

Bus passengers to be fined for playing loud music

28th September 2026



The loud music from other passengers on public transport has become a peeve for many people who want to travel in quiet. Singapore has introduced new fines of up to S\$500 for blaring out music on buses that annoys other

passengers. The new penalties will also be applied to other anti-social behaviour, such as putting feet on seats, littering, and eating or drinking on buses. A news release from Singapore's Land Transport Authority (LTA) said the fines would help create a "safer, more considerate and pleasant public transport environment for all". The LTA added: "Public transport is a shared space, and every commuter has a part to play in ensuring a gracious and pleasant commuting environment."

The fines will not be issued by bus drivers. The LTA has decided that bus drivers should prioritise passenger safety while driving their vehicles. The LTA said drivers needed to focus on "their primary responsibility of operating buses safely". However, drivers will have the power to ask inconsiderate and disruptive passengers to get off the bus. Many commuters welcomed the new fines. A 29-year-old flight attendant who has to travel to work at Singapore's Changi Airport by bus told the Straits Times newspaper: "I saw the new rules and I thought, 'Thank God'." A 56-year-old commuter was happy. She said: "I just want to get to work without listening to other people's irritating music."

Sources: independent.co.uk / yahoo.com / bbc.com

Writing

Listening to music on public transport and while driving should be banned. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

loud music / public transport / peeve / passengers / anti-social behaviour / commuting / fines / bus drivers / safety / responsibility / inconsiderate / flight attendant / irritating

True / False

- 1) The article says all bus passengers want quiet on their journeys. T / F
- 2) The \$500 fine is for music that annoys other passengers. T / F
- 3) The fine can also be given to people who drop litter on buses. T / F
- 4) Singapore's Land Transport Authority said all commuters must help. T / F
- 5) Bus drivers will ask offending passengers for the fine. T / F
- 6) The Land Transport Authority said bus drivers must prioritise safety. T / F
- 7) Bus drivers do not have the power to ask passengers to get off the bus. T / F
- 8) A flight attendant thought the fine was ridiculous. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. peeve | a. troublemaking |
| 2. fines | b. enjoyable |
| 3. behaviour | c. well-being |
| 4. considerate | d. conduct |
| 5. pleasant | e. penalties |
| 6. safety | f. main |
| 7. primary | g. passenger |
| 8. disruptive | h. annoyance |
| 9. commuter | i. annoying |
| 10. irritating | j. thoughtful |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Have you ever had an unpleasant experience on public transport?
- c) What music do you listen to on buses and trains?
- d) What do you think of disruptive people on public transport?
- e) Is it better to commute to work by public transport or drive?
- f) What irritates you about other people's behaviour?
- g) What is the most irritating music?
- h) What questions would you like to ask a Singapore commuter?

Phrase Match

1. a peeve for many people who
 2. new penalties will also be applied to other
 3. putting feet on seats,
 4. every commuter has a part
 5. a gracious and pleasant commuting
 6. The fines will not be issued
 7. bus drivers should prioritise
 8. focus on their primary
 9. Many commuters welcomed
 10. without listening to other people's
- a. anti-social behaviour
 - b. responsibility
 - c. environment
 - d. by bus drivers
 - e. irritating music
 - f. to play
 - g. the new fines
 - h. want to travel in quiet
 - i. passenger safety
 - j. littering, and eating

Discussion – Student B

- a) What do you think of loud music?
- b) What do you think of listening to other people's music in public?
- c) How important is quiet on public transport to you?
- d) What do you think of the fine for annoyingly loud music?
- e) Would you ever tell someone to turn down their music?
- f) What do you think of people who litter and put their feet on seats?
- g) What should the rules be for eating and drinking on public transport?
- h) How pleasant an experience is commuting?

Spelling

1. a veeeep for many people
2. glnriba out music on buses
3. new eelatpsin
4. neiirtlgt, and eating or drinking
5. every omectrum has a part to play
6. arucsigo and pleasant
7. fines will not be suedis by bus drivers
8. oirtiisrpe passenger safety
9. their amyrirp responsibility
10. pdievstiru passengers
11. flight nnateadtt
12. listening to other people's itirirgnta music

Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. e	3. d	4. j	5. b
6. c	7. f	8. a	9. g	10. i

Comprehension Questions

Listen to / read the news article. Answer these questions.
(Answers are on p. 27 of the 27-page PDF.)

1.	How do many public transport passengers in Singapore want to travel?
2.	How much could the fine be?
3.	What other things can result in fines besides littering, eating or drinking?
4.	Who will the fines create a safer environment for?
5.	What did Singapore's Land Transport Authority say public transport was?
6.	Who will not be issuing the fines?
7.	What is the main priority of bus drivers in Singapore?
8.	Who can bus drivers ask to leave their bus?
9.	What did a flight attendant think when she heard about the new fine?
10.	How did a 56-year-old commuter feel about the fine?

Speaking – Transport

Rank these with your partner. Put the best forms of public transport at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Bus
- Train
- Subway
- Taxi
- Ferry
- Coach
- Tram
- Cable car

Answers – True False

1	F	2	T	3	T	4	T	5	F	6	T	7	F	8	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.