

FACTSHEET

KiNTO

# Speeding Awareness & Penalties

Speed is a critical issue for the safety of our roads. Read our guide to which provides tips on how to avoid speeding and what drivers can expect if they are caught breaking the speed limit.

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## Speeding Awareness & Penalties

Speeding is one of the most common driving offences in the UK, with 8 out of 10 drivers saying they regularly see drivers 'excessively speeding' across all types of roads. It's a major factor in traffic accidents, injuries and can even lead to death.

The law states that you must not drive faster than the speed limit. Remember, speed limits are a maximum, NOT a target.

### The dangers of speeding

Excessive speeding is dangerous for many reasons:

- It reduces the driver's reaction time
- Increases the risk of losing control of the vehicle
- Increases vehicle stopping distance
- Reduces the ability of road safety structures (guardrails, impact attenuators, crash cushions, etc.) aimed to protect the vehicle occupants during a crash
- Amplifies the severity of accidents
- When towing trailers or caravans, the dangers are also amplified due to the added weight and dimensions

### Impact on other road users

Speeding doesn't just endanger the driver; it also poses risks to pedestrians, cyclists and other drivers. It contributes to traffic congestion and environmental pollution, making roads less safe for everyone.

### Am I allowed a 10% leeway of the speed limit?

In the eyes of the law, you are liable for a speeding fine as soon as you exceed the speed limit. So, if you're doing 31mph in a 30mph limit zone or 71mph on a motorway, you are technically breaking the law.

Although the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) recommends a '10% plus 2mph' tolerance for consistency across police forces, this is not a legal requirement. Officers and cameras may enforce the limit from the moment you exceed it.

Most speed cameras must also be manually set to trigger at speed; however, it is unclear whether they are set 10% above the limit. But it's not worth taking the risk and assuming they are set at 10% – you should never exceed the speed limit.

When you are caught speeding by a mobile camera, it's up to the police officer's discretion to penalise you. They may choose to take the NPCC's guidance, however they can choose to penalise you; if you're exceeding 1 mile over the speed limit, it's still considered breaking the law.

### Tips – how to avoid speeding

1. Ensure that journey schedules, distances and plans allow sufficient time to include rest breaks and account for the predicted weather and traffic conditions
2. Use your speed limiter or speed assistance to preset speed limits
3. Check your speedometer regularly, especially when leaving high speed roads
4. Know the limits – look out for signs, especially at junctions



5. Remember, speed limits are a maximum, not a target
6. Stick to 20mph when children are present and take special care around schools
7. Try no higher than 3rd gear in a 30mph limit
8. Regularly spaced lights mean 30mph or 20mph, unless signs show otherwise
9. Recognise what makes you speed – keeping up with traffic, being late, overtaking or being tailgated
10. Slow down when entering villages – many do not have pathways
11. Always stay focused when driving – distracted drivers tend to speed

**Note:** Driving at 80mph rather than 70mph on a motorway only saves you around 90 seconds over 14 miles.

#### Exceeding the speed limit – considerations for EV drivers

- On motorways, aerodynamics plays a significant role on EVs, therefore it is advised that you maintain a speed as close to the limit as possible
- For every 10mph you exceed the speed limit, you could lose about 10% efficiency and consequently reduce your range
- Please also note that with no gear shifting, EVs often accelerate faster and more smoothly than combustion vehicles, making it easier to unintentionally exceed the speed limit

#### Towing trailers and caravans: special considerations

When towing a trailer or caravan in the UK, specific speed limits apply: 60mph on motorways and dual carriageways and 50mph on single carriageways. Additionally, you must not use the right-hand lane of a motorway with three or more lanes

#### Vans, car-derived vans and dual-purpose vehicles

Due to their size and load weights, speed limits for vans in the UK differ to that of cars. Additionally, they can vary between single carriageways, dual carriageways and motorways.

#### Most vans:

- Have a lower speed limit than cars
- Must follow the speed limits for goods vehicles of the same weight

Vehicles under 2 tonnes laden (loaded) weight may qualify as a car-derived van or dual-purpose vehicle. These vehicles have the same speed limits as cars.

Please see the below outlining the speed limits for vans.

#### Know your van speed limits (UK)

	Built-up areas	Built-up areas (Wales)	Single Carriageway	Dual Carriageway	Motorways
Car-Derived Vans	30 MPH	20 MPH	60 MPH	70 MPH	70 MPH
Dual-Purpose Vehicles	30 MPH	20 MPH	60 MPH	70 MPH	70 MPH
Dual-Purpose Vehicles (towing)	30 MPH	20 MPH	50 MPH	60 MPH	60 MPH
Vans Under 7.5 Tonnes	30 MPH	20 MPH	50 MPH	60 MPH	70 MPH
Vans over 7.5 Tonnes (England and Wales)	30 MPH	20 MPH	50 MPH	60 MPH	60 MPH
Vans Over 7.5 Tonnes (Scotland)	30 MPH	20 MPH	40 MPH	50 MPH	60 MPH





### What are the penalties for speeding?

The minimum penalty for speeding is a £100 fine and 3 penalty points added to your licence.

You could be disqualified from driving if you build up 12 or more penalty points within a period of 3 years – check your driving licence record to see if you have points on your licence.



### If you're caught by a speed camera

Within 14 days of your car being caught speeding you'll be sent a:

- Notice of Intended Prosecution (NIP)
- Section 172 notice

You must return the Section 172 notice within 28 days, telling the police who was driving the car.

You may have to go to court if you ignore the notice.

After you've sent the Section 172 notice back, you'll be sent a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) or letter telling you to go to court.

### If you're stopped by the police

If you're stopped by the police, they can:

- give you a verbal warning
- give or send you an FPN
- order you to go to court – you'll be sent a letter telling you what to do

SPEED LIMIT (MPH)	SPEED FOR BAND A FINE	SPEED FOR BAND B FINE	SPEED FOR BAND C FINE
	25-75% of weekly income	75-125% of weekly income	125-175% of weekly income
20	21-30	31-40	41+
30	31-40	41-50	51+
40	41-55	56-65	66+
50	51-65	66-75	76+
60	61-80	81-90	91+
70	71-90	91-100	101+
Points / disqualification	3 points on your licence	Disqualification for 7-28 or 4-6 points on your licence	Disqualification for 7-56 or 6 points on your licence

\* This is what you can expect but the magistrate can fine you anywhere within this range, meaning serious offenders could face a fine of 175% their weekly income. This fine, however, is capped at £1,000, rising to £2,500 if you are caught on a motorway.

### Do speeding tickets increase insurance?

Getting points for speeding means you'll get charged a higher premium for your insurance. The amount will depend on where you live, how old you are, what car you drive and any other things about you that insurance companies want to take into account when they quote you a price for insurance. The more points you have, the larger the increase on your insurance premium. If you took a speed awareness course – which you attend instead of taking points on your licence – your premium won't go up.

For more information regarding speed limits and penalties, please head to the Gov UK website [www.gov.uk/speed-limits](http://www.gov.uk/speed-limits).

