



# Road Traffic Regulations

— FOR THE —  
**MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN  
AREA OF VICTORIA**

(See page 419 for particulars of areas where applicable.)

Published by  
**THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL  
OF AUSTRALIA.**

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His Excellency the Governor of Victoria.

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C.I.

**Telephone:** MU 3609.

Many additional Regulations relating to road traffic are embodied in the Motor Car Act and Regulations made thereunder and included in "Your Code for the Road" issued by the National Safety Council of Australia.

Issued with Driving Licences throughout Victoria by kind permission and co-operation of the Chief Commissioner of Police.

# THE National Safety Council of Australia

## For Safety—

On the Road—At Work and at Play—

In the Home—In the Air—Everywhere.

Actuated by the ever-increasing toll of accidents featured almost daily by the Press, the above Council was inaugurated with a view to educating, as a whole, all Road Users and Industry generally of the necessity to at all times observe Safety principles.

The National Safety Council of Australia has, therefore, functioned since 1927 as a non-profit organisation, and its work, devoted entirely to Accident Prevention in general, is directed towards Safety on the Road, at Work, in the Home, and in the Air.

Full membership is a minimum of £1/1/- per annum.

Further particulars as to the activities of the National Safety Council of Australia may be obtained on application to R. S. Forbes, Secretary, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, C.I.

## Join the Safety Service League

The National Safety Council of Australia needs every assistance in its work, and has formed, as an Auxiliary to secure the co-operation of the general public, the Safety Service League. Its main objects are:

1. Observance of Safety Rules.
2. Forwarding particulars of dangerous spots and conditions.
3. Helping and encouraging the work of accident prevention, particularly in regard to child life.

Application may be made to this Council for enrolment by payment of 2/-, when a badge of membership will be provided.

These Regulations have been introduced with the idea of minimising the number of road accidents, and if observed by the travelling public the object for which they have been framed will have been achieved. We appeal to each individual to do his part in fully carrying out the rules of the road. Safety always!

THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL  
OF AUSTRALIA.

## ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

These Regulations may be cited as the "Road Traffic Regulations 1939."

### Interpretation.

In these Regulations unless inconsistent with the context or subject matter—

"Act" means the Road Traffic Act 1935.

"Driver" means the person in charge of a vehicle or a horse.

"Footway" includes every footpath, lane or other place habitually used by pedestrians and not by vehicles.

"Horse" includes any draught animal or beast of burden.

"Intersection" means the area embraced within the prolongation of the property lines of two or more streets which join at an angle whether or not such streets cross.

"Major street" means any street along which tramcars travel and any street or any portion of a street designated or described as a major street in any regulation made pursuant to the Act.

"Minor street" means any street other than a major street.

"Motor car" means any vehicle propelled by steam, gas, oil, electricity, or any mechanical power and used or intended for use on any public highway and includes a motor-cycle, but does not include a railway locomotive, railway carriage, tram-motor, tramcar, or traction engine.

"Safety zone" means a place of refuge for pedestrians established by the council of any municipality on any street and indicated by a post or standard placed or erected at the end thereof which is the nearer to approaching vehicular traffic and bearing the words "Safety zone" clearly visible to such traffic.

"Street" includes any highway, road, lane or thoroughfare other than a footway.

"Traffic-control signal" includes any device using coloured lights or words or any combination thereof whether operated mechanically, electrically, manually or otherwise by which traffic is directed to stop and proceed.

"Vehicle" includes any conveyance propelled or drawn by human, animal, mechanical, electrical or other power and includes a tram, motor and tramcar, but does not include a railway locomotive or other railway rolling stock.

### Keeping to the Left.

The driver of a vehicle (other than a tramcar) or horse on any street shall keep such vehicle or horse as near as practicable to the kerb on the left or near side of such street. Penalty £5.

### Vehicle to Observe Traffic Lanes.

(1) The driver of a vehicle or horse on any street the carriage way of which is divided into traffic lanes by a line drawn along or near the middle thereof shall keep such vehicle or horse on the left or near side of such line:

Provided—

- (i) That such driver may when causing such vehicle or horse to pass another vehicle or horse proceeding or headed in the same direction do so on the right or off side of such line, in which case such driver shall cause such first-mentioned vehicle or horse to return to the left or near side of such line as soon as practicable after passing such other vehicle or horse;
- (ii) That such driver may when turning such first-mentioned vehicle or horse to the right or off side from such street into another street or causing such vehicle or horse to cross from one side

of such street to the other side cause such vehicle or horse to proceed across such line.

(2) The driver of a vehicle or horse on any street the carriage way of which is divided into three traffic lanes by lines or other indications drawn or placed thereon shall keep such vehicle or horse within the lane on the left or near side of such carriage way:

Provided—

- (i) That such driver may when causing such vehicle or horse to pass another vehicle or horse proceeding or headed in the same direction do so along the middle lane of such carriage way, in which case such driver shall cause such first-mentioned vehicle or horse to return to the lane on the left or near side of such carriage way as soon as practicable after passing such other vehicle or horse;
- (ii) That such driver may when turning such first-mentioned vehicle or horse to the right or off side from such street into another street or causing such vehicle or horse to cross from one side of such street to the other side cause such vehicle or horse to proceed across the middle lane and the lane on the right or off side of such carriage way.

Penalty £20.

### Vehicle to Keep to Left of Double Traffic Line.

The driver of a vehicle or horse on any street the carriage way of which is divided into traffic lanes by a double line drawn along or near the middle thereof shall keep such vehicle or horse on the left or near side of such double line. Penalty £20.

### Stopping Vehicle Near Double Traffic Line Prohibited.

No person shall stop, stand or leave a vehicle or horse on any street the carriage way of which is divided into traffic lanes by a double line drawn along or near the middle thereof. Penalty £20.

### Proceeding Along Major Street.

The driver of a vehicle or horse proceeding along a major street shall—

- (i) on approaching the intersection of that street with another major street stop such vehicle or horse before entering such intersection;
- (ii) on approaching the intersection of that street with a minor street proceed at such rate of speed (not exceeding in the case of a motor car or tramcar twenty-five miles an hour and in the case of any other vehicle or a horse ten miles an hour) that he will be able to stop immediately such first-mentioned vehicle or horse in case of sudden danger:

Provided that this regulation shall not apply in respect of an intersection where a member of the Police Force is controlling traffic or a traffic-control signal is operating. Penalty £10.

### Proceeding Along Minor Street.

The driver of a vehicle or horse proceeding along a minor street shall—

- (i) on approaching the intersection of that street with a major street stop such vehicle or horse before entering such intersection;
- (ii) on approaching the intersection of that street with another minor street proceed at such rate of speed that he will be able to stop immediately such vehicle or horse in case of sudden danger:

Provided that this regulation shall not apply in respect of an intersection where a member of the Police Force is controlling traffic or a traffic-control signal is operating. Penalty £10.

### Giving Right of Way to Vehicle Approaching From Right.

(1) The driver of a vehicle or horse proceeding along a major street and reaching the intersection of that street with another major street at approximately the same time

as another vehicle or horse approaching from his right along such other major street shall give the right of way to such other vehicle or horse.

(2) The driver of a vehicle or horse proceeding along a minor street and reaching the intersection of that street with another minor street at approximately the same time as another vehicle or horse approaching from his right along such other minor street shall give the right of way to such other vehicle or horse.

Provided that this regulation shall not apply in respect of an intersection where a member of the Police Force is controlling traffic or a traffic-control signal is operating. Penalty £5.

### Meeting or Passing Vehicle, etc.

The driver of a vehicle (other than a tramcar) or horse on any street shall—

- (i) when such vehicle or horse meets a vehicle, horse or pedestrian proceeding or headed in the opposite direction keep such first-mentioned vehicle or horse on the left or near side of such street;
- (ii) when causing such vehicle or horse to pass a vehicle (other than a tramcar), horse or pedestrian proceeding or headed in the same direction do so on the right or off side of the other vehicle, horse or pedestrian;
- (iii) when causing such vehicle or horse to pass a tramcar proceeding or headed in the same direction do so on the left or near side of such tramcar.

Penalty £20.

### Stopping Behind Stationary Tramcar.

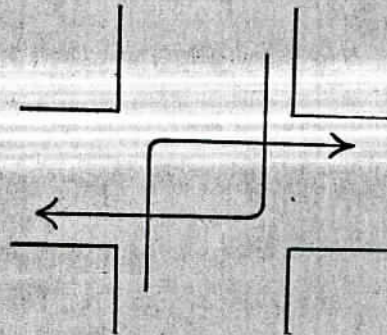
The driver of a vehicle or horse on any street approaching a tramcar which is stationary and headed in the same direction shall not permit any portion of such first-mentioned vehicle or horse to proceed in advance of an imaginary straight line drawn from the rear

of such tramcar to the nearest point on the adjacent kerb until such tramcar has resumed its journey and that portion of the street between the position which was occupied by such tramcar when stationary and the adjacent kerb is clear of pedestrians: Provided that it shall not be an offence under this regulation for a driver of a vehicle or horse to cause such vehicle or horse to pass a tramcar which is stationary where a traffic-control signal is operating or upon being directed so to do by a member of the Police Force controlling traffic or a person in uniform employed by any authority controlling tramways engaged in the discharge of his duties: Provided further that this regulation shall not apply to that portion of the City of Melbourne included within the area bounded by Victoria street, Russell street, Flinders street and Queen street; nor to the outer tracks of St. Kilda road and Brighton road, the outer tracks of that portion of Elizabeth street (Melbourne), Royal parade (Parkville) and Sydney road (Brunswick) between Victoria street (Melbourne) and Brunswick road (Brunswick), and the outer tracks of that portion of Flemington road between Elizabeth street and Boundary road; nor to the east side of St. George's road (Northcote); nor to that portion of Peel street (North Melbourne) between Flemington road and Victoria street; nor to that portion of the south side of Queen's parade (Clifton Hill) between Smith street and Turnbull street; nor to those portions of Victoria parade, Mount Alexander road and Dandenong road containing tramway reserves. Penalty £25.

#### Turning Right at Intersection.

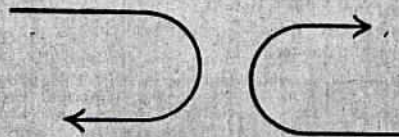
The driver of a vehicle (other than a tramcar) or horse on any street shall before turning such vehicle or horse to the right or off side from such street into another street cause such vehicle or horse to proceed along the left or near side of the street which it is leaving and parallel to the alignment of the kerb on the left or near side of such street until such

vehicle or horse is as near as practicable to the alignment of the kerb on the left or near side of the street which it is entering as shown in the diagram following: Penalty £10.



#### Crossing from One Side of Street to the Other.

The driver of a vehicle (other than a tramcar) or horse on any street shall when causing such vehicle or horse to cross from one side of such street to the other side cause such vehicle or horse to make a complete turn as shown in the diagram following: Penalty £5.



#### Travelling Side by Side.

No person shall drive, ride or lead a vehicle (other than a tramcar) or horse on any street in such manner or in such order that more than two vehicles or horses are travelling side by side in the same direction: Provided that this regulation shall not prevent three horses abreast being attached to one vehicle or a



# Compulsory Insurance

The Motor Car (Third Party Insurance Act) requires all Motor Car Owners to take out, when their cars are next being registered, an insurance policy to compensate any person who is injured by the negligence of any person driving the car. Before the introduction of this Act, the Motor Car Comprehensive Policy gave car owners the necessary protection against liability for Third Party injuries. The Act, however, specifies that a "separate" policy be issued, and it must be taken out before the Police Department will register the car.

## For Complete Protection In Future You Will Therefore Require TWO Insurance Policies

No. 1.

### The Third Party Personal Injury Policy

The Special "Act" Policy covers the Car Owner only against his liability for personal injuries inflicted upon persons.

No. 2. **The A.I.C. Motor Car Comprehensive Policy**

The Policy to cover the car against theft, damage and various other contingencies as set out below, the car owner being protected against—

**Collision Risk**, i.e., his liability to indemnify the owner of any other car for damage arising out of a collision.

**Fire Risk**, i.e., the possibility of his car being burnt and perhaps causing, by explosion or the fire spreading, damage to other cars or property.

**Theft of Car**, i.e., the total loss of the car or radio, tyres or other accessories which may be stolen.

**Damage to Car**.—Arising out of an accident.

**Personal Compensation**.—For injuries to or death of the insured or his wife.

1. £1000 for death.
2. £1000 for loss of both eyes.
3. £1000 for loss of two limbs.
4. £1000 for loss of one eye and one limb.
5. £500 for loss of one limb.
6. £500 for loss of one eye.

**Medical Expenses**.—For treatment of insured or passenger for injuries sustained in car accident.

The Comprehensive Policy Premiums have been reduced proportionately now that a special Act Policy is to be issued.

If you will advise us when your car is due to be registered we shall forward the necessary papers and particulars in connection with both the above Policies.

**The AUTOMOBILE, FIRE & GENERAL  
INSURANCE CO OF AUSTRALIA LTD**

389-395 Little Flinders Street, Melbourne, C.1.

Phone: M 1871 (9 lines).

vehicle or horse from passing two bicycles travelling side by side in the same direction. Penalty £10.

#### Driving in Front of Moving Tramcar at Intersection Prohibited.

No person shall within an intersection drive, ride or lead a vehicle or horse in front of and across the course of a tramcar which has commenced to cross such intersection. Penalty £10.

#### Driving Past Safety Zone.

No person shall drive, ride or lead a vehicle (other than a tramcar) or horse or any portion thereof over, along, through or on the right or off side of a safety zone. Penalty £10.

#### Giving Passage to Fire Brigade Vehicle, etc.

The driver of a vehicle or horse on any street shall on the sounding of a warning instrument by a fire brigade vehicle, ambulance or police patrol car give the right of way to such fire brigade vehicle, ambulance or police patrol car and the driver of any such first-mentioned vehicle (other than a tramcar) or horse shall draw such vehicle or horse as near as practicable to the kerb on the left or near side of such street and parallel thereto in order to allow such fire brigade vehicle, ambulance or police patrol car to pass. Penalty £10.

#### Driving in Reverse.

The driver of a vehicle on any street shall not cause such vehicle to travel backwards unless such movement can be made with safety having regard to the movement of traffic at the time. Penalty £10.

#### Signal When Stopping or Turning Right.

The driver of a vehicle (other than a tramcar) or horse—

- (i) before stopping such vehicle or horse shall at a distance of not less than twenty-five yards from the place at which he proposes so to stop indicate his intention of so doing either by extend-



No. 1—  
Stop.



No. 2—I am going  
to TURN to my  
RIGHT.

ing his right arm and raising his right hand with fingers extended and pointing upwards or by means of a mechanical signal or device approved by the Chief Commissioner of Police so that such hand signal or mechanical signal or device shall be clearly visible to the driver of any following vehicle or horse.

- (ii) before turning such vehicle or horse to his right shall at a distance of not less than twenty-five yards from the point at which he proposes so to turn indicate his intention of so doing either by extending his right arm horizontally or by means of a mechanical signal or device approved by the Chief Commissioner of Police so that such hand signal or mechanical signal or device shall be clearly visible to the driver of any following vehicle or horse.

Penalty £10.

#### Driver to Have Full View of Traffic.

No person shall drive or ride a vehicle on any street or permit a vehicle to be driven or ridden on any street unless such vehicle is so constructed as to enable the driver thereof to have a full and uninterrupted view of the traffic in front of him and abreast of him on each side of such vehicle, and no person while driving or riding a vehicle on any street shall occupy such a position as will interrupt or interfere with his having such full and uninterrupted view as aforesaid. Penalty £5.

#### Driver Not to Have Charge of More Than One Vehicle Except in Certain Circumstances.

No person shall on any street at one and the same time act as driver or have sole

charge of more than one vehicle drawn by animal power or of more than two vehicles fastened together, in which case the length of the tow shall not exceed twelve feet: Provided that this regulation shall not apply in the case of a motor car drawing a trailer registered in accordance with the provisions of the Motor Car Acts. Penalty £5.

#### Obedience to Traffic-control Signal.

(1) Every person shall at all times observe and comply with any traffic-control signal and any signal by hand or direction or instruction of a member of the Police Force for the purpose of giving effect to any of the provisions of these Regulations.

(2) When any traffic-control signal at an intersection indicates that "caution" is required—

(i) no driver of a vehicle or horse shall cause such vehicle or horse to enter such intersection until such time as a further indication or notification is given that he may cause such vehicle or horse to proceed, and no pedestrian shall in like circumstances proceed beyond the kerb of the street which he is approaching until such further indication or notification as aforesaid is given; and

(ii) every person being lawfully upon such intersection shall forthwith proceed so as to clear such intersection with all reasonable speed.

Penalty £20.

#### Obedience to Direction of Member of Police Force.

In the event of an accident, collision, commotion, congestion of or obstruction to traffic on any street the driver of any vehicle or horse within the immediate vicinity shall obey the reasonable direction or instruction of a member of the Police Force. Penalty £5.

#### Stopping of Vehicle.

Except for the purposes of paragraph \*"Stopping vehicle to take up or set down goods" (see below) of these Regulations, the driver of a vehicle (other than a tramcar) on any street shall when stopping such vehicle keep it as near as practicable to the kerb on the left or near side of such street. Penalty £5.

#### Parking of Vehicle.

Except for the purposes of paragraph \*"Stopping vehicle to take up or set down goods" (see below) of these Regulations, every person leaving a vehicle (other than a tramcar) unattended on any street shall leave such vehicle in such a position that the left or near wheels thereof are parallel with and not more than ten inches from the kerb on the left or near side of such street and that such vehicle is not less than three feet from any other vehicle: Provided further that this regulation shall not apply to a vehicle standing in a parking area established by a municipal council. Penalty £10.

#### \*Stopping Vehicle to Take Up or Set Down Goods.

The driver of a vehicle on any street shall when stopping such vehicle for the purpose of taking up or setting down any goods keep such vehicle as near as practicable to the kerb on the left or near side of such street: Provided that on any street in which there is only one-way traffic the driver may stop such vehicle for such purpose as near as practicable to the kerb on the right or off side. Penalty £5.

#### Unattended Vehicle to Leave Ten Feet of Street Space.

No person shall leave a vehicle unattended on any street in such a manner or under such conditions as to leave less than ten feet of the width of the carriage way of such street available for the free movement of traffic. Penalty £10.



### **Vehicle Not to be Left Unattended in Certain Places.**

The driver of a vehicle (other than a tram-car) shall not leave such vehicle unattended in any of the following places:

- (i) within thirty feet of an intersection;
- (ii) within thirty feet of a place on a tram route indicated by either of the notices "Cars Stop Here" and "Hail Cars Here" and on the side thereof which is the nearer to approaching vehicular traffic;
- (iii) between a safety zone and the adjacent footway or within twenty feet of points on the kerb immediately opposite the ends of a safety zone;
- (iv) within fifteen feet of a fire hydrant or a postal pillar box or a petrol pump erected on the kerb of any street;
- (v) in front of a private driveway;
- (vi) alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when traffic would be obstructed:

Provided that this regulation shall not apply to a fire brigade vehicle standing at or near a fire hydrant or to a postal vehicle standing at or near a postal pillar box or to a motor car whilst being supplied with petrol from a petrol pump erected on the kerb of any street. Penalty £10.

### **Stopping Vehicle on Street to Display Advertisement Prohibited.**

No person shall stop, stand or leave a vehicle on any street for the primary purpose of displaying an advertisement. Penalty £5.

### **Cyclists Clinging to Vehicles.**

No person shall while riding a bicycle, coaster or any toy vehicle on any street hold on to or attach himself or such vehicle to any other vehicle. Penalty £5.

### **Pedestrian to Keep to the Left.**

Every pedestrian on a footway or crossing an intersection shall keep to the left or near side and shall when passing any other person do so on the right or off side of such other person. Penalty £5.

### **Pedestrian Crossing Street.**

Except in the case of a person passing to a safety zone or vehicle, every pedestrian shall on leaving the footway of a street proceed by the shortest and most direct route to the footway on the opposite side of such street. Penalty £5.

### **Person Passing to or from Safety Zone.**

Any person may at any time when the exigencies of traffic permit proceed across any street to or from a safety zone and in doing so shall proceed by the shortest and most direct route from or to the footway or vehicle which he is leaving or joining. Penalty £5.

### **Person Alighting from or Joining Vehicle.**

(1) Every person alighting from a vehicle on any street and not desiring to board or join another vehicle on such street shall as soon after alighting as the exigencies of traffic permit proceed by the shortest and most direct route to the nearest footway of such street.

(2) Any person while waiting to board or join a vehicle on any street shall not stand on any portion of the carriage way of such street (other than on a safety zone) and any person (other than a person passing to a safety zone) shall not proceed towards a vehicle on any street for the purpose of boarding or joining such vehicle until it has stopped and shall when crossing any street for such purpose proceed by the shortest and most direct route.

(3) This regulation shall not apply to any person employed by any authority controlling tramways engaged in the discharge of his duties. Penalty £5.

### **Alighting from or Joining Vehicle in Motion Prohibited.**

No person shall alight from or board or join a vehicle which is in motion: Provided that this regulation shall not apply in the case of any person employed by any authority controlling tramways engaged in the discharge of his duties. Penalty £5.

### **Riding on Certain Portions of Tramcar Prohibited.**

No person shall ride on a tramcar on any portion thereof which is not designed or intended for the carriage of passengers: Provided that this regulation shall not apply in the case of any person employed by any authority controlling tramways engaged in the discharge of his duties. Penalty £5.

### **Imitation of or Obscuring Traffic-control Signal Prohibited.**

No person shall place maintain or display on any street or in view of any person on any street any light, sign, signal or design which purports to be or is an imitation of or resembles a traffic-control signal or which obscures from view a traffic-control signal. Penalty £10.

### **Interference with Traffic-control Signal, etc., Prohibited.**

No unauthorised person shall wilfully deface, injure, move, obstruct or interfere with any traffic-control signal or traffic sign or notice. Penalty £10.

### **Offences.**

Every person who fails to comply with the provisions of these Regulations shall be guilty of an offence.

### **Penalties.**

Where a penalty is set out in any paragraph of these Regulations it is the maximum penalty prescribed in respect of any person committing a breach of such paragraph.

### **Areas Where Applicable.**

The Regulations apply to the following Municipalities: Box Hill, Brighton, Brunswick, Camberwell, Caulfield, Chelsea, Coburg, Colingwood, Essendon, Fitzroy, Footscray, Hawthorn, Heidelberg, Kew, Malvern, Melbourne, Moorabbin, Mordialloc, Northcote, Oakleigh, Port Melbourne, Prahran, Preston, Richmond, South Melbourne, St. Kilda, Sandringham, Williamstown, and the Shires of Braybrook and Mulgrave, Blackburn and Mitcham, and were made uniform in these areas in November, 1939, and can be extended to other Municipalities or Shires on the application of the Municipality or Shire by proclamation of the Governor in Council published in the Government Gazette.

### **SAFE DRIVING CAMPAIGN FOR INDIVIDUAL DRIVERS.**

This campaign is open to (a) Owner Drivers of any class of motor vehicle who are insured under a comprehensive policy; and (b) Owners' Nominees, who also must be driving a car on the public roads, and such car must be insured by its owner under a comprehensive policy.

The Awards are:—

- (a) A Diploma to every driver who has completed the twelve months from date of entry each year without being involved in any accident for which he was in any way blameworthy.
- (b) A Silver Medal to every driver upon first gaining five such certificates for consecutive years.
- (c) A Bar for Medal to every driver for each further year.
- (d) A Gold Medallion to every driver upon first completing ten consecutive years free from accident.

Entry fee is 5/- per annum, and no extra charge is made for awards.

Full particulars on application to the National Safety Council, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, C.1.

Wilke & Co. Pty. Ltd., Printers, Jeffcott St., Melbourne.



... are **YOU**  
**INSURED**

**SAFETY !**  
**ALWAYS .**

Obey the  
Traffic Rules  
Yourself

—————**BUT**

Remember  
that the  
other fellow  
may not do so.

**INSURE**

to protect yourself  
from Loss  
through an  
unforeseen  
accident

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