

# Important Safety Information

## Important Safety Precautions

Your motorcycle can provide many years of service and pleasure, if you take responsibility for your own safety and understand the challenges you can meet while riding.

There is much that you can do to protect yourself when you ride. You'll find many helpful recommendations throughout this manual. The following are a few that we consider to be most important.

### ***Always Wear a Helmet.***

It's a proven fact: helmets and protective apparel significantly reduce the number and severity of head and other injuries. So always wear an approved motorcycle helmet and protective apparel (page 18).

### ***Never Carry a Passenger.***

Your motorcycle is designed for one person only. There are no handholds, footrests, or seat for a second person—so never carry a passenger. A passenger could interfere with your ability to move around to maintain your balance and control of the motorcycle.

### ***Take Time to Learn & Practice***

Even if you have ridden other motorcycles, practice riding in a safe area to become familiar with how this motorcycle works and handles, and to become accustomed to the motorcycle's size and weight.

We recommend that all riders take a certified course approved by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF). New riders should start with the basic course, and even experienced riders will find the advanced course beneficial.

For information about the MSF training course nearest you, call the national toll-free number: (800) 446-9227.

Other riding tips can be found in the You and Your Motorcycle Riding Tips booklet that came with your motorcycle (USA only).

Developing off-road riding skills is a gradual step-by-step process. Start by practicing at low speeds in a safe area and slowly build your skills.

Ask your dealer if there are off-road riding groups in your area where you can learn from experienced riders. Also be sure to read Tips & Practice Guide for the Off-Highway Motorcyclist that came with your new motorcycle.

### ***Ride Defensively***

Always pay attention to other vehicles around you, and do not assume that other drivers see you. Be prepared to stop quickly or perform an evasive maneuver.

### ***Make Yourself Easy to See***

Make yourself more visible, especially at night, by wearing bright reflective clothing, positioning yourself so other drivers can see you, signaling before turning or changing lanes, and using your horn when necessary.

### ***Be Alert for Off-road Hazards***

The terrain can be present a variety of challenges when you ride off-road. Continually “read” the terrain for unexpected turns, drop-offs, rocks, ruts and other hazards. Always keep your speed low enough to allow time to see and react to hazards.

### ***Ride within Your Limits***

Never ride beyond your personal abilities or faster than conditions warrant. Fatigue and inattention can impair your ability to use good judgment and ride safely.

### ***Don't Drink and Ride.***

Alcohol and riding don't mix. Even one alcoholic drink can reduce your ability to respond to changing conditions, and your reaction time gets worse with every additional drink. Don't drink and ride, and don't let your friends drink and ride either.

### ***Keep your Honda in Safe Condition.***

It's important to keep your motorcycle properly maintained and in safe riding condition. Having a breakdown can be difficult, especially if you are stranded off-road far from your base. Follow the loading guidelines (page 21), and do not modify your motorcycle (page 3) or install accessories that would make your motorcycle unsafe (page 3).

### ***Lithium-Ion (Li-Ion) Battery.***

If you smell an unusual odor coming from the lithium-ion (li-ion) battery, park your motorcycle in a safe place outside and away from flammable objects, then turn the ignition switch to the OFF position. Have your motorcycle inspected by your dealer immediately.