



REGULAR/ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

Between services, it is important that you regularly inspect and maintain your motorcycle to ensure long-term performance and safety. Below are some guidelines to help you get the best out of your motorcycle and to ensure that you are safe on the road.

These checks should never replace the servicing and advanced routine maintenance performed by a skilled Technician, and if you are in any way unsure of what to do, please consult your Dealer for advice.

Should any check result in you finding a fault in your motorcycle please take it to your Dealer as soon as possible. Don't ride it there- your safety could be at risk.

TYRE PRESSURE, TYRES AND WHEELS

This should be checked while the tyres are cold and the engine switched off. Check the pressure of the tyres against the recommendations found in your user manual or by your Dealer. Inspect the tread for wear and embedded foreign bodies (such as glass, sharp stones, etc).

Check the slack in the drive chain lower run midway between the sprockets- this should be neither excessively tight or loose. If necessary, lubricate the chain with oil or grease recommended by your Dealer, wiping off any excess.

Also check the wheel rims for any damage or irregularities.

ELECTRICS

Make sure your key is in the ignition first- check that the headlight, indicators, horn and brake/rear lights are all working.

BRAKES AND SUSPENSION

With the engine switched off and your motorcycle off its stand, test your front and rear brakes by applying pressure onto the brake levers or pedal. Ensure that there is the recommended amount of play in the levers, and that there are no fluid leaks.

Test your front suspension by applying front brake and compressing the front forks 2-3 times. Inspect for any damage, leakage or burst/loose seals and fittings. Look at your rear swing arm and check for worn swing arm bearings. Sit on your motorcycle and test the rear shock absorber by 'bouncing' gently a couple of times. Again, inspect for any damage, leakage or burst/loose seals and fittings.

Do not ride if there is ANY fault with the suspension or brakes.

THROTTLE, CLUTCH AND CHOKE

Your throttle should be smooth and return to full close on release. Once your engine is warm (see 'Fuel and engine'), test opening and closing the throttle- without 'revving' excessively. If your throttle action is not smooth, add lubrication to the throttle cable (see your Dealer).

For motorcycles with a hand clutch, check that the clutch is working properly and that there is the recommended amount of play in the levers. Inspect for fluid leaks and ensure that the cable is properly secured in its clamps and clips.

For motorcycles with a manual choke, check for smooth transition when using the lever and add lubricant if necessary. Avoid leaving the choke on for prolonged periods of time, as this can flood the engine.

FUEL AND ENGINE

Firstly, always keep your fuel tap set to 'OFF' when your motorcycle is not in use, and be careful not to switch onto reserve usage instead of the main reservoir when operating the tap. Check the Fuel lines for any signs of leakage or deterioration, and make sure the pipes are not pinched or blocked in any way. Also make sure you have enough fuel for your journey. Make sure your motorcycle is level (i.e not on a side stand) and in a neutral gear if applicable, and start the engine, letting it idle for a couple of minutes (and even longer in cold weather): this lets the engine oil lubricate all the engine's internal workings.

To check the oil level, stop the engine and let it cool for at least 3 minutes. Remove the oil dipstick (located as per your user manual) and wipe it with a clean rag. Again making sure that the motorcycle is on level ground, reinsert the dipstick into the plug and then remove it- the correct oil level should be displayed. If your level is low, add more oil as required.

Try to avoid mixing oil (consult your Dealer for the best kind), and never ride your motorcycle with insufficient oil.

CLEANING

Regular exposure to adverse weather conditions, as well as dirt, oil, road salt and dust, can cause premature corrosion of your motorcycle if not cleaned regularly. Protect your motorcycle from the elements as much as possible by either storing it in a garage when not in use or purchasing a protective cover, available from most motorcycle and scooter accessory shops. Please refer to your User Manual for further advice on cleaning your motorcycle; your Dealer will also be able to assist in the correct cleaning and lubrication of vital areas. High-pressure washers and drive-through car washers are not recommended and should be avoided.

WINTER USAGE AND STORAGE

Should you choose to ride your motorcycle through the winter season we advise that you are more vigilant and intensive with your motorcycle's upkeep. Road salts, rain, anti-freeze agents and other debris can have a severe adverse effect on the performance of your motorcycle. As well as intensive routine maintenance we recommend that your Dealer inspects and lubricates your motorcycle prior to, during, and at the close of winter- even if a routine service is not due.

Always be aware of the weather conditions for the entirety of your journey time. If the conditions are too adverse or dangerous, such as black ice, heavy gales, torrential rain, blizzards etc., do not ride your motorcycle.

Your User Manual will provide details for the storage of your motorcycle during winter; your Dealer will also be able to offer advice and long term storage tips.