

# Importance of Maintenance

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Keeping your motorcycle well-maintained is absolutely essential to your safety and to protect your investment, obtain maximum performance, avoid breakdowns, and reduce air pollution. Maintenance is the owner's responsibility. Be sure to inspect your motorcycle before each ride, perform the periodic checks specified in the Maintenance Schedule. ➔ P. 50

## WARNING

Improperly maintaining your motorcycle or failing to correct a problem before you ride can cause a crash in which you can be seriously hurt or killed.

Always follow the inspection and maintenance recommendations and schedules in this owner's manual.

## Maintenance Safety

Always read the maintenance instructions before you begin each task, and make sure that you have the tools, parts, and skills required. We cannot warn you of every conceivable hazard that can arise in performing maintenance. Only you can decide whether or not you should perform a given task.

Follow these guidelines when performing maintenance.

- Stop the engine and remove the key.
- Park your motorcycle on a firm, level surface using the side stand or a maintenance stand to provide support.
- Allow the engine, muffler, brakes, and other high-temperature parts to cool before servicing as you can get burned.
- Run the engine only when instructed, and do so in a well-ventilated area.