



## Using mobile phones and visual display units

Vic Roads have introduced changes to road rules relating to the use of mobile phones and visual display units – effective 9 November 2009

### Mobile phones

Using a mobile phone while driving is prohibited, except to make or receive a phone call or to use its audio/music functions provided the phone:

- is secured in a commercially designed holder fixed to the vehicle,  
or
- can be operated by the driver without touching any part of the body of the phone.

Using a phone as a GPS while driving is prohibited unless it is secured in a commercially designed holder fixed to the vehicle.

All other functions (including video calls, texting and emailing) are prohibited.

Learner and P1 drivers are prohibited from using a mobile phone at all while driving.

Holding the phone (whether or not engaged in a phone call) is also prohibited. Holding includes resting the mobile on the driver's lap.

### Visual display units

A driver must not drive a vehicle that has a television receiver or a visual display unit operating if any part of the screen is visible to the driver or is likely to distract another driver.

A driver can use a driver's aid such as a navigation device but it must be an integrated part of the vehicle design, or secured in a commercially designed holder, which is fixed to the vehicle.

### Exemptions

The rule relating to securing visual display units does not apply to motorcycles.

### Road safety reasons

Using a mobile phone or a visual display unit as you drive is distracting and creates dangerous situations that could be fatal.

The risk of being involved in a crash increases by as much as four times, when using a mobile phone as you drive, and if you are texting the risk of crashing increases to 23 times.

Please refer to the link below for further information:

[http://www.swinburne.edu.au/corporate/hr/ohs/docs/VicRoadsFactsheet1\\_4.pdf](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/corporate/hr/ohs/docs/VicRoadsFactsheet1_4.pdf)