

FAQs on Segways and Powered Transporters (PTs)

RSA

What is a powered transporter (PT)?

This includes a variety of novel personal transport devices e.g. segways, swegways, hoverboards, u-wheels, powered mini scooters or go-peds and powered unicycles.



What is a segway? It is a self-balancing scooter or PT. It is defined as '*an electric portable transport device powered by an electric motor*'.

How does a segway work? Segway riders stand on a platform that is balanced by the sensors and motors beneath it. Riders lean forward to go forward and back to reverse and turn left or right by using the handlebar.

What is the law on segways? Segways are considered to be mechanically propelled vehicles (MPVs) and if used on a public road which includes footpath are subject to all of the regulatory controls that apply to other vehicles. These include:
[S.I. No. 190 of 1963 - Road Traffic Construction, Equipment and Use of Vehicles Regulations](#)

[S.I. No. 5 of 2003 - Road Traffic Construction and Use of Vehicles Regulations](#)

[S.I. No. 189 of 1963 - Road Traffic Lighting of Vehicles Regulations](#)

*These regulations are in original format and amendments can be viewed on irishstatutebook.ie

Why are segways considered ‘mechanically propelled vehicles’?

The Road Traffic Act 1961 defines a mechanically propelled vehicle as ‘.... a vehicle intended or adapted for propulsion by mechanical means, including ...a vehicle the means of propulsion of which is electrical or partly electrical and partly mechanical....’. Segways or personal transporters fall within this legal definition.

Can segways be used on footpaths? No. The same regulations that apply to cars, mopeds or motorcycles also apply to segways. Such vehicles are not permitted to be used on footpaths.

Is a driving licence required to drive a segway on public road? Yes.

A segway is considered to be an MPV and requires registration, motor tax, driving licence and insurance when used on a public road. You can view our list of licence categories [here](#) or contact our driver licensing section at DriverLicensing@rsa.ie.

Can I use a segway if it is not a public road? Yes. If it is being used on private property e.g. purpose built tracks then it does not need to be registered, taxed etc. but you must obtain permission from the landowner and it must be transported by trailer from one site to another.

Can I register a segway? You will need to contact [Revenue](#) who are responsible for the registration of vehicles in Ireland.

I cannot register my segway and cannot use it in a public place.

What should I do? To register these types of vehicles you need a certificate of conformity (CoC) from the manufacturer. If a vehicle does not have a CoC it means that it was never intended to be used on a public road which includes a footpath and therefore you must limit its use to private property.

Do segways have weight thresholds and limits? Yes. In general manufacturers recommend that riders weigh more than 100 lbs. and not more than 260 lbs. including any cargo e.g. bags etc. However, all segways differ so consult the manufacturer for weights specific to your vehicle.

Is it a legal requirement to wear a helmet when riding a segway? No. But for your own safety we recommend that a helmet is worn at all times while using any mechanically propelled vehicle.

Is there a minimum age limit required to ride segways? Most manufacturers recommend that only people aged 16 years or older use segways and we support this.

Can I carry a passenger on a segway? No. Segways are not designed to carry more than one person.