

Motorcycle Tech Tip

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Because They Only Have Two

Tire pressure is one of the most overlooked maintenance items that will affect all motorcycles. Incorrect tire pressure will affect handling, which can make the motorcycle unsafe to ride. It can also affect fuel mileage and tire longevity. Owner's Manuals will have correct tire pressure specifications for each application and condition. All specs are recommended for use by the product manufacturer. Check the tire pressure before every ride because tire pressure will fluctuate with the outside temperature. If the pressure is extremely low, this could be an indication of a problem that could cause tire failure and unsafe riding conditions.

Another thing to look at when checking tire pressure is to see if any road debris has been lodged into the tire or has damaged any surface that should be looked at by a qualified technician. Also look at tread depth and verify that tread is above manufacturers recommended depth. A tread depth Indicator is molded into the tire between tread lines, an arrow close to the tread can be found on the side wall of the tire that can be followed across the tread that indicates where the (TDI) can be located.

Also there is a directional arrow on the side wall of the tire indicating direction of rotation, tires should never be mounted in the improper direction or a front or rear tire mounted on a wheel that is not intended for that tires use. Nails are picked up by tires easily, tires should never be plugged. If the tire is a tube type it may be possible to replace only the tube if tire damage is minimal and not going to compromise the integrity of the tire. .Look at your tires often and don't try to stretch just one more mile out of them. Remember they only have two.

Tell'em Kimmy & Kelly sent ya