



Skateboarding

Skateboarding is a popular sport that sees many young people 'shredding' it at skate parks after school and on weekends. But have you ever wondered if there are rules about skateboarding or what your children can do to stay safer while having fun? Here's some information that's worth talking about with your teenager.



Where can I use a skateboard?

Skateboards **can be** used on:

- a road that has no dividing line and no median strip
- a road where the speed limit is 50 km/h or less
- a one-way road with less than two marked lanes.

When on a road **you must** stay to the left and not be any more than 2 abreast with other riders.

Skateboards are permitted on other roads but only for the purpose of crossing that road and only when taking the shortest possible route. The skater doesn't have to get off their skateboard to do this.

Where can't I skate?

Skateboards **cannot** be used on a road which has signs saying 'no recreational devices'.

Are there any times when I can skate on roads?

Skateboards can be used during daylight hours on roads **but not** during times of low visibility eg sunrise, sunset and night. Makes sense doesn't it! Drivers often have trouble spotting a cyclist at night even when they have lights and reflectors fitted to their bike, so imagine how hard it might be to see a skateboarder.

Can I skate on the footpath?

Yes, unless the footpath has a sign that says 'no wheeled toys' allowed. You must keep to the left of the footpath or shared path unless it is impracticable to do so. You must also give way to pedestrians who are on a footpath or shared path (except a person traveling in or on a wheeled recreational device or wheeled toy). On a footpath or shared path, cyclists must give way to skateboarders.

Is it compulsory to wear a helmet when I skate?

No. It is not compulsory in Western Australia, but as helmets are designed specifically to protect a person's head in a fall, it is strongly recommended. South Australia is the only state where skateboarders must wear a bike helmet.

Can you 'skitch'?

No. A skateboarder must not be towed by a moving car or travel within 2 metres of a car continuously for any distance over 200 metres.