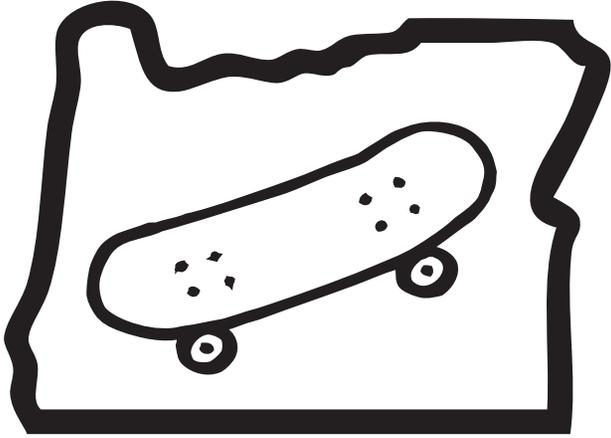


Welcome to Portland, Oregon



Over the last few years, Portland has gained a reputation as being one of the most “skate friendly” cities in the United States; and for good reason. Portland is one of the few cities to recognize skateboarding as a legitimate mode of transportation and give it the same legal rights as a bicycle. Our city is also home to some of the best skateparks in the world including the famous Burnside Skatepark. With plans to increase the number of skateparks in the city to 19, the future of skateboarding in Portland keeps getting better. Portland is also home to many skateboard companies that are making some of the best boards out there.

For more information on skateboarding and commuting around Portland check out these online resources:

[www.portlandonline.com/transportation](http://www.portlandonline.com/transportation)  
[www.skatefriendlypdx.com](http://www.skatefriendlypdx.com)



Your guide to  
skateboarding in  
Portland, Oregon.



# A few good things to know about skating in Portland

## Public Skateparks

### Burnside

The world famous Burnside skatepark is one of the first and most notable DIY skateparks out there. Definitely stop by this skatepark when in Portland. Burnside can be found under the East side of the Burnside Bridge on 2nd Ave.

### Pier Park

The original Pier Park was built by the Army Engineers and then torn out and rebuilt by Dreamland Skateparks. Opened in 2006, Pier Park is number one of the 19 planned skateparks of Portland.

Location: N. Hudson St. & Bruce Ave

### Glenhaven

Located right next to Madison High School, Glenhaven provides terrain for any type of skater. It features two bowls and a street section with features like a brick bank.

Location: NE 82nd Ave. & NE Siskiyou St.

### Holly Farm

Tucked up in the West Hills, Holly Farm is one of the smaller skateparks in Portland but definitely one of the most unique. Stop by and check it out.

Location: SW Capitol Hwy & Comus St.

### Gabriel

Not far from Holly Farm is the Gabriel skatepark. This park's design was based on some of the classic snake-run style skateparks. Roll-in's and carve lines for days.

Location: SW 45th Ave. & Nevada St.

### Ed Benedict

Portland's first and probably not last street plaza skatepark. This park is wide open and has lots of interesting features that will satisfy almost any street skater.

Location: SE 102nd Ave & Powell Blvd.

### Brooklyn St.

The newest addition to Portland skateparks is a DIY project that started up in 2010. Not only does this provide a nice place to skate for people in SE Portland but it has also helped to clean up the neighborhood.

Location: SE Brooklyn St. & 16th Ave.

## It is Legal

In 2000, the City Council enacted City Code Section 16.70.410, making it legal to skateboard on most city streets. Before then, skateboarders could be fined \$2500 for skating on streets. Luckily, that's not the case any more. Now, skateboarders have a legal status similar to bicyclists.

## Helmet Laws

All skateboarders under age 16 are required to wear a helmet. Failure to do so can result in a \$25 fine. While helmets are not required for those over 16, it is always a good idea to wear one.

## Skating at night

A lot of people choose to skateboard at night to take advantage of the decrease in traffic and the cooler temperatures. But there are a couple things to bear in mind while skating around after sunset. If you skate at night, it's common sense to maximize your visibility to drivers. You're required to wear a white light in front that's visible from at least 500 feet, and a red light or reflector in back that's visible from at least 600 feet when hit by headlights.

## Traffic Laws

Traffic laws apply to skateboarders just as they do to bicyclists. Stay in your lane, obey the speed limit, don't pass cars or skate recklessly, stop at stop signs and red lights, and always yield to pedestrians. Violating a traffic law can result in a fine.

## Be Respectful

Skateboarding can be noisy. Be considerate when you skate in residential neighborhoods, and avoid yelling and sliding near homes. The City of Portland has taken a huge step in the right direction by making it legal for skateboarders to use public roads. This is both a right and a privilege for skateboarders and it is important for us to respect the laws that are in place so we can maintain our rights and continue to enjoy skateboarding in this wonderful city.

## Skating in Downtown

Downtown sidewalks are for pedestrians. Skateboarders may use most streets, but are required to stay off the sidewalks in the downtown core. This includes the area bounded by SW Jefferson, Naito Parkway, 13th Ave., and NW Hoyt. Skateboards are prohibited on both the streets and the sidewalks on the Transit Mall along 5th and 6th Avenues. Skateboards are also prohibited on the South Park Blocks, the North Park Blocks, Pioneer Courthouse Square, and Director Park. See map below for details.

