



Mobile Phone Driving Infringements - Fines & Demerit Points Increase on 7 July 2003

REMINDER - Using a hand-held mobile phone while driving is illegal

When used properly, mobile phones in cars can have many benefits. They can provide valuable security and help in an emergency. However, they are distracting if used while driving and this increases the risk of an accident.

To discourage the use of hand-held mobile phones while driving, the penalty applied in the ACT from July 7 will increase from \$118 to \$220 plus three demerit points.

A recent survey of drivers found that: a third reported making calls while driving at least once a week, and a sixth at least once per day; 57% reported loss of concentration and inattention while talking on a hand-held mobile.

To drive safely you must concentrate. Talking on the phone distracts your attention from the road and this can lead to an accident. You cannot be in full control of your vehicle if you are using a hand-held mobile phone while driving. This places everyone around you at risk.

Drivers must have proper control of their vehicle at all times. You can also be prosecuted for careless, inconsiderate or dangerous driving, if using a hand-held phone causes you to drive in this way.



Either turn the mobile phone off; or if it is safe, pull over to take the call. If you don't, you're breaking the law.