



Bicycle carriers

It's important to choose a bike carrier that both suits your needs and can be safely attached to your vehicle.

Some bike carriers are fitted to the roof rack while others attach to the rear of the vehicle, usually to the towbar or boot/hatch. You should always follow the manufacturer's instructions when fitting, using and removing a carrier. Don't exceed the manufacturers' load capacity limits for the bike carrier, towbar, roof racks, and any other equipment used for securing the carrier.

Tips for using a bike carrier

- Make sure the carrier is securely attached to the vehicle correctly, the bicycles are securely attached to the carrier, and both the number plate and rear lights are unobstructed. Regular checking ensures the load is safe and secure.
- Check that any bike accessories are securely attached so they don't come loose in transit.
- Attach only up to the maximum number of bikes the carrier is designed to carry.
- Make sure the carrier has no sharp edges or protrusions.
- Remove the carrier when it's not in use, so it's not a hazard to people or property.
- Keep in mind that bikes carried on the roof reduce vehicle clearance under low structures and trees.

The total vehicle load, including passengers, bikes, fittings and any other items, must not exceed the gross vehicle mass (GVM).

If you have a bike carrier that attaches to the rear of your car, remember that any vehicle driven on South Australian Roads must display number plates issued by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport, or an equivalent authority interstate. At night, the number plate on the rear of the vehicle must be lit with a white light so it can be read from a minimum of 20m away.

Rear lights must be visible from 200m in normal weather. If the vehicle's rear lights are obscured by the carrier or bike/s, lights will need to be fitted to the carrier. You may need to consider moving your number plate to ensure it remains clearly visible on the rear of the vehicle when the bike carrier is in use.

Penalties

- Driving or towing a vehicle with an unsecured load attracts a fine of \$416* and three demerit points.
- Driving or allowing a motor vehicle to stand on a road without prescribed number plates attracts a fine of \$807.*
- If any part of the carrier or bike/s obscures the number plate, the driver could be fined \$552.*

We're here to help

Call our Road Safety team on 8202 4517, email roadsafety@raa.com.au or visit raa.com.au/roadsafety

* Any fine issued by SA Police will also attract a \$99 Victims of Crime Levy