

TECHICAL TIP:

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Communicate Clearly

It is important to be clear in explaining your problem to the shop when you drop off your bike for repair the same rules apply when bringing your bike in for service. Don't take it for granted that your getting the best fluids and lubricants known to man, that are especially made for your bike. If you use certain type or brand of fluids ask for it, if they don't have it supply it.

If you're not sure what you want. Experiment, read some articles, try some on your own. Don't take my word or the word of another mechanic, see for yourself. Oil is inexpensive compared to an engine or a trans, and one person's opinion may not suit your need. Does he ride what you ride? Does he ride like you ride? At the worst what are you out? ...A couple of bucks for some oil and 20 minutes of your time.

Remember when it comes to your bike, you know. What's right from someone else's bike might not be what you want. That's just one persons opinion and you know everybody's got one. If your bike is under warranty, the factory will pick up the tab but your time waiting for a broken bike is worth plenty too.

Last but not least; good friends mean well, but that friend of yours that is so sure of what the problem with your bike is; when he's done rambling on about how to reinvent the wheel ask him if he knows so much why isn't he working in a motorcycle shop instead of selling shoes or whatever.

Anyway I hope this tech tip will help the next time you're in the shop... Jim, Stateline Choppers

From the Editor: Per Jim, he's been a mechanic for longer than he wishes to recall. That a good thing In my book, because In my opinion with time, comes experience. And we hope to tap into his pool of knowledge and his clinical approach to working on our bikes. Here are some additional thoughts edited from his article in the upcoming January 2009 edition. Enjoy...Jnfr