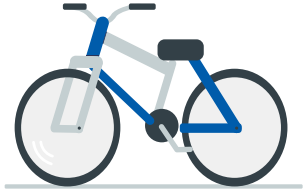
VEHICLES/DEVICES

Texas A&M Transportation Institute

Save a Life™
Texas Department of Transportation

BICYCLE



A device, excluding a moped, that is capable of being ridden solely using human power and has either:

(A) two tandem wheels at least one of which is more than 14 inches in diameter;

(B) three wheels, two of which are in parallel, and at least one of the three wheels is more than 14 inches in diameter; or

(C) any number of wheels and adaptive technology that allows the device to be ridden by a person with a disability.

TTC 541.201 (2)

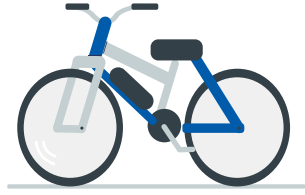
Operator has the same rights and duties as a driver operating a vehicle .

TTC 551.101

Is considered a "sidewalk user" when being lawfully operated on a sidewalk.

TTC 541.001(6)

E-BICYCLE



A bicycle:

(A) equipped with:

(i) fully operable pedals; and

(ii) an electric motor of fewer than 750 watts; and

(B) with a top assisted speed of 28 miles per hour or less.

"Top assisted speed" means the speed at which the bicycle's motor ceases propelling the bicycle or assisting the rider.

Class 1:

(A) equipped with a motor that assists the rider only when the rider is pedaling; and

(B) with a top assisted speed of 20 miles per hour or less.

Class 2:

(A) equipped with a motor that may be used to propel the bicycle without the pedaling of the rider; and

(B) with a top assisted speed of 20 miles per hour or less.

Class 3:

(A) equipped with a motor that assists the rider only when the rider is pedaling; and

(B) with a top assisted speed of more than 20 but less than 28 miles per hour.

TTC 664.001

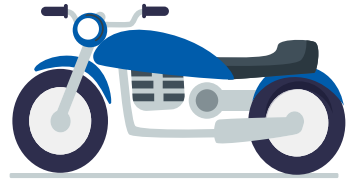
Operator has the same rights and duties as a driver operating a vehicle.

TTC 551.101

Is considered a "sidewalk user" when being lawfully operated on a sidewalk.

TTC 541.001(6)

POCKET BIKE OR MINIMOTORBIKE



A self-propelled vehicle that:

(A) is equipped with an electric motor or internal combustion engine having a piston displacement of less than 50 cubic centimeters;

(B) designed to propel itself with not more than two wheels in contact with the ground;

(C) has a seat or saddle for the use of the operator;

(D) not designed for use on a highway; and

(E) is ineligible for a certificate of title under Chapter 501.

TTC 551.351(2)

State law does not authorize their operation on a:

(A) highway, road or street;

(B) bicycle path or

(C) sidewalk.

May be used on private property only.

TTC 551.353

MOPED

A motor vehicle equipped with a rider's saddle with no more than three wheels on the ground, that cannot attain a speed in one mile of more than 30 miles per hour, and the engine of which:

(A) cannot produce more than five-brake horsepower; and

(B) if an internal combustion engine, has a piston displacement of 50 cubic centimeters or less and connects to a power drive system that does not require the operator to shift gears.

TTC 541.201 (8)

A moped is considered a motor vehicle and therefore should only be operated where motor vehicles are permitted. The same laws that apply to a bicycle also apply to a moped (except where by its nature it cannot apply to a moped). A moped has to be registered in Texas.

If the moped has an engine piston displacement of 250 cubic centimeters or less, it may not be driven at a speed of more than 35 mph at night unless it is equipped with a headlamp that reveals a person or vehicle 300 feet ahead.

TTC 545.361

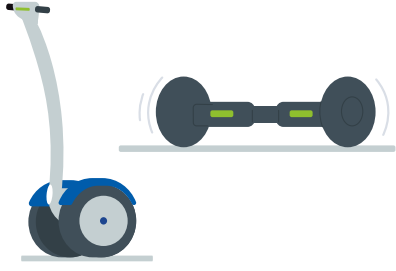
For more law enforcement resources, please visit our webpage here.

OTHER DEVICES

The devices below are considered **motorized conveyances** according to the CR-100, and the riders would be considered pedestrians. However, how they are treated in the law varies.

Some motorized conveyances are considered “sidewalk users” when lawfully operated on a sidewalk. Certain pedestrian laws apply to sidewalk users.

ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTIVE MOBILITY DEVICE



A two non-tandem wheeled device designed for transporting one person that is:

(A) self-balancing; and

(B) propelled by an electric propulsion system with an average power of 750 watts or one horsepower.

TTC 551.201

Required to use on a sidewalk, when available. If there is no sidewalk, it can be operated only on roads with a speed limit of 30 miles per hour or less. May also be operated on a path set aside exclusively for bicycles.

The same rules that apply to the use of a bicycle apply to an electric personal assistive mobility device.

TTC 551.202

Is considered a “sidewalk user” when being lawfully operated on a sidewalk.

TTC 541.001(6)

Considered a motorized conveyance in crash reporting guidance (CR-100).

MOTORIZED MOBILITY DEVICE

A device designed for transportation of persons with physical disabilities that:

(A) has three or more wheels;

(B) is propelled by a battery-powered motor;

(C) has not more than one forward gear; and

(D) is not capable of speeds exceeding 8 miles per hour.

A person operating a non-motorized wheelchair or motorized mobility device is considered a pedestrian.

TTC 552A.0101

Considered a motorized conveyance in crash reporting guidance (CR-100).

MOTOR-ASSISTED SCOOTER

A self-propelled device with:

(A) at least two wheels in contact with the ground during operation;

(B) a braking system capable of stopping the device under typical operating conditions;

(C) a gas or electric motor not exceeding 40 cubic centimeters;

(D) a deck designed to allow a person to stand or sit while operating the device; and

(E) the ability to be propelled by human power alone.

TTC 551.351(1)

May be operated on streets with a speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less.

TTC 551.352

Is considered a “sidewalk user” when being lawfully operated on a sidewalk.

TTC 541.001(6)

Treated as a bicycle under the law.

TTC 551.352d

OTHER WHEELED DEVICES

Skateboards

One-Wheeled Devices

Roller Skates

Skateboards, roller skates and similar devices are considered “sidewalk users” when lawfully operated on a sidewalk. Certain pedestrian laws apply to sidewalk users.

TTC 541.001(6)

For more law enforcement resources, please visit our webpage here.