

Tech Tip By

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A little now or alot more later.

Our number one job in our service department is carburetor cleanings and rebuilds. This can cost a customer up to 150.00 per carburetor. This is good for business but can be avoided in so many cases. Why do we do so many? Improper storage of the machine. A small amount of time and money at the time of storage can save you a great deal of money in the long run. If you are parking the machine for more than three weeks, I believe proper storage is necessary. These few easy steps will help you avoid unnecessary repair costs.

Step one: Purchase a quality fuel stabilizer and pour it into your tank adding as much fresh fuel as you can to the tank to avoid moisture and rust from occurring..Start and run the bike long enough for the stabilizer to get into the float bowls of the carbs. Shut the bike down and turn off the petcock if your machine is equipped with one. If you are able to start. accelerate and run the machine once every couple weeks while it is down will help a great deal too.

But that is not always possible. Step two: Purchase a quality battery (smart) charger. This charger stays plugged into your bike via a pigtail plug attached to your battery.This charger will sense the battery losing power and will start charging the battery when and as needed. It will also shut itself off when the battery is fully charged, therefore cycling the battery as if it were being used. Step three:

Make sure the tires are aired up properly as they naturally lose air over the course of time and can cause a flat spot on the tires where it sits. Step four: Lubricate chains and cables with the proper lubricants and check all of your other fluids ie; oil, clutch and brake fluids if applicable.

Top them off if they are low. Step five: Cover the machine with a blanket, bike cover, whatever you have that will cover the bike but not trap in moisture. If the storage is going to be an unknown period of time (many months or years) other necessary procedures will need to be taken. Any quality shop would and should be willing to guide you or help you if you need to store the machine for an undeterminate amount of time. With these few easy and inexpensive steps I hope we see you in our shop happy and excited about spending your money on the cool stuff ie; chrome goodies, new saddlebags, or a nice loud exhaust system, instead of dropping four to six hundred dollars getting your carbs cleaned and battery replaced.

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