

# Shifting Gears

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6. To continue shifting up to each higher gear, repeat step 5 .
7. To shift down to a lower gear, close the throttle, pull the clutch lever in, and depress the shift lever. After shifting, release the clutch lever and apply the throttle.

Remember to close the throttle and pull the clutch lever in completely before shifting.

## NOTICE

*Improper shifting may damage the engine, transmission, and drive train.*

Learning when to shift gears comes with experience. Upshift to a higher gear or reduce throttle before engine rpm (speed) gets too high. Downshift to a lower gear before you feel the engine laboring (lugging) at low rpm.

Downshifting can help slow your motorcycle, especially on downhills. However, downshifting when engine rpm is too high can cause engine damage.

To prevent transmission damage, do not coast or tow the motorcycle for long distances with the engine off.