



London Borough
of Hounslow

Is my e-bike legal?

An easy guide



Supported by



METROPOLITAN
POLICE

www.hounslow.gov.uk/e-bike

How to identify a legal e-bike?

Modifications ✓

No modifications to an e-bike to make it faster. Modifications could result in the e-bike no longer being road legal

Speed ✓

Throttle without pedalling must cut off at 3.7mph

Rider must be 14+ ✓



Motor ✓

Motorised pedal assistance cuts off at 15.5mph
Continuous rated power of no more than 250 watts

Pedals ✓

Must have pedals that are capable of propelling the e-bike

Check your ride.

Scan QR code or visit
www.hounslow.gov.uk/e-bike



The risks are real

Battery fires:

- Avoid cheap online parts
- Charging overnight is dangerous
- Fires can damage your home and put lives in danger

Risk to others:

- Fast, silent bikes are a high risk to pedestrians, especially in town centres and cycle paths



Quick legal checklist



Markings on the bike must show both:

- ☐ The continuous rated power output
- ☐ The bike manufacturer

It must also show either:

- ☐ The battery's voltage
- ☐ The maximum speed the motor can propel the bike

What happens if I am caught?

- Your bike will be seized
- Fines of up to £2000
- Points on your driving license

If any of these are missing, your e-bike is **NOT** legal.

Ride safe, stay safe



Battery tips:

- Buy from trusted sellers
- Charge your legal e-bike in a safe and cool area
- Never leave batteries charging overnight
- Don't use hot, swollen, or damaged batteries

Rider tips:

- Wear a helmet
- Use front and rear lights
- Follow traffic rules
- Watch out and slow down for pedestrians
- Ensure the bike is in good working order, including brakes

Looking for a legal e-bike?

- Buy from trusted UK retailers or local bike shops
- Join a legal e-bike rental scheme – ideal for short trips or trying before you buy



Delivering food or parcels?

Use approved e-bikes through delivery platforms or rental schemes



Check your ride. Know the law. Stay safe.