

# DRINK DRIVING

## QUICK FACTS

### Background



Drink driving remains a **major contributor to fatalities and injuries on Australian roads**, even though an illegal BAC limit has been in place for over 25 years.

Source: [http://www.nrsp.org.au/Pool/Resources/drink-driving-fs\(1\)\(1\).pdf](http://www.nrsp.org.au/Pool/Resources/drink-driving-fs(1)(1).pdf)

### What can I drink?

To remain under the BAC limit:

- Males can have **2 standard drinks** in the first hour and **1 standard drink** every hour after that.
- Females can have no more than **1 standard drink** every hour



Low alc  
beer  
(375ml)  
(3.5% alc.)

Regular  
beer  
(1 pot)  
(285ml)  
(4.9% alc)

Spirits  
(30 ml)  
(40% alc)

Small glass  
of wine  
(100 ml)  
(12% alc)

Port or  
sherry  
(60ml)  
(18% alc)

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### Tips for staying safe

- Organise a **driver** who will not be drinking or using any other drug
- Make **alternative transport plans**
- Use **public transport or 'grab a cab'**
- Stay overnight**, but beware the next morning



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### What is BAC?

**Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC)** is a measure of grams on alcohol in the body per 100 millilitres of blood. The **level limit is 0.05**.



Source: <https://www.tac.vic.gov.au/road-safety/tac-campaigns/drink-driving>

### BAC levels and their affects:

- 0.02 to 0.05 BAC** - the **ability to see or locate moving lights correctly is diminished**, as is the ability to judge distances. The tendency to take risks is increased, and the ability to respond to several stimuli is decreased.
- 0.05 to 0.08 BAC** - the **ability to judge distances is reduced, sensitivity to red lights is impaired, reactions are slower and concentration span shorter**. At 0.08 BAC drivers are 5 times more likely to have an accident than before they started drinking.
- 0.08 to 0.12 BAC** - **euphoria sets in, overestimation of one's abilities leads to reckless driving, peripheral vision is impaired (resulting in accidents due to hitting vehicles in passing) and perception of obstacles is impaired**. Drivers are up to 10 times more likely to have an accident.

