

## Rule 245

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### Part 15 Additional rules for bicycle riders

*Note 1* This Part contains rules that apply only to bicycle riders. Most rules in the Australian Road Rules apply to bicycle riders in the same way as they apply to drivers — see rule 19. There are some other rules that are for bicycle riders only, or that have exceptions for bicycle riders. These include:

- optional hook turn by bicycle riders — rule 35
- bicycle riders making a hook turn contrary to a *no hook turn by bicycles sign* — rule 36
- bicycle riders excepted from giving stop signals — rule 52
- exception for bicycle riders riding in emergency stopping lanes — rule 95
- bicycle riders entering and leaving roundabouts — rules 111 and 119
- bicycle riders overtaking on the left — rule 141
- riding alongside other riders — rule 151
- bicycle lanes — rule 153
- parking at a bicycle rail or in a bicycle rack — rule 166
- stopping on footpaths — rule 197
- stopping on a road with a *bicycle parking sign* — rule 201.

*Note 2* **Bicycle** is defined in the dictionary.

#### 245 Riding a bicycle

The rider of a bicycle must:

- (a) sit astride the rider's seat facing forwards (except if the bicycle is not built to be ridden astride); and
- (b) ride with at least 1 hand on the handlebars; and
- (c) if the bicycle is equipped with a seat — not ride the bicycle seated in any other position on the bicycle.

Offence provision.

#### 246 Carrying people on a bicycle

The rider of a bicycle must not carry more persons on the bicycle than the bicycle is designed to carry.

Offence provision.

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**Rule 249****247 Riding in a bicycle lane on a road**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle riding on a length of road with a bicycle lane designed for bicycles travelling in the same direction as the rider must ride in the bicycle lane unless it is impracticable to do so.

Offence provision.

*Note* Rule 153 defines a *bicycle lane* and deals with the use of bicycle lanes by other vehicles.

- (2) In this rule:

*road* does not include a road-related area.

*Note Road-related area* includes the shoulder of a road — see rule 13.

**248 No riding across a road on a crossing**

The rider of a bicycle must not ride across a road, or part of a road, on a children's crossing, marked foot crossing or pedestrian crossing.

Offence provision.

*Note Children's crossing* is defined in rule 80, *marked foot crossing* is defined in the dictionary, and *pedestrian crossing* is defined in rule 81.

**249 Riding on a separated footpath**

The rider of a bicycle must not ride on a part of a separated footpath designated for the use of pedestrians.

Offence provision.

*Note 1 Separated footpath* is defined in rule 239, and *pedestrian* is defined in rule 18.

*Note 2* Rule 336 deals with how parts of a separated footpath are designated for bicycle riders and pedestrians.

**Rule 250**

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**250 Riding on a footpath or shared path**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle who is 12 years old or older must not ride on a footpath if another law of this jurisdiction prohibits the rider from riding on the footpath.

Offence provision.

*Example of another law of this jurisdiction*

Another law of this jurisdiction may provide that a commercial courier must not ride a bicycle on any footpath or any footpath in a particular area, or that an adult must not ride a bicycle on a footpath unless the adult is accompanying a child under 12 years who is also riding on the footpath.

*Note* **Footpath** is defined in the dictionary.

- (2) The rider of a bicycle riding on a footpath or shared path must:
- (a) keep to the left of the footpath or shared path unless it is impracticable to do so; and
  - (b) give way to any pedestrian on the footpath or shared path.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Pedestrian** is defined in rule 18, and **shared path** is defined in rule 242.

*Note 2* For subrule (2), **give way** means the rider must slow down and, if necessary, stop to avoid a collision — see the definition in the dictionary.

- (3) In this rule:

**footpath** does not include a separated footpath.

*Note* **Separated footpath** is defined in rule 239.

**251 Riding to the left of oncoming bicycle riders on a path**

The rider of a bicycle riding on a bicycle path, footpath, separated footpath or shared path must keep to the left of any oncoming bicycle rider on the path.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Bicycle path** and **separated footpath** are defined in rule 239, **footpath** is defined in the dictionary, and **shared path** is defined in rule 242.

## Rule 252

**252 No bicycles signs and markings**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle must not ride on a length of road or footpath to which a *no bicycles sign*, or a *no bicycles road marking*, applies.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Footpath**, **length** of road and **no bicycles road marking** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) A *no bicycles sign*, or a *no bicycles road marking*, applies to a length of road or footpath beginning at the sign or marking and ending at the nearest of the following:
- a *bicycle path sign* or bicycle path road marking;
  - a *bicycle lane sign*;
  - a *separated footpath sign* or separated footpath road marking;
  - a *shared path sign*;
  - an *end no bicycles sign*;
  - the next intersection.

*Note* **Intersection** is defined in the dictionary, and **bicycle path road marking** and **separated footpath road marking** are defined in rule 239.

No bicycles sign



Bicycle path sign



Bicycle lane sign



Separated footpath sign



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Shared path sign



End no bicycles sign



*Note 1 for diagrams* There are a number of other permitted versions of the *bicycle path sign* and *bicycle lane sign*, and another permitted version of the *no bicycles sign*, *separated footpath sign* and *shared path sign* — see the diagrams in Schedule 3.

*Note 2 for diagrams* A *separated footpath sign* may have the pedestrian symbol and the bicycle symbol reversed — see rule 316 (4).

**253 Bicycle riders not to cause a traffic hazard**

The rider of a bicycle must not cause a traffic hazard by moving into the path of a driver or pedestrian.

Offence provision.

**254 Bicycles being towed etc**

- (1) A person must not ride on a bicycle that is being towed by another vehicle.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Vehicle** is defined in rule 15.

- (2) The rider of a bicycle must not hold onto another vehicle while the vehicle is moving.

Offence provision.

**Rule 257**

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**255 Riding too close to the rear of a motor vehicle**

The rider of a bicycle must not ride within 2 metres of the rear of a moving motor vehicle continuously for more than 200 metres.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Motor vehicle** is defined in the dictionary.

**256 Bicycle helmets**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle must wear an approved bicycle helmet securely fitted and fastened on the rider's head, unless the rider is exempt from wearing a bicycle helmet under another law of this jurisdiction.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Approved bicycle helmet** is defined in the dictionary.

- (2) The rider of a bicycle must not carry a passenger on the bicycle unless:
- (a) the passenger is wearing an approved bicycle helmet securely fitted and fastened on the passenger's head; or
  - (b) the passenger is exempt from wearing a bicycle helmet under another law of this jurisdiction.

Offence provision.

- (3) Subrule (2) does not apply to the rider of a three or four-wheeled bicycle who is carrying a paying passenger.

**257 Riding with a person on a bicycle trailer**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle must not tow a bicycle trailer with a person in or on the bicycle trailer, unless:
- (a) the rider is 16 years old, or older; and
  - (b) the person in or on the bicycle trailer is under 10 years old, or as otherwise provided under another law of this jurisdiction; and
  - (c) the bicycle trailer can safely carry the person; and

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- (d) the person in or on the bicycle trailer is wearing an approved bicycle helmet securely fitted and fastened on the person's head, unless the person is exempt from wearing a bicycle helmet under another law of this jurisdiction.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Approved bicycle helmet** is defined in the dictionary.

- (2) In this rule:

**bicycle trailer** means a vehicle that is built to be towed, or is towed, by a bicycle.

*Note* **Vehicle** is defined in rule 15.

## 258 Equipment on a bicycle

A person must not ride a bicycle that does not have:

- (a) at least 1 effective brake; and
- (b) a bell, horn, or similar warning device, in working order.

Offence provision.

## 259 Riding at night

The rider of a bicycle must not ride at night, or in hazardous weather conditions causing reduced visibility, unless the bicycle, or the rider, displays:

- (a) a flashing or steady white light that is clearly visible for at least 200 metres from the front of the bicycle; and
- (b) a flashing or steady red light that is clearly visible for at least 200 metres from the rear of the bicycle; and
- (c) a red reflector that is clearly visible for at least 50 metres from the rear of the bicycle when light is projected onto it by a vehicle's headlight on low-beam.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Low-beam** and **night** are defined in the dictionary.

**Rule 261****260 Stopping for a red bicycle crossing light**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle approaching or at bicycle crossing lights showing a red bicycle crossing light must stop before reaching the bicycle crossing lights.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Bicycle crossing lights** and **red bicycle crossing light** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) The rider must not proceed until:
  - (a) the bicycle crossing lights change to green; or
  - (b) there is no red bicycle crossing light showing.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Green bicycle crossing light** is defined in the dictionary.

*Example*

Red bicycle crossing light



Green bicycle crossing light

**261 Stopping for a yellow bicycle crossing light**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle approaching bicycle crossing lights showing a yellow bicycle crossing light must comply with this rule.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Bicycle crossing lights** and **yellow bicycle crossing light** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) If the rider can stop safely before reaching the bicycle crossing lights, the bicycle rider must stop before reaching the lights.



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- (3) If the rider stops before reaching the bicycle crossing lights, and the lights change to red, the bicycle rider must not proceed until:
- (a) the bicycle crossing lights change to green; or
  - (b) there is no red or yellow bicycle crossing light showing.

*Note* **Green bicycle crossing light** and **red bicycle crossing light** are defined in the dictionary.

Yellow bicycle crossing light



**262 Proceeding when bicycle crossing lights change to yellow or red**

- (1) If bicycle crossing lights at an intersection change from green to yellow or red while the rider of a bicycle is in the intersection, the rider must finish crossing the intersection as soon as the rider can do so safely.

Offence provision.

*Note 1* **Bicycle crossing lights** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* **Intersection** does not include a road-related area — see the definition in the dictionary.

- (2) If bicycle crossing lights at a place on a road where the rider of a bicycle is crossing the road change from green to yellow or red while the rider is on the road, the rider must cross the road as soon as the rider can do so safely.

Offence provision.

- (3) In this rule:

**road** does not include a road-related area.

*Note* **Road-related area** includes the shoulder of a road — see rule 13.