

BICYCLEDEFINITION

VULNERABLE ROAD USERS

Safe Behaviors, Risks and Dangers



UULNERABLE ROAD USERS, WHO ARE THEY?

Users of the road environment who, due to their characteristics (size, speed, vulnerability, reaction capacity), must deserve special attention and care from other users of the road space.

According to the Portuguese Highway Code, this category of users includes: pedestrians, in particular children, the elderly, pregnant women, people with reduced mobility or people with disabilities, and bicycles.

MICROMOBILITY

- Soft forms of mobility, driven by physical effort or electric;
- · Private or shared;
- Low speed (up to 25 km/h).



In Portugal, these vehicles are subject to the same traffic rules as bicycles, in accordance with article 112 of the Portuguese Highwat Code.

"Bicycle" is a vehicle with two or more wheels driven by the driver's own effort using pedals or similar devices.

Bicycle with a motor is a bicycle equipped with an auxiliary motor with a maximum continuous power of 1.0 kW, whose power supply is progressively reduced with increasing speed and interrupted if it reaches a speed of 25 km/h, or earlier, if the driver stops pedaling.

UEHICLES EQUIUALENT TO BICYCLES:

- Motor bicycles;
- Scooters with an electric motor;
- Other circulation devices with electric motor, self-balancing and self-propelled;
- Other similar means of circulation with a motor, equipped with a motor with a maximum continuous power of 0.25 kW and reaching a maximum speed of 25 km/h.



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SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY





E-scooter riders must use cycle paths whenever they exist (or travel along the road if they are not available);



Never ride on sidewalks

It is not permitted to circulate on the sidewalks, they are intended exclusively for pedestrian circulation.



Circula sozinho

Não é permitido o transporte de passageiros enquanto circulas de trotineta.



If you ride, don't drink

It is not permitted to ride an e-scooter under the influence of alcohol.



Park the vehicle properly

Always leave the e-scooter in a place where it will not be an obstacle and create a danger to other road users, especially pedestrians.



Do not use your mobile or wear headphones

The use of mobiles or headphones while riding is not permitted. Any distraction considerably increases the risk of accidents.



Respect traffic signals

Being equated to bicycles, e-scooters must comply with all traffic rules and signals.



Wear a helmet

Even though it is not mandatory to use a helmet when riding an e-scooter, its use is recommended for safety reasons.



Respect traffic directions

Ride in the direction of traffic and never in the opposite direction.



Dangers to which they are subject:



Drivers who do not comply with the rule of giving way.



Drivers who change direction without signaling their intention.



Drivers of parked vehicles who inadvertently open the door.



Drivers who cannot see bicycles/e-scooters due to the existence of "blind spots" in their vehicles.



Pay attention to the condition of the floor, especially if it is uneven or slippery.



Driving on tram tracks, be careful as vehicles skid and lose grip.



Don't zigzag through traffic, it's not safe, you could lose your balance and won't be seen by other road users.



Do not ride with your hands off the handlebars or with your feet off the pedals.



When riding at night, riders must ensure that they see and are seen by other users. Cyclists and e-scooter riders must ensure that their vehicles are well equipped and clearly visible.



Pedestrians are the most vulnerable road users and require special attention.

Risky behaviors:



Crossing between vehicles parked on the road, because they take away visibility and prevent you from seeing and being seen.



Crossing in front of a bus at the stop. The bus, due to its size, can hide other vehicles driving in the same direction and their drivers may not be aware of the pedestrian's presence.



Crossing with the red light for pedestrians, even if no vehicles are approaching, as a vehicle may appear traveling at a high speed and not have time to stop.



Crossing on curves or in places where there are trees, buildings or other obstacles that prevent pedestrians from seeing approaching vehicles and drivers from being aware of the pedestrian's presence.



Walking on or too close to the curb can cause you to become unbalanced and inadvertently end up in the lane



Excessive confidence in the right to cross pedestrian crossings, as there are drivers who do not respect them and do not stop.



Cross diagonally, especially at intersections, as you will remain in the lane longer and your exposure to risk is greater.