

Parallel Parking on a Road Traffic Infringement Information Sheet

Road Rule 208

- (1) A driver who parks on a road (except in a median strip parking area) must position the driver's vehicle in accordance with sub rules (2) to (8).
- (2) The driver must position the vehicle to face in the direction of travel of vehicles in the marked lane or line of traffic on, or next to, the part of the road where the driver parks.
- (3) If the road is a two-way road, the driver must position the vehicle parallel, and as near as practicable, to the far left side of the road.
- (4) If the road is a one-way road, the driver must position the vehicle parallel, and as near as practicable, to the far left or far right side of the road, unless otherwise indicated by information on or with a parking control sign.
- (5) If the driver does not park in a parking bay, the driver must position the vehicle at least 1 metre from the closest point of any vehicle in front of it and any vehicle behind it.
- (6) If the road has a dividing strip, the driver must position the vehicle at least 3 metres from any dividing strip, unless otherwise indicated by information on or with a parking control sign.
- (7) If the road does not have 2 parallel continuous dividing lines or a dividing strip, the driver must position the vehicle so there is at least 3 metres of the road alongside the vehicle that is clear for other vehicles to pass, unless otherwise indicated by information on or with a parking control sign.
- (8) The driver must position the vehicle so the vehicle does not unreasonably obstruct the path of other vehicles or pedestrians.

What this means to you

When parallel parking in a two-way street you must park on the left-hand side. You must get the left wheels of the car as close to the kerb as you can and leave at least a metre between you and the cars in front and behind.

Internal Review of your Infringement

If you believe you have extenuating circumstances regarding the issuing of an infringement notice, you must write to us within 28 days of the issue date on the ticket to avoid incurring additional costs. Please ensure that when explaining your situation you include any supporting evidence that you may have.

It is Council's standard practice to investigate all appeals, including verification of evidence and witness statements. All decisions are Final and will be notified in writing.

Defences listed in the Road Rules

Rule 165 of the Road Rules allows for defences, when a driver stops to avoid a collision; when a driver's vehicle is broken down; where there is a medical or other type of emergency; when a driver stops in the interests of safety; or when a driver stops to comply with another law.

When using any of these defences the types of supporting evidence you should provide would include a full description of the situation including a sworn statement from any witnesses, a sketch or photograph of the scene, receipts from a towing company, mechanic or the RACV showing dates and times; or a doctor certificate, etc.

Defences that will not be considered

Defences that council do not consider as extenuating circumstances include, drivers running late or held up in appointments; drivers not seeing signs displayed; driver running out of fuel; drivers forgetting to display their parking permit; being broken down without supporting information; and the inability to pay, however circumstances may be considered.

The decision making process

1. Appeal - All Internal Reviews of parking infringements are considered by the Appeals committee, Darebin Traffic Services.

2. Magistrates Court - If an appellant is not happy with the decision, they may elect to have their case heard in the Magistrates Court where it will be considered by an independent arbitrator. All appellants have the option to elect for their case to be heard in the Magistrates Court at any time.