

Introduction to motorcycle riding

Motorcycling can be fun, economical and safe, but we have to recognise that motorcycle riders are among our most vulnerable road users.

Motorcycle riders are less protected than car drivers and have a greater chance of being killed or injured in a crash.

You can become a safer rider by learning the necessary rider skills, having a good understanding of the road environment, riding to the conditions and by always being aware of other road users.

The procedures to obtain a motorcycle rider licence are designed to help you become a safe rider. The Motorcycle Riders' Handbook, training programs and the testing procedures are designed to teach you to be competent in the skills required to ride on Territory roads.

This handbook contains important information about riding techniques, how to cope with hazards and some road rules that are specific to motorcyclists. Please read it carefully.

Motorcycle riders must adhere to the same road rules as other road users, so make sure that you keep up to date with the different road rules, signs and markings by also reading the latest edition of the Road Users' Handbook.

Enjoy your riding, but, above all, ride to survive.

This publication may be updated from time to time. Always refer to the Motor Vehicle Registry website for an up to date version of this publication.

Important information

Application forms

Most MVR forms are available online. Visit the MVR website at www.mvr.nt.gov.au to check whether your business can be completed online.

Application forms are also available at all MVR offices and at select police stations in remote communities.

Locations and contact details of MVR offices are listed at the back of this book.

Change of details

All licence holders and owners of registered vehicles must notify MVR within 14 days if any of the details recorded against their licence or registration changes. Some common examples are changes of name or address.

The MVR must also be notified if a licence card or vehicle number plates are lost, stolen, defaced or damaged, or if a vehicle is sold, disposed of or altered.

You can update your contact details online, over the phone, or at any MVR office.

For more information, visit the MVR website at www.mvr.nt.gov.au or phone the MVR information line on **1300 654 628**.

Privacy

The information you provide to MVR to obtain a licence or register a vehicle is collected for the purpose of compliance with and enforcement of Northern Territory legislation.

The Registrar of Motor Vehicles is required to collect personal information and does so in accordance with the Department's privacy principles and guidelines.

Transferring an interstate licence

Riders from other Australian jurisdictions must transfer to an NT licence after they become a resident of the NT.

If your interstate licence is current, transferring your licence can be done at no cost. Any time remaining on the interstate licence will be transferred to your new NT licence provided that the remaining time on your interstate licence does not exceed the maximum years a NT licence can be issued.

In most cases, identical licence classes and conditions will apply between Australian states and territories; however, there may be individual cases where items such as provisional requirements or other licence conditions are not identical in all jurisdictions. In these cases, NT rules will be applied when you transfer your licence.

Any demerit points accrued in other jurisdictions may also affect your NT licence.

Demerit points

A demerit point scheme operates in the NT. All riders and drivers are subject to action against their licence if they reach their demerit point threshold:

- A rider with a full (unconditional licence) has a threshold of 12 points in three years.
- Learner and provisional riders have a threshold of five points in one year.

If you have a full (unconditional) licence to drive another class of vehicle, such as a car, when you gain a rider licence your demerit point threshold will remain at 12 points in three years.

You only have one licence and one demerit point threshold—it does not matter if the demerit point offences happen in a car (or other vehicle) or on your motorcycle. All the points you incur will count towards your demerit point threshold. Go online to www.mvr.nt.gov.au to view your demerit point tally.

To check your current demerit point tally online you will need to have:

- your Northern Territory licence number – found on the front right hand side of your licence card
- your licence card number - found on the back of your licence card in the bottom left-hand corner

- your MVR Customer ID number – this can be found on the top right-hand side of any MVR receipt issued in your name, including Registration and Driver Licence Renewal Notices. If you are unable to find your MVR Customer ID number, contact the MVR call centre on 1300 654 628 during business hours.

For more information about the NT demerit point scheme call **1300 364 924**, visit an MVR office or police station (in remote areas) or visit www.mvr.nt.gov.au

Organ donation

The place to register your intention to be an organ donor is the Australian Organ Donor Register (AODR).

Organ donor information brochures are available at MVR outlets or from Medicare offices. You can also register online at www.medicareaustralia.com.au or call 1800 777 203 for a registration brochure.

If you would like more information before making your choice, please contact Donate Life NT (the organ donation agency for the Northern Territory) at www.donatelife.gov.au or phone 08 8922 8349.

Photographs

When you are issued with an NT driver licence, your image (photo) will be digitally stored by MVR. The stored image may be used for renewals of your licence for up to 10 years, provided your appearance does not change significantly during this time.

You must carry your licence

You must carry your current licence with you at all times when riding or driving.

Failure to produce your licence on demand is an offence.

Purchasing motorcycles

Before you purchase a motorcycle it is recommended that you find out if there is any third party interest in it.

The Personal Property Securities Register (PPSR) is an Australian Government initiative where a third party (banks and financial institutions) can record a financial interest against personal property, such as motor vehicles.

The PPSR also provides current vehicle registration details and notes if the vehicle has been recorded as stolen or written off.

To check the third party interests registered against a motorcycle, visit the PPSR database at www.ppsr.gov.au and conduct a motor vehicle search by serial number (VIN, chassis).