HONDA

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
1919 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90501-2746
Phone (310) 783-2000

October 28, 2003

PE03-039

Mr. Robert Young
National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration
400 Seventh St., SW
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Recall No. 03V-350

Dear Bob:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation regarding American Honda's refusal to apply the warranty to Honda Goldwings converted to trikes, I am enclosing relevant portions of the Goldwing service manual, warranty booklet, and owner's manual, which I believe set forth American Honda's clear position about the radical alteration of the Goldwing motorcycles, when they are converted to trikes.

If you have any questions or comments about these materials, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

William R. Willen by [illegible] Esq.

William R. Willen
Managiing Counsel
Product Regulatory Office

WRW:rpb

Enclosures

Cc: K. Endicott

A Few Words About Safety

Service Information

The service and repair information contained in this manual is intended for use by qualified, professional technicians. Attempting service or repairs without the proper training, tools, and equipment could cause injury to you or others. It could also damage the vehicle or create an unsafe condition.

This manual describes the proper methods and procedures for performing service, maintenance, and repairs. Some procedures require the use of specially designed tools and dedicated equipment. Any person who intends to use a replacement part, service procedure or a tool that is not recommended by Honda, must determine the risks to their personal safety and the safe operation of the vehicle.

If you need to replace a part, use genuine Honda parts with the correct part number or an equivalent part. We strongly recommend that you do not use replacement parts of inferior quality.

For Your Customer's Safety

Proper service and maintenance are essential to the customer's safety and the reliability of the vehicle. Any error or oversight while servicing a vehicle can result in faulty operation, damage to the vehicle, or injury to others.

For Your Safety

Because this manual is intended for the professional service technician, we do not provide warnings about many basic shop safety practices (e.g., Hot parts – wear gloves). If you have not received shop safety training or do not feel confident about your knowledge of safe servicing practices, we recommended that you do not attempt to perform the procedures described in this manual.

Some of the most important general service safety precautions are given below. However, we cannot warn you of every conceivable hazard that can arise in performing service and repair procedures. Only you can decide whether or not you should perform a given task.

⚠ WARNING

Improper service or repairs can create an unsafe condition that can cause your customer or others to be seriously hurt or killed.

Follow the procedures and precautions in this manual and other service materials carefully.

⚠ WARNING

Failure to properly follow instructions and precautions can cause you to be seriously hurt or killed.

Follow the procedures and precautions in this manual carefully.

Important Safety Precautions

Make sure you have a clear understanding of all basic shop safety practices and that you are wearing appropriate clothing and using safety equipment. When performing any service task, be especially careful of the following:

- Read all of the instructions before you begin, and make sure you have the tools, the replacement or repair parts, and the skills required to perform the tasks safely and completely.
- Protect your eyes by using proper safety glasses, goggles or face shields any time you hammer, drill, grind, pry or work around pressurized air or liquids, and springs or other stored-energy components. If there is any doubt, put on eye protection.
- Use other protective wear when necessary, for example gloves or safety shoes. Handling hot or sharp parts can cause severe burns or cuts. Before you grab something that looks like it can hurt you, stop and put on gloves.
- Protect yourself and others whenever you have the vehicle up in the air. Any time you lift the vehicle, either with a hoist or a jack, make sure that it is always securely supported. Use jack stands.

Make sure the engine is off before you begin any servicing procedures, unless the instruction tells you to do otherwise. This will help eliminate several potential hazards:

- Carbon monoxide poisoning from engine exhaust. Be sure there is adequate ventilation whenever you run the engine.
- Burns from hot parts or coolant. Let the engine and exhaust system cool before working in those areas.
- Injury from moving parts. If the instruction tells you to run the engine, be sure your hands, fingers and clothing are out of the way.

Gasoline vapors and hydrogen gases from batteries are explosive. To reduce the possibility of a fire or explosion, be careful when working around gasoline or batteries.

- Use only a nonflammable solvent, not gasoline, to clean parts.
- Never drain or store gasoline in an open container.
- Keep all cigarettes, sparks and flames away from the battery and all fuel-related parts.

SERVICE RULES

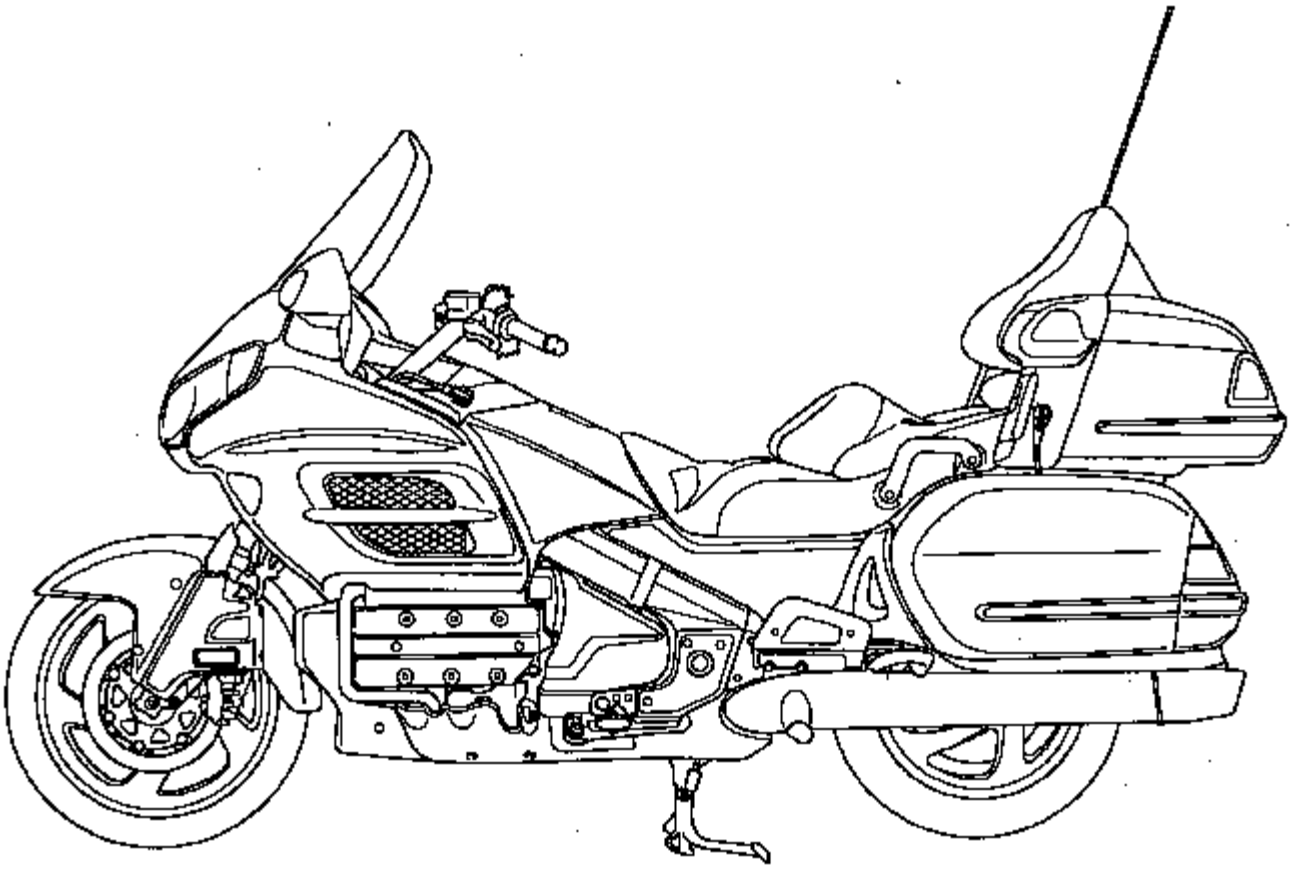
1. Use genuine Honda or Honda-recommended parts and lubricants or their equivalents. Parts that don't meet HONDA's design specifications may cause damage to the motorcycle.
2. Use the special tools designed for this product to avoid damage and incorrect assembly.
3. Use only metric tools when servicing the motorcycle. Metric bolts, nuts, and screws are not interchangeable with English fasteners.
4. Install new gaskets, O-rings, cotter pins, and lock plates when reassembling.
5. When tightening bolts or nuts, begin with the larger diameter or inner bolt first. Then tighten to the specified torque diagonally in incremental steps unless a particular sequence is specified.
6. Clean parts in cleaning solvent upon disassembly. Lubricate any sliding surfaces before reassembly.
7. After reassembly, check all parts for proper installation and operation.
8. Route all electrical wires as shown in the Cable & Harness Routing (page 1-23).

MODEL IDENTIFICATION

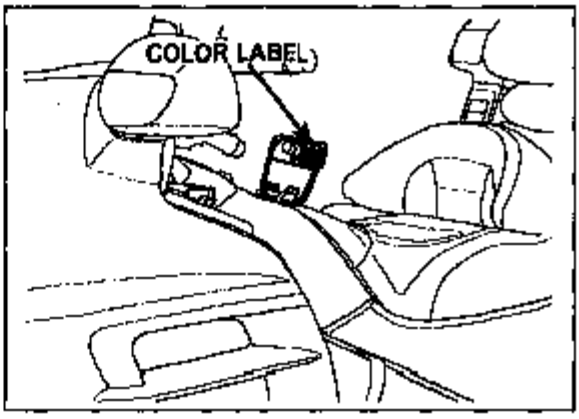
This manual covers 2 types of GL1800 models:

- GL1800 – no ABS
- GL1800A – equipped with ABS

Be sure to refer to the procedure for the appropriate version of the GL1800.



The color label is attached on the back of the fuel fill compartment lid. When ordering color-coded parts, always specify the designated color code.



GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

ITEM		SPECIFICATIONS
DIMENSIONS	Overall length	2,635 mm (103.7 in)
	Overall width	945 mm (37.2 in)
	Overall height	1,455 mm (57.3 in)
	Wheelbase	1,690 mm (66.5 in)
	Seat height	740 mm (29.1 in)
	Footpeg height	251 mm (9.9 in)
	Ground clearance	125 mm (4.9 in)
	Dry weight	No ABS: 359 kg (791 lbs) ABS model: 362 kg (798 lbs)
	Curb weight	No ABS: 399 kg (880 lbs) ABS model: 402 kg (886 lbs)
	Maximum weight capacity	U.S.A type: 189 kg (417 lbs) Canada type: 193 kg (425 lbs)
FRAME	Frame type	Diamond
	Front suspension	Telescopic fork
	Front axle travel	122 mm (4.8 in)
	Rear suspension	Swingarm
	Rear axle travel	105 mm (4.1 in)
	Front tire size	130/70R18M/C 63H
	Rear tire size	180/60R16M/C 74H
	Front tire brand	D250F (Dunlop), G709 RADIAL (Bridgestone)
	Rear tire brand	D250 (Dunlop), G704 RADIAL (Bridgestone)
	Brake system	Linked Brake System (LBS: All models) with Anti-lock Brake System (ABS: GL1800A)
	Front brake	Hydraulic double disc
	Rear brake	Hydraulic single disc
	Caster angle	29° 15′
	Trail length	109 mm (4.3 in)
	Fuel tank capacity	25 liters (6.6 US gal, 5.5 Imp gal)

MOTORCYCLE WARRANTIES

[redacted]

Summary of Coverage

For details, refer to the page listed below.

Motorcycle Limited Warranty ..... page 6

Coverage of defects in material and workmanship for:

GL, NRX, PC or ST Motorcycles ..... 3 years
Other Street Motorcycles ..... 1 year
Off-Road Motorcycles (except CRs and CRF450R)..... 6 months
CR and CRF450R Motorcycles ..... no warranty

Emissions Warranty ..... page 7

Coverage for the components that make up the Emission Control System for:

50 - 169 cc ..... 5 years or 7,456 miles (12,000 kilometers)
170 - 279 cc ..... 5 years or 11,185 miles (18,000 kilometers)
over 279 cc ..... 5 years or 18,641 miles (30,000 kilometers)

Not applicable to Off-Road-Only Motorcycles.

Noise Control Warranty ..... page 13

Coverage for the components that make up the Noise Control System for:

Off-Road-Only Motorcycles ..... 12 months or 1,865 miles
All Other Motorcycles ..... 12 months or 3,730 miles

Replacement Parts Limited Warranty ..... page 15

Coverage for defects in material and workmanship for:

Replacement Batteries purchased from an authorized dealer..... 1 year
Other Honda replacement parts ..... 6 months

Accessories Limited Warranty ..... page 16

Coverage for defects in material and workmanship for bolt-on accessories (other than audio equipment):

Installed on unsold motorcycle ..... Motorcycle's is warranty period
Installed on motorcycle already in service ..... Motorcycle's remaining warranty period — or 3 months from date of installation, whichever is longer.

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TERMS USED IN THIS WARRANTY BOOKLET

The terms listed below have the following meanings in this booklet:

American Honda
American Honda Motor Co., Inc., the distributor of Honda products in the U.S., a California corporation located at 1919 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance, California 90501-2746.

Motorcycle
Any two-wheeled motorcycle (other than a motor scooter) distributed by American Honda's Motorcycle Division.

GL, NRX, PC or ST Motorcycle
Any GL, NRX, PC, or ST model motorcycle distributed by American Honda's Motorcycle Division.

Other Street Motorcycles
With the exception of any GL, NRX, PC, or ST model, any street-legal motorcycle distributed by American Honda's Motorcycle Division

Authorized Honda Dealer
A dealer within the United States, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands authorized to sell Honda motorcycles distributed by American Honda's Motorcycle Division.

First Purchaser
The original buyer of a new Honda motorcycle from an authorized Honda dealer.

Genuine Honda Part or Accessory
A part or accessory distributed by American Honda and sold by an authorized Honda dealer.

Honda Genuine Accessories
The marketing name for accessories distributed by American Honda.

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These Warranties Do Not Cover:

- Failures or required services which are not due to a defect in material or factory workmanship
- Replacement of expendable maintenance items including, but not limited to:
  - spark plugs
  - coolant
  - gaskets
  - belts
  - filters
  - lubricants
  - hoses

  unless they are genuine Honda parts which are defective in material or workmanship
- Parts or accessories affected or damaged by:
  - normal wear
  - improper maintenance
  - vandalism
  - fire
  - neglect
  - misuse
  - abuse
  - theft
  - lack of required maintenance
  - accident and/or collision
  - natural disaster, acts of nature
  - deterioration from the elements
  - the unauthorized alteration of any part
  - the incorporation or use of unsuitable attachments or parts
  - unsuitable use in an application for which the part was not designed
  - improper installation
- Failures caused by or related to any modification not approved by American Honda
- Tires worn beyond the limit indicated by the wear indicator, or tires for off-road-only motorcycles or ATVs
- Use for the following activities; which will VOID these warranties:
  - racing
  - competition
  - rental
- Alteration of the odometer mileage so that the actual mileage cannot be determined; such alteration may VOID some coverage.

Additional Warranty Exclusions For Replacement Parts: Please refer to the "This Warranty Does Not Cover" section (page 15) of this warranty for a listing of additional items and circumstances that are not covered.

HONDA

GOLDWING

GL1500
GL1500A

OWNER'S MANUAL

Accessories & Modifications

Modifying your motorcycle or using non-Honda accessories can make your motorcycle unsafe. Before you consider making any modifications or adding an accessory, be sure to read the following information.

⚠ WARNING

Improper accessories or modifications can cause a crash in which you can be seriously hurt or killed.

Follow all instructions in this owner's manual regarding accessories and modifications.

We strongly recommend that you use only genuine Honda accessories that have been specifically designed and tested for your motorcycle. Because Honda cannot test all other accessories, you must be personally responsible for proper selection, installation, and use of non-Honda accessories.

Check with your Honda dealer for assistance and always follow these guidelines:

- Make sure the accessory does not obscure any lights, reduce ground clearance and lean angle, limit suspension travel or steering travel, alter your riding position, or interfere with operating any controls.
- Do not add any electrical equipment that will exceed the motorcycle's electrical system capacity (page 201). A blown fuse can cause a loss of lights or engine power (page 189).
- Do not pull a trailer or sidecar with your motorcycle. This motorcycle was not designed for these attachments, and their use can seriously impair your motorcycle's handling.
- Carefully consider the weight of any accessories and any cargo stored in those accessories to avoid exceeding the maximum weight limits. For more information, see *Load Limits*, page 42.

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Accessories & Modifications

We strongly advise you not to remove any original equipment or modify your motorcycle in any way that would change its design or operation. Such changes could seriously impair your motorcycle's handling, stability, and braking, making it unsafe to ride.

Removing or modifying your lights, exhaust system, emission control system, or other equipment can also make your motorcycle illegal.

Safety Labels

<For USA>

TIRE INFORMATION

COLD TIRE PRESSURES :
[UP TO MAXIMUM WEIGHT CAPACITY] FRONT [illegible]kPa [illegible]kgf/cm² [illegible]psi. REAR [illegible]kPa [illegible]kgf/cm² [illegible]psi.
[UP TO [illegible]kg([illegible]lbs.) LOAD] FRONT [illegible]kPa [illegible]kgf/cm² [illegible]psi. REAR [illegible]kPa [illegible]kgf/cm² [illegible]psi.
MAXIMUM WEIGHT CAPACITY : [illegible] kg ([illegible] lbs.)
TIRE SIZE : FRONT [illegible] REAR [illegible]

TIRE BRAND FRONT REAR
DUNLOP [illegible] [illegible]
BRIDGESTONE [illegible] RADIAL [illegible] RADIAL

MIN.RECOMMEND TIRE CENTER TREAD DEPTH
FRONT [illegible] REAR [illegible]

Read Owner's Manual

THIS MOTORCYCLE IS EQUIPPED WITH TUBELESS TIRES.

<For Canada>

TIRE INFORMATION

COLD TIRE PRESSURES :
[UP TO MAXIMUM WEIGHT CAPACITY] FRONT [illegible]kPa [illegible]kgf/cm² [illegible]psi. REAR [illegible]kPa [illegible]kgf/cm² [illegible]psi.
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MAXIMUM WEIGHT CAPACITY : [illegible] kg ([illegible] lbs.)
TIRE SIZE : FRONT [illegible] REAR [illegible]

TIRE BRAND FRONT REAR
DUNLOP [illegible] [illegible]
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MIN.RECOMMEND TIRE CENTER TREAD DEPTH
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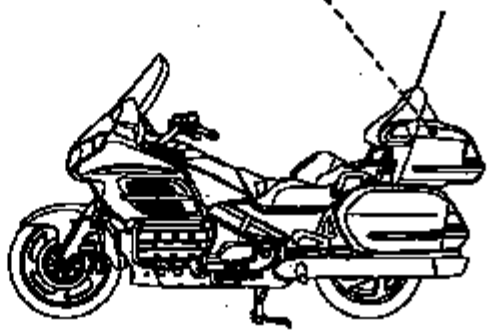
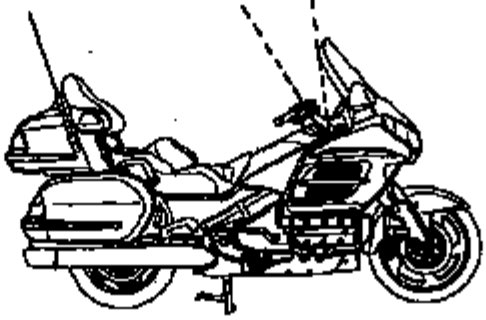
Read Owner's Manual

THIS MOTORCYCLE IS EQUIPPED WITH TUBELESS TIRES.



⚠ WARNING

Improper loading can cause a crash and you may be seriously hurt or killed.
See "Load Limits and Guidelines" in your Owner's Manual for complete instructions.



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Load Limits & Guidelines

Your motorcycle has been designed to carry you and one passenger. When you carry a passenger, you may feel some difference during acceleration and braking. But so long as you keep your motorcycle well-maintained, with good tires and brakes, you can safely carry loads within the given limits and guidelines.

However, exceeding the weight limit or carrying an unbalanced load can seriously impair your motorcycle's handling, braking, and stability. Non-Honda accessories, improper modifications, and poor maintenance also reduce your safety margin.

How much weight you put on your motorcycle, and how you load it, are important to your safety. Anytime you ride with a passenger or cargo, you should be aware of the following information.

⚠ WARNING

Overloading or improper loading can cause a crash and you can be seriously hurt or killed.

Follow all load limits and other loading guidelines in this manual.

Tires

A permanent repair, such as an internal plug patch, can be made if a tire has only a small puncture in a tread area. With such a repair, you should not exceed 50 mph (80 km/h) for the first 24 hours, or 80 mph (130 km/h) at any time thereafter. In addition, you may not be able to safely carry as much weight. If you choose to have a tire repaired, be sure the repair work is performed by a professional and that the wheel is balanced before you ride.

If you have a tire professionally repaired at a non-Honda facility, we recommended that you have the work checked by your Honda dealer.

Refer to *Safety Precautions* on page 104.

The tires that came on your motorcycle were designed to match the performance capacities of your motorcycle and provide the best combination of handling, braking, durability, and comfort.

You should replace the tires with tires of the same size, load range, and speed rating as the originals.

⚠ WARNING

Installing improper tires on your motorcycle can affect handling and stability. This can cause a crash in which you can be seriously hurt or killed.

Always use the size and type of tires recommended in this owner's manual.

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Tires

The recommended tires for your motorcycle are:

Front	DUNLOP	D250F	130/70 R 18 63H
	BRIDGESTONE	G707 RADIAL	130/70 R 18 63H
Rear	DUNLOP	D250	180/60 R 16 74H
	BRIDGESTONE	G704 RADIAL	180/60 R 16 74H

Whenever you replace a tire, remember:
- Have the wheel balanced after the tire is installed.
- Have the tire replaced by your Honda dealer if possible.

If you have a tire professionally replaced at a non-Honda facility, we recommended that you have the work checked by your Honda dealer.

Important Safety Reminders
- Do not install a tube inside a tubeless tire on this motorcycle. Excessive heat build-up can cause the tube to burst.
- Use only tubeless tires on this motorcycle. The rims are designed for tubeless tires, and during hard acceleration or braking, a tube-type tire could slip on the rim and cause the tire to rapidly deflate.
- Do not install a bias-ply tire on this motorcycle. Mixing bias-ply and radial tires can adversely affect handling and stability.
- Do not install car tires on this motorcycle. During installation the tire may separate from the rim with enough force to cause serious injury or death.
- When replacing tires, use only the recommended tires as shown above and on the tire information label. Use of other tires on the model equipped with ABS may impair proper ABS function. The ABS computer works by comparing wheel speed. Non-recommended tires can affect wheel speed and may confuse the ABS computer.

Specifications

Dimensions	
overall length	103.7 in (2635 mm)
overall width	37.2 in (945 mm)
overall height	57.3 in (1455 mm)
wheelbase	68.5 in (1690 mm)
ground clearance	4.9 in (125 mm)

Weight	
dry weight	792 lbs (359 kg)
dry weight (model equipped with ABS)	799 lbs (362 kg)

Fuel & Lubrications	
fuel recommendation	unleaded gasoline, pump octane number of 86 or higher
fuel tank capacity	6.7 US gal (25.5 ℓ, 5.6 Imp gal)
engine oil capacity	after disassembly: 4.9 US qt (4.6 ℓ, 4.0 Imp qt) after draining: 3.8 US qt (3.6 ℓ, 3.2 Imp qt) after draining & oil filter change: 3.9 US qt (3.7 ℓ, 3.3 Imp qt)
engine oil recommendation	API Service Classification SF or SG, SAE 10W-40, Pro Honda GN4 or HP4 4-stroke oil (USA & Canada) or Honda 4-stroke oil (Canada only), or an equivalent motorcycle oil

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or HP4 4-stroke oil (USA &
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Specifications

Fuel & Lubrications (cont'd)	
final drive oil capacity	after draining: 4.1 US oz (120 cm³, 4.2 Imp oz)
cooling system, recommendation	Pro Honda HP Coolant or an equivalent high quality ethylene glycol antifreeze containing corrosion protection inhibitors specifically recommended for use in aluminum engines
cooling system, capacity	3.73 US qt (3.53 ℓ, 3.11 Imp qt)

Capacities	
passenger capacity	operator and one passenger
maximum weight capacity	417 lbs (189 kg) 425 lbs (193 kg) Canada type rider, passenger, all cargo and accessories
cargo capacity	travel trunk: 20 lbs (9 kg) each saddlebag: 20 lbs (9 kg) each fairing pocket: 4.5 lbs (2 kg) each trunk side pocket: 1 lbs (0.5 kg) total of all cargo: 71 lbs (32 kg)

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Specifications

Chassis & Suspension	
caster	29°15'
trail	4.3 in (109 mm)
tire size, front	130/70 R18 63H
tire size, rear	180/60 R18 74H
tire pressure, front (cold)	36 psi (250 kPa, 2.50 kgf/cm²)
tire pressure, rear (cold)	41 psi (280 kPa, 2.80 kgf/cm²)

Electrical	
battery	12 V—18 AH
generator	0.959 kW/5,000 rpm