

BUSKING GUIDELINES 2022

Including Terms and Conditions



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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which the City of Perth is based, Whadjuk Noongar people. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

The City of Perth encourages and supports activities that promote a sense of vibrancy through enlivening and attracting people to places. Busking is recognised as a person (or small group of people) performing in public in exchange for donations, and an important feature of Perth's culture and live music scene. The City is also committed to providing a safe, accessible, and culturally sensitive environment for all visitors, workers, and residents.

What is busking

In the context of the City of Perth's **Street Entertainment Policy CP18.9**, a busker is an entertainer who is actively providing a performance in a public space in exchange for a voluntary donation.

Permitted Forms of Busking

- Performing with an instrument or multiple instruments
- Live performance, including but not limited to singing, dancing, mime, clowning, juggling, puppetry, comedy, magic or living statue act
- Performing a 'circle' act (in permitted locations only)
- Creating visual art (excluding aerosol art)

Activities not considered busking

The following activities are not considered to be busking and are ineligible for a busking permit. The City reserves the right to deny other activities if not specified:

- Fundraising, events, or promotions, even if they involve an element of performance
- Spruiking, religious, or otherwise
- Political rallying
- Tarot card reading, fortune telling
- Massage, chiropractic treatment or other physical manipulation
- Face or body painting
- Temporary tattoo applications
- Vendors of any kind – including the sale of jewellery, craft items, flowers, glow sticks, prefabricated artwork, and other merchandise
- Any activity defined as 'trading' pursuant to City of Perth's Public Trading Local Law 2005
- Begging

Busking Roster

There is no set roster as such, simply make your way to a designated busking spot and wait your turn or move onto another busking location.

Where can I busk?

The following precincts are considered a priority for busking; however, performances must take place only at demarcated pitches in these areas:

Location	How Many Spots	Other Information
1. Yagan Square	4 spots available	Development WA Location, spots TBC
		Development WA Location, spots TBC
		Development WA Location, spots TBC
		Development WA Location, spots TBC
2. Perth Train Station	1 spot available	Opposite 'Grow Your Own' structure
3. Forrest Place	2 spots available	Near the big marble ball (under the tree)
		Forrest Place Stage
4. Murray Street Mall	3 spots available	Outside Zara
		Outside Pandora
		Outside ANZ Bank
5. Hay Street Mall (No Amplification Allowed)	3 spots available Great spot for mime/kid friendly performance artists, guitar players and pop singers	Outside Kmart
		Outside Pandora (next to the old CommBank site)
		Outside London Court
6. McDonalds – Corner of Barrack/Hay Streets	1 spot available	Undercover area outside McDonalds
7. Elizabeth Quay	3 spots available	Development WA Location, spots TBC
		Development WA Location, spots TBC
		Development WA Location, spots TBC
8. Barrack Square	3 spots available	Development WA Location, spots TBC
		Development WA Location, spots TBC
		Development WA Location, spots TBC

What does it cost to get a permit?

There is no cost to obtain a busker permit.

Successful Applicants

If your busking application is successfully approved, our Customer Experience officer will be in touch to provide guidance around:

- Safety
- Your obligations as a permit holder
- Pedestrian access/Audience management
- Noise management
- Amplification (**not allowed in Hay Street Mall**)
- Performance duration and frequency
- Sale of media
- What happens when you breach the Guideline Terms and Conditions?
- Cancellation or suspension of a Permit.

and you will be given a city map of designated areas. Look for the stars aligned to the map locations

Busking Pitch Locations

CITY OF PERTH
CITY OF LIGHT

1. Yagan Square 4 spots available Managed by Development WA Spots TBA	2. Perth Train Station 1 spot available Opposite Grow Your Own Structure
3. Forrest Place 2 spots available Near the Big Marble Ball (under the trees) Forrest Place Stage	4. Murray Street Mall 3 spots available Outside Zara Outside Pandora Outside ANZ Bank
5. McDonalds on Barrack 1 spot available Outside McDonalds undercover area	6. Hay Street Mall No Amplification Allowed Great spot for mime/kid friendly performance, guitar and pop singers 3 spots available Outside Kmart Outside Pandora Outside London Court
7. Elizabeth Quay 3 spots available Managed by Development WA Spots TBA	
8. Barrack Square 3 spots available Managed by Development WA Spots TBA	

Need to Know More?
CALL 9461 3333
EMAIL info@cityofperth.wa.gov.au

Need to know more?

If you have any questions regarding this document or if you have a suggestion for improvements, please:

[Refer to the FAQs below to check we haven't already answered your question.](#)

If we have missed something or you can't find what you are looking for in the FAQs, please contact:

Customer Experience *(Please quote your permit reference number)*

Phone: 9461 3333

Email: info@cityofperth.wa.gov.au

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Do I need a busking permit?

Under the City of Perth's Public Trading Local Law 2005 a busking permit is required for busking in a public place.

2. How do I apply for a busking permit?

Applications for a Busking Permit can be applied for online, or in person at Council House Concierge located at 27 St Georges Tce, Perth.

3. What do I need to provide with my application?

Applicants must provide the following information:

- Personal details including name, address, phone number(s) and email address
- 1 x Photo identification (e.g. drivers' licence, passport, student ID card) OR 2 x non photo identification (e.g. Credit card, Medicare card, Bank Statement)
- Selfies are not acceptable ID
- Simply, send us a link to a video of you or your group performing and a description of your act. (YouTube or Vimeo only)
- Visual artist applicants will be required to submit up to six photographs of their work and their set-up.

4. Are there different conditions for children applying for a permit?

The following information applies to applications related to children:

- Children under 16 years of age will only be permitted outside school hours and during daylight hours.
- Requests from school groups are welcome, however a permit only allows for 1-6 people.
- If under 16 years of age, written permission from a parent or guardian.

5. How long is the permit valid for?

Permits are provided for a twelve-month period and identification needs to be provided with each new application. You will be prompted to renew your permit 5 days before it expires, simply complete a busker permit renewal form.

6. What if my details change?

Council must be informed of any changes in personal details including address, phone number or email address, immediately during the term of the Permit

7. Is there a cost for a busking permit?

Great news! There is no fee for the Busking Permit. Parking fees will be waived if you can provide proof of requiring a large instrument and equipment to conduct your performance (e.g. Cello, Piano, Drum sets).

8. What are the conditions of a busking permit?

The permit holder must:

- Maintain a minimum distance of 50 metres from any other busker, preacher, event, or promotion.
- Keep noise from amplification or percussion limited to where it can only be heard within 50 metres and does not cause a nuisance to local businesses.
- Carry a valid Permit at the time of the performance/activity, or be able to produce the Permit upon request of an Authorised Officer of Council or Police Officer.
- Only undertake the activity permitted by the Permit.
- Undertake the activity in the areas or locations specified in the Permit.
- Undertake the activity during the times and dates specified in the Permit.
- If under 12 years of age, be constantly supervised by a parent/guardian.
- If under 16 years of age only undertake the activity outside School Hours and during daylight hours.
- Comply with all directions issued by an Authorised Officer of Council or Police Officer.
- Cease the activity immediately if directed to do so by an Authorised Officer of Council or Police Officer.
- Cease activity immediately if a crowd of persons are congregating in the area preventing the free flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic.
- Pick up any and lawfully dispose of rubbish or other litter associated with the activity.
- If in Murray St Mall, (Forrest Place Mall), undertake the activity on the designated busking areas located on the map provided on our website.
- If in Hay St Mall, there is no use of amplification in this mall, (e.g. Acoustic version of music) undertake the activity on the designated busking areas located on the map provided on our website.
- Treat members of the public with respect.

*The permit holder must **not**:*

- Adversely affect or disturb the peace, comfort, or convenience of users of the Public Place.
- Undertake an activity that impedes social distancing requirements or directives issued by WA Health and WAPOL, at that time.
- Leave any equipment in a position that may cause a hazard to the public or cause an obstruction to vehicular or pedestrian traffic flow.
- Undertake the activity anywhere else other than the allocated busking designated areas.
- Busk for longer than the 1-hour maximum, including setup and packing down time. Visual artists and “living statue” performers are exempt from this restriction as it can take a long time to set up a workspace and develop an artwork.
- Perform in the same location twice within a four (4) hour period.