

Your Handbook For Safety On The Road

A licence to drive is something that adds to a person's independence and enjoyment of life and, for many people, getting a driver licence is an important milestone in life.

Significant responsibilities come with holding a licence to drive a motor vehicle. Motor vehicle crashes in Australia cause thousands of road users and their families pain and suffering each year, and many crashes can be avoided by simply following the road rules and driving in a safe and responsible manner.

The Northern Territory Government has introduced a range of road safety reforms to reduce our unacceptably high road toll and the carnage on our roads.

The message is simple:

- Travel at a speed that is safe for the conditions – and always within the signposted limit.
- Make sure you and your passengers always wear seatbelts.
- Do not drink and drive – make alternative arrangements to get home safely.
- Do not run red lights.
- Avoid fatigue – take regular breaks on long trips.

The Northern Territory Road Users' Handbook is a comprehensive guide for the new driver, with important information in relation to obtaining a driver licence, the rules of the road, and basic driving skills. The handbook also explains many of the Australian Road Rules which are used in each State and Territory of Australia.

Road safety is the joint responsibility of all road users – we share the roads, we share the safety.

Drive safely and enjoy your newfound freedom.



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Contents

Disclaimer	v
How To Use This Handbook.....	vii

Obtaining a Northern Territory Driver Licence

General Information.....	2
Obtaining a NT Driver’s Licence	5

A Driver’s Responsibilities

Duty of Care.....	16
If You are Involved in a Road Crash	17
In an Emergency.....	19
Alcohol, Drugs and Driving	21

Northern Territory Driving Conditions and Hazardous Situations	29
Driving on the Open Road.....	32

The Driving Rules

How to Read the Diagrams.....	40
Care, Attention, Consideration, Courtesy and Common Sense.....	42
Seat Belts	44
Driving on the Road	47
Tailgating and Total Stopping Distance.....	54
Speed Limits.....	56
Driving Signals.....	58
Turning.....	61
Road Signs	66

Contents

Driving Rules continued...

Traffic Signals	69
Crossings	72
When to Give Way	76
Roundabouts	86
Obstruction	88
Lights, Horns and Mirrors	89
Towing and Loads	91
Motorcycles	93
Keeping Within a Vehicle	95
Parking	96
Miscellaneous Rules	103
Rules for Other Road Users	105
Additional Rules for Bicycle Riders	107
Animals	108

The Learner Drivers' Guide

Practice Makes Perfect	110
Manoeuvres	113
Automatic Transmission	117
Night Driving	119
Basic Knowledge	120
Defensive Driving	121
Index	123
Glossary	126
MVR Contacts	Back Cover

Disclaimer

Please Note:

This handbook is not intended to be used as a legal document. Its aim is to set out, in simple form, the legal requirements that a driver is required to observe in everyday driving and other useful information for drivers.

The statements in this handbook should not be taken as precise legal interpretations of the road traffic laws. Any illustrations are included for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to be finite. The information in this book is correct at the time of publication.

If you require a more detailed statement of the law, you are advised to refer to the Northern Territory *Traffic Act*, *Traffic Regulations* (incorporating the Australian Road Rules), *Motor Vehicles Act* and *Motor Vehicles Regulations*. Copies may be purchased from the Government Printing Office. Northern Territory legislation may also be viewed on the Northern Territory Government Internet site at: www.nt.gov.au/dcm/legislation/current.html

Licence applicants may be asked questions in the Road Rules Theory Test on any of the topics covered in this handbook.

All sections should be read carefully.

How To Use This Handbook

The Road Users' Handbook provides you with comprehensive information about what you must and must not do on the roads as a driver of a motor vehicle or rider of a motor cycle.

The Northern Territory adopted the *Australian Road Rules* as a schedule to the *Traffic Regulations* in December 1999. The requirements of the Rules are incorporated in this handbook.

You will often see reference to both drivers of motor vehicles and riders of motor cycles and to driving and riding. For the purposes of the handbook, the terms “driver” and “driving” also refer to motor cycle riders and to riding a motor cycle. As bicycles are vehicles, most rules also apply to bicycle riders.

At the back of the handbook, there is a glossary of terms that you can refer to if you are unsure what a precise term means. There is also an index so that you can easily find information about specific topics or concerns.

The back cover of the handbook provides a list of Motor Vehicle Registry (MVR) offices, together with information on how to contact Motor Vehicle Registry for help or further information.

This handbook has been written to help you become a safer, more considerate and more courteous driver, making our roads safer for all road users.

