Off Road or All Terrain Vehicle/Motorcycle Resource Sheet

**(RCW 46.09.020)** "Off-road vehicle" or "ORV" means any nonstreet licensed vehicle when used for recreational purposes on nonhighway roads, trails, or a variety of other natural terrain. Such vehicles include, but are not limited to, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, four-wheel drive vehicles, and dune buggies.”

**Examples:**

![Image of off-road vehicles](image)

**Use**
- Not street legal – may be operated on a nonhighway road and in parking areas serving designated off-road vehicle areas if the state, federal, local, or private authority responsible for the management of the nonhighway road authorizes the use of off-road vehicles; and on a street, road, or highway as authorized under [RCW 46.09.360](#), [RCW 46.09.450](#)
- May be used on private property if the owner grants approval [RCW 46.09.450](#)
- Must be 13 years old to operate, persons under 13 may operate under direct supervision of a person 18 or older possessing a valid drivers license [RCW 46.09.460](#)

**Note:** No three or four wheel off-road vehicle can be altered to become street legal in Washington State. A manufacturer must certify that the vehicle meets the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) for street use in order for a vehicle to be licensed for street use in Washington State.

Starting January 1, 2012, some two wheel motorcycles may be licensable IF a declaration form is filed with the Department of Licensing which must include certification by a licensed dealer or repair shop that the modifications made comply with FMVSS and state laws. For more information regarding this please visit the Department of Licensing Web site at [www.dol.wa.gov](http://www.dol.wa.gov).

**Licensing**
- No Drivers License needed [RCW 46.16A.030](#)
- Must have a use permit [RCW 46.09.440](#)
- Must display current ORV tag [RCW 46.09.440](#)

**Vehicle Equipment**
- Spark Arrester [RCW 46.09.470](#)
- Muffler (86 decibel limit) [RCW 46.09.470](#)
- Helmet (Except for off-road vehicles equipped with seat belts and roll bars or an enclosed passenger compartment) [RCW 46.09.470](#)

**Note:** While we have tried to compile a complete listing of laws regarding this type of mobility device, additional requirements may apply. To read additional law requirements please visit the Washington State legislative Web site at [http://www.leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/](http://www.leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/)