

Guidelines: Things to know about pedelec/e-bike 25 tuning

Pedelecs/e-bikes 25 are limited to a continuous rated power of 250 Watt and a maximum design speed through electrical pedal assistance of 25 kmh (15.5 mph). **In this case only they are equivalent to bicycles in terms of road traffic law. (§ 63a, paragraph 2 of German road traffic licensing regulations, inform yourself about the legislation in your country).**

Raising the output and/or the maximum design speed beyond this limit will result in the fact that the vehicle becomes a motor vehicle.

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The consequences are as follows*:

- > Subject to compulsory operating licence
- > Subject to compulsory driving licence (class depends on maximum speed)
- > Subject to compulsory insurance (insurance tag)
- > Helmet compulsory
- > Using cycle lanes not permissible
- > Proof of fatigue strength for all safety-relevant components must be submitted

Possible legal consequences in case of tuning for users*:

- > Administrative offence and fine
- > Criminal offence (§ 21 of German road traffic act: "Riding without driving licence"; infringement of obligatory insurance law)
- > **Caution: in the event of repetition, your criminal record certificate may no longer be clean (criminal record!)**
- > In case of infringement of § 21 German road traffic act: Withdrawal of driving licence
- > Loss of insurance cover (private liability)
- > Loss of materials defect liability and warranty claims
- > Loss of driving licence
- > Regularly, partial responsibility in case of accident

Possible legal consequences in case of tuning for retailers*:

- > Aiding and abetting of an offence, participating in an administrative offence
- > Retailer liable for personal and material damage
- > Loss of business liability insurance cover

* for example in Germany, inform yourself about the legislation in your country

Experts of the following associations / companies were involved in drawing up the present guidelines: (in alphabetical order)



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This is the translation of the original guidelines issued by ZIV, VSF and BIV (German umbrella organisation for the German cycle industry guilds) in cooperation with Zedler-Institut, updated in 2018. In the event of any misunderstandings, the original German version (Leitfaden: Wissenswertes über Tuning von Pedelecs/E-Bikes 25) shall be applicable.