

Frequently Asked Questions About the New UAE Traffic Law (2024)

Here are some common questions with detailed answers about the new UAE traffic law set to take effect on March 29, 2025:

1. What is the new driving age in the UAE under the 2024 traffic law?

The minimum driving age has been lowered from 18 to 17 years. Young drivers will have to comply with strict regulations, including enhanced driving tests and supervision, to ensure road safety.

2. When will the new traffic law come into effect?

The new law will be implemented starting March 29, 2025, including all updates such as the reduced driving age and regulations for electric and autonomous vehicles.

3. What are the new rules for electric and autonomous vehicles?

The law introduces updated classifications and guidelines for inspection, registration, and licensing of electric and self-driving cars, enabling their safe integration into public roads.

4. What penalties are introduced for major traffic violations?

Stricter penalties apply to violations such as:

- Driving under the influence: Heavy fines, imprisonment, and license suspension.
- Hit-and-run incidents: Severe legal consequences, especially in cases of injury or death.
- Crossing roads improperly: Pedestrians are held liable for accidents caused by crossing outside designated areas.

5. How does the law address noise pollution from vehicles?

The law bans noisy vehicles and restricts the use of horns in urban areas to emergency situations, aiming to reduce noise pollution.

6. What are the rules for transporting hazardous materials?

Transporting hazardous materials requires a special permit, designated routes, and adherence to safety regulations to minimize risks.

7. What measures are in place to enhance pedestrian safety?

- Pedestrians are prohibited from crossing roads with speeds exceeding 80 km/h, except via designated bridges or crossings.
- Violators may face civil and criminal liability for causing accidents.

8. How will the law affect vehicle inspections and renewals?

New regulations ensure clear guidelines for vehicle inspections and renewal processes, emphasizing compliance with safety standards.

9. Will the law impact insurance requirements?

Yes, insurance policies may be updated to cover electric and autonomous vehicles, with potential premium increases for serious violators.

10. How does the law support innovation in transportation?

The law encourages self-driving technology and electric vehicles, aligning with the UAE's vision for sustainable and advanced transportation systems.

11. What are the key provisions of the new transport law?

- Lowering the driving age to 17 years.
- Stricter penalties for serious violations.
- Rules for electric and autonomous vehicles.
- Measures to reduce noise pollution.

12. Did the UAE Cabinet approve the new traffic law?

Yes, the UAE Cabinet has approved the law, which will come into effect on March 29, 2025.

13. What are the rules for new drivers in the UAE?

New drivers must pass both theoretical and practical tests and may face additional restrictions during their probationary period.

14. What are the penalties for speeding in the UAE?

Fines vary based on the level of speeding:

- Exceeding by 20 km/h: AED 300.
- Exceeding by 30 km/h: AED 600.
- Exceeding by 50 km/h: AED 1,000.

15. How many black points are allowed before license suspension?

Drivers can accumulate a maximum of 24 black points before their license is suspended.

16. How can drivers remove 4 black points?

Drivers can attend traffic awareness courses to have up to 4 black points removed.

17. What happens if you accidentally run a red light in Dubai?

The penalty includes:

- A fine of AED 1,000.
- 12 black points.
- Vehicle impoundment for 30 days.

18. What is the AED 50,000 fine related to red light violations?

This fine applies if the offender fails to retrieve their impounded vehicle after a serious violation.

19. Is turning right on red lights allowed in the UAE?

Typically, it is not allowed unless there is a green arrow or a dedicated lane permitting the turn.

20. What do wavy road markings in Dubai signify?

They indicate areas where drivers should slow down, such as pedestrian crossings.

21. How should overtaking be done in the UAE?

Overtaking must be done from the left lane, ensuring the road is clear. Overtaking from the right is prohibited.

22. What does the "zipper principle" mean in the UAE?

The zipper principle involves alternating vehicles when merging from two lanes into one, ensuring smooth traffic flow.