

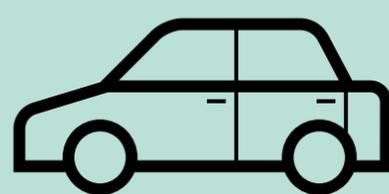
Modified Vehicles in NSW

What is a modified vehicle?

A modified vehicle is classified as a vehicle that has been altered from its original manufacturer by adding, replacing or removing components of its original build. These components usually alter the handling, appearance and performance of the vehicle.

Where can I drive a modified car?

A modified car can still be driven on public roads, provided that the modifications comply with vehicle safety standards under the Road Transport (Vehicle Registration) Regulation 2017. Alternatively, you may take your modified vehicle to a professional race track or motorsport event, however, you may be subject to the race track or motorsport event's rules and regulations that must be adhered to before entering the event.



Is it illegal to modify your car?



The legality of modifications on vehicles depends on the type of modification itself. Most significant modifications must be assessed by a licensed certifier under the Vehicle Safety Compliance Certification Scheme (VSCCS) to ensure compliance is met with vehicle standards. Minor modifications may not require you to undergo assessment and receive certification.

Do I need a certificate or registration to drive my modified vehicle?

To ensure your modification is legal you will need to undergo an assessment by a licensed certifier under the VSCCS. After completing the assessment, you will be issued a compliance certificate that certifies that your vehicle complies with applicable vehicle standards. If the modification does not affect the level of safety, strength or reliability of the vehicle, and has a very minor impact on the vehicle's compliance with vehicle standards, then the vehicle does not require certification.

What happens if I fail a vehicle inspection?

If you fail a vehicle inspection, you will be given a 'Repairs Needed' report and will have 14 days to complete the repairs outlined. If police stop you and find that your vehicle does not meet safety standards, you may be issued with a defect notice and must repair your vehicle by the due date on the notice. Your registration can be suspended if you do not repair the vehicle by the due date.

Can I use aftermarket parts?

Aftermarket parts can be used in modified vehicles, provided that they are manufacturer approved. They must pass the full set of tests outlined in the Australian Design Rule 83/00 and show evidence of compatibility with vehicle models. This includes testing to demonstrate compliance with the licensed certifier. The aftermarket components must also be fully functional and in good condition.



What penalties are there for driving a modified vehicle without certification?

Under the Road Transport (Vehicle Registration) Act 2017, driving a modified vehicle without certification can result in heavy fines of up to \$900, and completing non-complying modifications to a light vehicle can result in a \$704 fine.

Where can I get more information and help?

You can find further information about vehicle standards in NSW through the [Transport for NSW Vehicle Standards Information Sheets \(VSI\)](#) and NSW Government website [here](#).

You may like to seek free independent legal advice from:

- [LawAccess NSW](#) T. 1300 888 529
- Your [local community legal centre](#)

Western Sydney University Justice Clinic

For further details on the WSU Justice Clinic, please visit the website.

If you are a WSU student, contact the WSU Student Legal Service at studentlegalservices@westernsydney.edu.au for more guidance.

DISCLAIMER: This fact sheet is intended to be used as a general guide only. You should not rely on this fact sheet without getting legal advice about your own situation.