



penalties

Under Northern Territory laws, if you do not comply with the road rules you can be penalised.

Traffic offences

Penalties for traffic offences include fines, disqualification from holding or applying for a licence, licence cancellation, refusal or suspension and, in extreme cases, imprisonment.

Demerit points for traffic offences

If you break the traffic laws you can be fined. For certain traffic offences you will also have demerit points recorded against your licence. There is a limit to the number of points you can build up before your licence is suspended.

You can check your current NT demerit points tally any time at nt.gov.au website.

There are different limits for different types of licences. Make sure you understand the points limit for your licence.

Speeding offences

Penalties for exceeding the speed limit include demerit points, fines, licence suspension or disqualification. Penalties increase depending on how many kilometres over the speed limit you are going.

Other serious riding offences

If you are convicted of serious riding offences, you may be disqualified from riding by a court. The court decides how long you should be disqualified for and you could even be sent to prison.

These types of offences are heard in front of a magistrate at a local court and penalties include a large fine, a prison

term and disqualification. Heavier penalties apply for second or subsequent offences. These offences include:

- riding or attempting to ride under the influence of alcohol or other drugs
- riding or attempting to ride when your alcohol level is over the legal limit for your licence
- refusing to take a breath test
- not stopping after a crash in which someone was injured or killed
- riding at a dangerous speed
- riding in a dangerous manner
- riding without a valid motorcycle licence for the type of motorcycle being ridden.

Negligent or dangerous riding causing injury or death

Northern Territory law provides for serious charges to be laid against people riding a motorcycle in a negligent or dangerous manner that causes injury or death.

As the rider of a motorcycle involved in a crash where somebody is injured because of your negligent riding, you could be imprisoned, face a heavy fine and a period of disqualification. If somebody is killed in such a crash you could be imprisoned and face a higher fine.

If you are riding a motorcycle at a speed or in a manner dangerous to the public, and you are involved in a crash that results in injury or death, the penalties can be severe.

Should somebody be injured or killed as a result of your dangerous riding, you could be imprisoned.

Hooning

The penalties for hooning are severe.

Hooning is:

- taking part in unauthorised street races and speed trials
- burnouts
- damaging the surface of a road or public place.

If the police suspect you have been involved in hooning, they can take possession of your vehicle on-the-spot for up to 48 hours and you can be fined.

The courts may impose other penalties that include impoundment for a period of more than 48 hours, forfeiture, a fine or imprisonment.

Drink riding

Drink riding penalties are increased according to the level of alcohol detected in the blood.

Penalties are severe and may include:

- large fines that increase if a second offence is committed
- immediate licence suspension

- prison terms that increase when a second offence is committed
- a period of disqualification from riding, up to lifetime disqualification.

Riding without a licence

All riders **must** carry their licence with them every time they ride.

Heavy penalties apply for riding without a licence. If you fail to produce your licence you can be issued with an on-the-spot fine.

Larger penalties apply if you are convicted of riding while serving a non-riding period for being disqualified from holding or obtaining a licence, or when your licence has been cancelled, refused or suspended.

Penalties may apply for allowing an unlicensed person to ride your motorcycle.

