



A summary of the road naming rules

The rules about what names can (and can't) be used for roads are set by the State Government in a document called "*Naming Rules for places in Victoria*". The main rules in that document are:

The name should be linked to a place

Wherever possible, if a road is to be named after a person, event, thing or time in history, it should be possible to connect it with the place itself.

The name cannot be a duplicate

A road name cannot be the same (or similar) as any other road within 5km. This cannot be avoided by using a different street type, or by adding "Little", "Old" or a similar qualifier.

Names cannot be discriminatory

Names should not be offensive or discriminate on the basis of any of the characteristics set out in the Equal Opportunity Act.

Aboriginal languages are encouraged

Where a Woi wurrung word is to be used, Council has decided that it must first be approved for use by the Wurundjeri Tribe.

If a road is named after a person, that person must be deceased

Approval is also required from the person's descendants, unless the person has been dead for more than 70 years and descendants cannot be found.

Only a surname should be used, not a given name, initial or multiple names.

The use of a given name may be considered where the surname would be a duplicate

Roads cannot be named after a business

Naming roads after businesses, community or commercial organisations is not allowed, except in exceptional circumstances.

Names must not be longer than 25 letters (including the street type)

The only exception is where the street name is in Woi wurrung.

Names cannot use abbreviations, punctuation, numbers (even if spelt in full) or cardinal directions (north, south, east, west).

The only exception is that Saint can be abbreviated as St in some circumstances.

For more information

Further information about street naming can be obtained from Rhys Thomas, Senior Governance Advisor at rhys.thomas@yarracity.vic.gov.au or 9205 5302.