Use a solid bike 'U' lock through the fork and/or brake lock.

Do not obstruct the footpath, handrails, seating or exits.

Always park in a safe and considerate way.



Staying safe on your e-scooter

Safe speeds – E-scooters can generally reach speeds of 20-25km/h on the flat and more downhill. Always ride at a speed that you do not pose a hazard to yourself or others!

Safe stopping – The small wheels are more likely to jolt when they hit obstacles, such as gravel or kerbs. This can throw the rider forward. Always wear a helmet.

- Use your brake(s) to slow down, or stop and walk, around hazards, especially up kerbs.
- To stop quickly, hop off your scooter on one side and run alongside until you come to a stop.
- If you cannot avoid an obstacle, bend your knees and lean your weight back and down.



Safe handling – An e-scooter weighs about 15kg. Wheel them if you can, but when lifting always hold the back wheel steady. Keep the deck clear of ankles and shins.

Safe sharing – Always ride in a safe and considerate manner around other people. Use the footpath only when it is safe to do so, i.e. very quiet, wide and a smooth flat surface.

- Give pedestrians a wide berth. When approaching people (especially from behind), slow down, use a bell or call out.
- Slow down on blind corners. Only pass other users when you can see clearly ahead.

Safe scooting – Where you feel safe, scoot on the road but keep to the left, staying clear of the gutter and drains. When riding on the road, follow all road rules.

Keep clear of parked cars, as doors can open unexpectedly. Watch out for vehicles crossing your path – they may not see you so be ready to stop.



More information on training and safety:

www.gw.govt.nz/scooters

bookings@pedalready.org.nz

SCOOTER
Ready 

 **Greater Wellington**
Te Pane Matua Taiao