



New Driving Law Changes for 2022



Drivers can expect to see some big changes on the road this year. A raft of new laws, vehicle technology and driving rules are due to be introduced in 2022 - and many will impact every person who regularly gets behind the wheel. The following are major changes coming into immediate effect.



Never use a hand-held or hands-free phone, or programme any other mobile device, while driving.



Always obey the speed limit and wear a seat belt.

Highway Code Changes

There'll be new changes published in the next version of the Highway Code to improve safety, particularly for cyclists and pedestrians. These changes include:

- A 'hierarchy of road users'; creating greater safety for cyclists and pedestrians. Road users who can cause the greatest harm (lorries) have the greatest responsibility to reduce the danger they can pose to others.
- Clarifying priority rules for cyclists and pedestrians – they have right of way when travelling straight ahead at junctions, so drivers must give way before turning into or out of a junction.
- New guidance on safe passing distances and speeds when overtaking cyclists and horse riders.

New 'hierarchy of road users':

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Pedestrians | 5. Cars / Taxis |
| 2. Cyclists | 6. Vans / Minibuses |
| 3. Horse Riders | 7. Large passenger / |
| 4. Motorcyclists | Heavy Goods Vehicles |

Mobile Phone Loophole Closed

- From early in 2022, new rules that make using a phone or any handheld device behind the wheel illegal in almost all circumstances will be introduced - and mean culprits receive a fine of £200 and six points on their licence.
- The stringent rules will also apply when stopped at a red light or stuck in traffic.
- The only significant exception is that drivers will still be able to use their phone as a sat-nav as long as it is secured in a holder, and hands-free calls. Mobile payments at drive-through restaurants or on toll roads will also be allowed.

Seventeen people were killed on Britain's roads last year in crashes involving drivers distracted by mobile phones, new analysis shows.

A further 114 people were seriously injured and 385 were slightly injured in such collisions, Department for Transport figures show.

