



PREPARE YOURSELF! MOTORCYCLE GEAR & PRE-RIDE CHECK

GEAR

Helmet

This is the most important piece of riding gear that you can wear. The helmet should have an outer shell that resists penetration and abrasion. The inside shell should have an impact-absorbing liner. The helmet should have a foam and cloth liner to keep you comfortable and a chin strap to secure the helmet on your head. All helmets used for riding must be DOT, Snell, CSA, ANSI or ECE approved.

Goggles, Safety Glasses or a Face Shield

Wind, insects and pebbles become hazards when riding a motorcycle. Shatterproof goggles, glasses or face shields are a requirement for riding safely. Tinted face or eye protection can be used during the day, but clear protection should always be worn at night.

Gloves

Full-fingered, proper fitting gloves will protect your hands from wind, sun and cold weather and help to prevent cuts, bruises and abrasions in the event of a crash.

Jacket and Pants

Wearing a full-length jacket and pants will help to prevent or reduce injury. You should always wear a motorcycle or heavyweight leather or jean jacket when riding. Pants should be heavyweight jeans, motorcycle pants or chaps.

Footwear

Sturdy, over-the-ankle boots provide valuable protection against foot and ankle injuries. Your boots will also act as a protective barrier between you and the exhaust pipe and flying road debris.

PRE-RIDE CHECK

Before riding a motorcycle, it is important to perform a quick safety check to ensure that all parts are in working order. Motorcycles require more frequent safety checks than vehicles.

- Check both tires for cuts, embedded objects and air pressure.
- Check that the chain is lubricated and has proper tension.
- Check the front brake for play and tension, and make sure it stops the front wheel.
- Check the back brake for tension, make sure it can be operated without taking your foot off the foot peg and make sure it stops the back wheel.
- Check the clutch and throttle to make sure they operate smoothly. Make sure the throttle snaps back to the off position when released.
- Check all fluids (gas, oil and brake fluid).
- Check that all lights are working (headlights, taillights and signal lights).
- Check mirrors to be sure they are adjusted properly.
- Check any attached parts, nuts and bolts to make sure they aren't loose.