



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Cities and Regional Development

Road Vehicle Standards



What is a road vehicle?

Road & Non-road vehicles in the RVSA

The Meaning of “Road Vehicle”

- ***Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018*** (RVSA) defines a “Road Vehicle” as any of the following
 - a) A motor vehicle designed solely or principally for use in transport on public roads;
 - b) A trailer or other vehicle (including equipment or machinery equipped with wheels) designed to be towed on a public road by a motor vehicle covered by paragraph (a);
 - c) A vehicle that is within a class determined in an instrument under paragraph 6(5)(a) and not determined in an instrument under paragraph 6(6)(b);
 - d) A vehicle determined in an instrument under paragraph 6(6)(a);
 - e) A partly completed or unassembled vehicle that would otherwise be covered by any of the above paragraphs.

Why do we need “road/not road vehicle” determinations?

- The determinations are needed so the Government can expand, or limit, the definition of a road/not road vehicle.
- This will let RVSA capture future road vehicles that fall outside the current definition and to exclude any vehicles that may have been accidentally been captured by the broadness of the road vehicle definition.
- Without the determinations, innovations in the automotive industry could result in the RVSA not being as effective in regulating vehicles as it is intended to be, potentially compromising community safety.
- The Department proposes to make two determinations related to the definition of road vehicle:
 - Classes of vehicle that are road vehicles under paragraph 6(5)(a); and
 - Classes of vehicle that are not road vehicles under paragraph 6(5)(b);
- Vehicles that are not covered by the determinations will be assessed based on their physical and operational features to determine if they are road vehicles or not.

What will the determinations do?

- The determinations are intended to reduce ambiguity about whether vehicles covered by the determinations are road vehicles or not;
- Reduce the cost of assessing whether vehicles are road vehicles or not; and
- Provide certainty for manufacturers and importers about whether their vehicles need to comply with the RVSA or not.

Classes of vehicle to be covered by the road vehicles determination

- The following classes of vehicle are considered road vehicles for the purposes of the RVSA:
 - Airport service vehicles;



- Campervans and motorhomes;



Classes of vehicle to be covered by the road vehicles determination

- Mobile cranes and Concrete Pumpers;

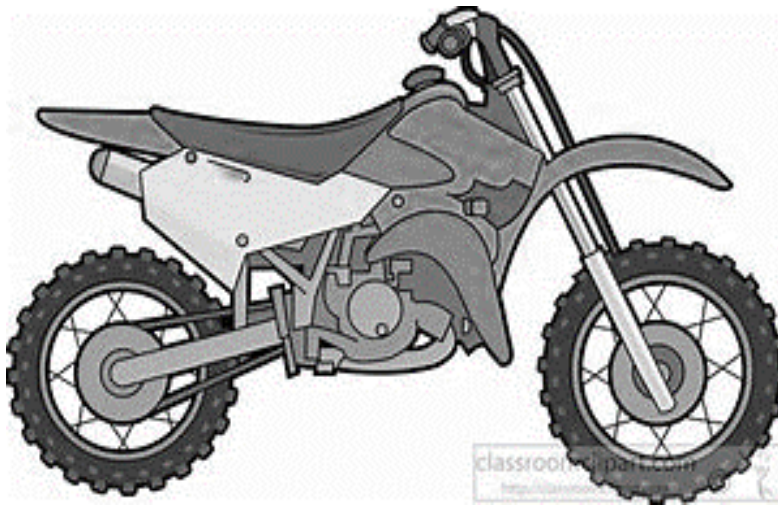


- Food or catering vans; and



Classes of vehicle to be covered by the road vehicles determination

- Dual purpose motorcycles;



Classes of vehicle that are not road vehicles

- agricultural machines - vehicles with their own automotive power, built to perform agricultural tasks such as cultivating land, growing and harvesting crops or rearing livestock.
- golf carts - motorised vehicles that:
 - are designed to transport people and equipment around a golf course;
 - are designed to travel on at least four high flotation tyres;
 - have side-by-side seating;
 - are not capable of exceeding 25 km/h on level ground;
 - have an unladen mass of no more than 350 kg; and
 - do not have road-going features.

Classes of vehicle that are not road vehicles

- light utility vehicles - motorised off-road vehicles that:
 - are designed to travel on at least four high flotation tyres;
 - have side-by-side seating;
 - are propelled solely by either:
 - one or more electric motors; or
 - an internal combustion engine that has a cylinder capacity not exceeding 1,500 cm³;
 - have a steering wheel;
 - have a tray back designed for carrying loads;
 - have an unladen mass of no more than 800 kg; and
 - do not have road-going features.

Classes of vehicle that are not road vehicles

- miniature motorbikes - vehicles which resembles a motorcycle but scaled down to about half the size, that:
 - are designed to be used by a single person;
 - have a seat height no greater than 600 mm; and
 - have major dimensions which are scaled down in proportion to the seat height.
- motorised recreational devices - wheeled devices that are built to transport a person and are ordinarily used for recreation or play, and are:
 - assisted by a motor or motors having a combined maximum power output not exceeding 200 watts, and
 - include motor-assisted rollerblades, roller skates, skateboards, unicycles and other similar wheeled devices.

Classes of vehicle that are not road vehicles

- motorised scooters - devices that:
 - are designed to be used by a single person;
 - have two or more wheels and a footboard supported by the wheels;
 - are steered by handlebars; and
 - are propelled by a motor or motors having a combined maximum power output not exceeding 200 watts.
- motorised wheelchairs - wheelchairs that:
 - are designed to be used by a single person;
 - are self-propelled;
 - are not capable of exceeding 10 km/h on level ground; and
 - if not propelled solely by one or more electric motors, have an unladen mass of 40 kg or more.

Classes of vehicle that are not road vehicles

- power-assisted pedal cycles - either:
 - two-wheeled or three-wheeled pedal cycles to which is attached one or more auxiliary propulsion electric motors having a combined maximum power output not exceeding 200 watts; or
 - vehicles meeting *European Committee for Standardization EN 15194:2009 or EN 15194:2009+A1:2011 Cycles - Electrically power assisted cycles - EPAC Bicycles*;
but not including any vehicle that has an internal combustion engine.
- quad bikes - motorised off-road vehicles that:
 - are designed to travel on at least four high flotation tyres;
 - have a saddle-type seat designed to be straddled by the user; and
 - are steered by handlebars.and
- tracked vehicles - vehicles that travel on continuous tracks rather than tyres and can include bulldozers and excavators.

What else will be a non-road vehicle?

- Personal Electric Transportation Devices are vehicles that:
 - are designed to carry only one person; and
 - have 1 or more wheels; and
 - are propelled by an electric motor; and
 - have an effective stopping system including using brakes, gears and/or motor control; and
 - when propelled by the motor, cannot reach a speed of more than 25km/h on level ground; and
 - do not have a footprint of more than 1,250mm by 700mm; and
 - are not more than 1,350mm in height; and
 - weigh less than or equal to 60kg when the device is not carrying a person or other load; and
 - have no sharp protrusions.