

# Helmets fitted with aftermarket devices



One of the most important pieces of safety equipment for a motorcycle rider is a motorcycle helmet

## Helmet Requirements under NSW law

According to the [NSW Road Rules 2014 - REG 270](#), all motorcyclists and their pillion (passengers) or sidecar passengers are required to wear an approved motorcycle helmet. The approved standard for helmets is either the Australian Standard AS 1698 or the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe UNECE22.05 or 22.06.

There are many types and styles of motorcycle helmets available, with two key types: the full face and open face helmets. Full face helmets feature a chin panel which incorporates an integrated face shield (visor) offering better eye, wind, sun and injury protection, whereas open face helmets do not feature a chin panel or visor.

## Helmet Safety

All motorcyclists and their passengers should:

- Wear a correctly fitted and securely fastened approved motorcycle helmet
- Wear light coloured helmets (eg. white, yellow) are generally cooler in summer than dark helmets and help to increase your chance of being seen.

For more information about motorcycle helmets, visit [The Centre for Road Safety](#)

## Aftermarket devices

The Centre for Road Safety recently assessed the risks of head and neck injuries associated with motorcycle helmets fitted with aftermarket devices. The findings of the study informed changes to Transport for NSW policy, which now allow motorcycle riders to attach aftermarket camera and communication devices, provided they follow manufacturers' instructions. The findings of this study and change to Policy are publicly available on the [Centre for Road Safety website](#).

**Fines and demerit points may apply if aftermarket devices are not attached correctly.** It is illegal and unsafe to attach a device:

- into the helmet by drilling holes or using attachments such as screws that interfere with the structural integrity of the helmet.
- to the helmet with epoxy glue as that will integrate the attachment with the helmet, compromising the helmet's performance.

Helmets with devices attached in either manner are considered damaged, and are therefore not in good repair and proper working order. These helmets are no longer considered an "approved motor bike helmet" under Reg 270 of the NSW Road Rules 2014.

## Position of aftermarket devices

Aftermarket devices must not interfere with the structural integrity of the helmet. Once its structural integrity is compromised, the helmet may no longer protect the riders head as intended. For safe positioning of aftermarket devices, all motorcyclists must:

- Ensure aftermarket device does not obscure the rider's field of view (in front or to the side)
- Ensure aftermarket device is safely and securely fitted as per manufacturer's guidelines. This should never involve drilling or using screws.