



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTORCYCLE/ATV SAFETY UNIT

VEHICLE DESCRIPTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS



VEHICLE DEFINITION	MOPED	MOTORCYCLE	AUTOCYCLE	ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE
	<p>"Moped" means a motor-driven cycle that cannot attain a speed in one mile of more than 30 miles per hour and the engine of which:</p> <p>(A) cannot produce more than two-brake horsepower; and</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>TRC 541.201(8)</p> <p><i>Note: any 2-wheeled vehicle that does not meet this definition is automatically classified as a motorcycle.</i></p>	<p>"Motorcycle" means a motor vehicle, other than a tractor, that is equipped with a rider's saddle and designed to have when propelled not more than three wheels on the ground.</p> <p>TRC 541.201(9)</p> <p>"Motor-driven cycle" means a motorcycle equipped with a motor that has an engine piston displacement of 250 cubic centimeters or less. The term does not include an electric bicycle.</p> <p>TRC 541.201(10)</p> <p><i>Additional definition TRC 521.001(6-a)</i></p> <p><i>Note: motorcycles meeting this definition do not have to wear headgear.</i></p>	<p>"Autocycle" means a motor vehicle, other than a tractor, that is:</p> <p>(1) designed to have when propelled not more than three wheels on the ground;</p> <p>(2) equipped with a steering wheel;</p> <p>(3) equipped with seating that does not require the operator to straddle or sit astride the seat; and</p> <p>(4) manufactured and certified to comply with federal safety requirements for a motorcycle.</p> <p>TRC 501.008(a) [SB449]</p> <p><i>[SB449] Senate Bill approved, but new statutes have not yet been added to Texas Transportation Code.</i></p>	<p>"All-terrain vehicle" means a motor vehicle that is:</p> <p>(A) equipped with a saddle for the use of:</p> <p>(i) the rider; and</p> <p>(ii) a passenger, if the motor vehicle is designed by the manufacturer to transport a passenger;</p> <p>(B) designed to propel itself with three or four tires in contact with the ground;</p> <p>(C) designed by the manufacturer for off-highway use by the operator only; and</p> <p>(D) not designed by the manufacturer for farming or lawn care.</p> <p>TRC 663.001(1)</p>
GENERAL OPERATION / ROADWAY USE	RIDER AND PASSENGER TRC 545.416 , 545.424 , 547.617	RIDER AND PASSENGER TRC 545.416 , 545.424 , 547.617 , 680.011	RIDER AND PASSENGER TRC 545.416(f) , 545.424 <i>Note: for the purposes of rules of the road, the autocycle is considered a motor vehicle.</i>	OPERATION ON PUBLIC ROADWAY PROHIBITED TRC 663.037 OFF-ROAD USE TRC 663.032 , 663.035-663.036
HEADGEAR REQUIRED	YES TRC 661.001 - 661.004	YES TRC 661.001 - 661.004	YES TRC 661.001 - 661.0015 [SB449]	YES (when on public land) TRC 663.034
SAFETY INSPECTION / EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	SAFETY INSPECTION REQUIRED TRC 548.051(b)	SAFETY INSPECTION REQUIRED TRC 547.408 , 547.617 , 547.801 , 547.802	SAFETY INSPECTION REQUIRED TRC 547.408 , 547.617 , 547.801 , 547.802	NO SAFETY INSPECTION REQUIRED TRC 663.033
TITLE REQUIRED	YES TRC 501.022	YES TRC 501.022	YES TRC 501.008	YES TRC 501.022
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	YES TRC 502.040 , Certified Moped List	YES TRC 502.040	YES TRC 502.040 , 502.004 [SB449]	NO TRC 502.140
INSURANCE REQUIRED	YES TRC 601.072	YES TRC 601.072	YES TRC 601.072	NO
LICENSE REQUIRED	YES – Class M TRC 521.084 , 521.148 , 521.225 , 521.161 , 521.165(d) <i>Note: K restriction is optional</i>	YES – Class M TRC 521.084 , TRC 521.085(b) , 521.148 , 521.161 , 521.165(d)	YES – Class C TRC 521.085(b) [SB449]	NO
MOTORCYCLE TRAINING REQUIRED	YES TRC 521.148 , 662	YES TRC 521.148 , 662	NO	YES (to ride on public land) TRC 663.031

ADDITIONAL VEHICLE TYPES: Note: no safety inspection/insurance required; contact DMV for title/registration

DIRT BIKES: Parks and Wildlife Code, [Chapter 29](#)

ELECTRIC BICYCLE: [TRC 541.201\(24\)](#), [551.001-104](#), [551.106](#)

ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTANCE MOBILITY DEVICES: [TRC 551.201-551.203](#)

GOLF CARTS: [TRC 551.401-551.405](#)

MOTOR-ASSISTED SCOOTERS: [TRC 551.351-551.352](#)

NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES: [TRC 551.301-551.303](#)

POCKET BIKE OR MINI MOTOR BIKE: [TRC 551.351\(2\)](#), [551.353](#)

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE (TRC):	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Index.aspx
CERTIFIED MOPED LIST:	http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/msb/documents/CurrentMopedList.pdf
TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPT:	http://tpwd.texas.gov/spdest/ohv/index.phtml
TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE CODE:	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/PW/htm/PW.29.htm
MOTORCYCLE DRIVER LICENSE:	http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/motorcycleLicense.htm
VEHICLE INSPECTION:	http://www.airchecktexas.com
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES:	http://www.txdmv.gov/index.php