

Taking Care of the Unexpected

If the fuel system appears to be okay, check the ignition system (this requires a spark plug wrench):

- Check that the spark plug cap isn't loose or disconnected.
- Disconnect the spark plug cap and remove the spark plug. Connect the spark plug cap to the spark plug and ground the threaded portion of the spark plug on the cylinder head.
- Operate the kickstarter while you watch the spark plug. If it sparks, the ignition system is probably working. If there is no spark, install a new spark plug, if you have one with you. If there is still no spark, there is a problem in the ignition system.

If you cannot identify or correct the problem, you will have to push your motorcycle back to your base or get some help.

If You Have a Flat Tire

How you handle a flat tire on the trail depends on how serious the tube or tire damage is, and what tools and supplies you have with you.

If you have a slow leak or a minor puncture, there are two ways to try making a temporary repair:

- Use an aerosol tire sealer to seal the puncture and inflate the tube. (This can be done without removing the tire or wheel.)
- Use a tube patch kit to repair the puncture. (This requires removing the tire.)