

Guidelines for Parking Motorcycles on Footpaths

June 2001

Private property and the building line

Some areas which appear to be part of the footpath, such as building forecourts, are actually private property. These areas are unmarked and are often open to the public.

You should not park your motorcycle in these areas unless you have permission from the property owners.

You can determine where private property ends and the footpath begins by observing the “building line” formed by the buildings in the street which are built closest to the kerb.



Motorcycle parked illegally on private property forecourt

Avoid damage to footpaths and your motorcycle

Try to park your motorcycle on a firm surface with the stand placed on concrete or bluestone paving. On a hot day an asphalt surface can become so soft that a motorcycle stand can push into the surface, damaging the footpath, and possibly causing your motorcycle to fall over.

Oil dropped from motorcycles onto footpaths is another common concern for pedestrians, businesses and local councils. Oil leaks should be repaired as soon as possible, but in the meantime, if your motorcycle is leaking oil, you should only park in roadside motorcycle bays or on the road against the kerb.

Other parking options

On-street motorcycle parking bays are available in Melbourne’s Central Business District and other urban areas throughout Victoria.

Off-street car parks also offer secure, undercover and affordable motorcycle parking.

These guidelines have been prepared by the Victorian Motorcycle Advisory Council, the Government’s peak advisory body on motorcycling matters and policy.

For more information about VMAC and its activities:

Website: www.vicroads.vic.gov.au

E-mail: vmac@roads.vic.gov.au

Further information on motorcycle parking can also be obtained from your local council, Victoria Police, VicRoads or the Motorcycle Riders Association Australia.



In Victoria you can legally park your motorcycle on the footpath, as long as you do not obstruct pedestrians, delivery vehicles, public transport users or parked cars, and avoid parking on private properties.

These guidelines will assist you to park your motorcycle on the footpath safely and legally while minimising the impact on pedestrians, other road users and nearby properties.

Where to use this guide

These guidelines apply throughout Victoria, and will be particularly useful when parking in Melbourne's Central Business District (CBD), other metropolitan areas and townships where there are large numbers of pedestrians and motorcycles.

In areas where it is difficult to comply with these guidelines, such as narrow footpaths, you should park responsibly or avoid the location altogether. A more appropriate location is usually available nearby.



Motorcycle parked too close to building line, creating an obstruction to vision impaired pedestrians



Motorcycles correctly parked on footpath

How to park your motorcycle on a footpath

Do:

- ✓ dismount and walk your motorcycle while you are on the footpath
- ✓ ensure your motorcycle is at least one motorcycle length out from the building line to allow free passage of pedestrians (this is important as vision and physically impaired pedestrians use the building line for navigation)
- ✓ park at least one motorcycle wheel diameter back from the road kerb, to allow pedestrians free access to and from the road and to parked vehicles. (You can leave less space between your motorcycle and the kerb if you park next to a "No Stopping" zone.)

Do not park:

- ✗ where signs indicate that motorcycles may not park
- ✗ opposite any parking bay reserved for people with disabilities (marked with a wheelchair sign and symbol)
- ✗ where space is reserved for footpath activities such as street cafes
- ✗ on or near service access points, such as manhole covers, post boxes or rubbish bins
- ✗ near taxi ranks and bus and tram stops
- ✗ on private property without permission from the property owner



Motorcycle parked too close to kerb, blocking access to a parked vehicle