

Motor Vehicle Registry Information Bulletin

V50 - Bicycle Carrying Racks

Introduction

When fitted to a motor vehicle, a bicycle carrying rack must comply with the requirements of this Bulletin.

A bicycle carrying rack is usually fitted to the towbar and/or boot (rear mount) or roof rack (roof mount) of a motor vehicle for the purpose of transporting bicycles.

General Requirements

The following requirements apply to all bicycle racks:

- Ensure the bicycle rack is fitted and used in accordance with the Manufacturer's instructions;
- All welding carried out in the manufacture of a bicycle rack must be in accordance with Australian/New Zealand Standard, AS/NZS 1554.1 Structural Steel Welding - Welding of Steel Structures.
- The tow bar or roof rack must be secure and suitable for the bicycle rack and its load;
- Ensure that the bicycle is adequately secured to the rack when transporting, and that the rack is adequately secured to the vehicle when fitted;
- Ensure the rack and its attachment to the vehicle is suitable for the weight of the bicycle/s, and
- Ensure the bicycle rack is free of sharp edges and protrusions.

Rear Mount Rack

The following guidelines apply to bicycle carrying racks attached to the rear of a vehicle:

- Ensure the bicycle carrying rack and its load;
 1. does not project excessively behind the rear of the vehicle
 2. does not exceed rear overhang limits (60% of the vehicle's wheel base)
 3. does not protrude more than 150mm beyond the extreme width of either side of the vehicle

For further information regarding dimensional limits please refer to MVR Information Bulletin V13 Vehicle Dimensional Limits (Including Load), a link to which is below;

<http://www.nt.gov.au/transport/mvr/vehiclestandards/infobulletins/ibv13.pdf>

- Ensure that the bicycle rack and bicycle does not obscure any vehicle lights;
- Ensure the number plate is not obscured. It may be necessary to re-locate the number plate when using the bicycle rack, or alternatively, an additional number plate (an identical number as the vehicle) can be obtained from a MVR office and fitted to the bicycle rack (fees may apply). Where the number plate is relocated or an additional number plate is fitted, consideration should be given to the requirement of a number plate light. For further information regarding correct number plate fitment, please refer to MVR Information Bulletin No. V24, a link to which is below;
<http://www.nt.gov.au/transport/mvr/vehiclestandards/infobulletins/ibv24.pdf>
- Ensure the driver has adequate vision to the rear of the vehicle, and
- The bicycle rack should be removed when not in use to lessen the potential hazard to other road users who might pass behind the vehicle.

For further information, please contact your local Motor Vehicle Registry Office.

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