

# Is Your Motorcycle Ready to Ride?

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If you are carrying a passenger or cargo, also check the following:

*Load Limits*    Make sure you do not exceed the load limits ([page 42](#)).

*Cargo*            Check that all cargo is secure.

*Adjustments*    Adjust the rear suspension ([page 156](#)) according to your load.

Check these items after you get on the motorcycle:

*Throttle*        Rotate the throttle to check it moves smoothly without binding.

*Brakes*         Pull the brake lever and press on the brake pedal to check that they operate normally.

*Indicators*     Turn the ignition on and check for normal operation of the indicators ([page 15](#)).

*Gauges*         Check the fuel level and other gauges ([page 15](#)).

If you haven't ridden the motorcycle in over a week, you should also check other items, such as the oil level and other fluids. See *Periodic Maintenance* ([page 119](#)). Periodic maintenance should also be done at least once a month, no matter how often you ride.

Remember, be sure to take care of any problem you find, or have your dealer correct it before you ride.