

## ■ Penalties for riding a mini moto illegally

Riding a mini moto illegally could result in:

- The bike being seized with a £150 recovery fee, plus £10 per day storage
- The bike being crushed
- Riders appearing in court and being fined
- Parents of young offenders appearing in court and being fined
- Riders receiving points on their licence, even if they are too young to hold a licence.

Bikes could also be seized and crushed if they are being used in such a way that causes alarm, distress or annoyance to members of the public.



## ■ Safety equipment

All riders, regardless of experience, should wear correctly fitting safety equipment, which includes:

- Motorcycle helmet (E marked or Kite Marked)
- Gloves
- Elbow pads
- Knee pads.

As riding a motorcycle of any kind requires a certain level of skill and judgement, we recommend that young riders are supervised at all times.

### For more information.....

To find out more about mini motos, or to contact your local policing team, visit our website at [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk) or call 0300 333 3000.

To report inappropriate use of mini motos call 0300 333 3000.

This document is available in large print and other formats please contact Publishing on 01905 331661.



West Mercia  
**POLICE**



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Designed and printed by Publishing Section, West Mercia Police.

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## Mini Motos

## ■ Mini motos

Miniature motorbikes, known as mini motos, are becoming increasingly popular. Powered by an electric motor or engine, they can reach speeds of up to 60mph, making them exciting and appealing to teenagers.

When ridden safely and legally, mini motos can be an enjoyable and appropriate gift. However, they are often used in an anti-social, illegal and dangerous way, which can result in police prosecution not only of the rider, but also their parents who are held accountable for the actions of their children.

**Please think twice before buying, or allowing your child to ride, a mini moto.**

West Mercia Police is committed to reducing inappropriate and illegal use of mini motos and currently deals with over 700 incidents each year

## ■ Mini motos and the law

The government regards mini motos as 'motor vehicles' so they must be constructed to a specific standard in order to be ridden on a public highway. **Most mini motos on sale in the UK do not meet this standard.**

Visit the Department for Transport's website at [www.dft.gov.uk](http://www.dft.gov.uk) for more information on construction requirements.

In addition to meeting construction requirements, bikes also need the following if they are to be used on a public highway:

- DVLA registration
- Road tax
- A valid MOT
- To be fitted with a number plate with lights.

The rider must also:

- Be aged 17 or over (or 16 if the vehicle meets the definition of a moped)
- Hold a valid driving licence
- Have valid motor insurance
- Wear suitable safety equipment (e.g. motorcycle helmet).

**If the above conditions are not met it is illegal to ride a mini moto on the road and they should only be ridden on privately owned land with the permission of the land owner or at a specialist site.**

## ■ Where to ride a mini moto

**It is always illegal to ride a mini moto in parks, play areas and on pavements.**

The Auto Cycle Union can advise on specialist sites in your area as well as any local competitions that are taking place. Visit their website at [www.acu.org.uk](http://www.acu.org.uk) or call **01788 566400** for details.

Alternatively, your local policing team may know of suitable sites. Visit our website at [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk) or call **0300 333 3000** to speak to them.



Young people participating in a specialist training session in Telford.