

## **Daily inspection of your rental bike**

To insure that your bike is in good condition, there are a few small items that should be checked on a daily basis.

1. Inspect the front and rear tire for any damage and air pressure.
2. Look at the brake pads and make a mental note each day of the size of them. If they are too thin, they will grind on the metal wheel and destroy it.
3. Check your headlamp, low and high beam.
4. Check your horn, indicator lights and brake lamp.
5. Insure that your fuel valve is in the ON position; this means turning it counter-clockwise until it will turn no more.
6. Look at the air filter on the left side of the bike. It is covered by a plastic door with quick release bolts. If you have been riding on very dusty roads, it is good to check that it is in the correct place inside the air filter compartment and not full of dirt. (See cleaning an air filter for more information)
7. Look at the visible ends of the throttle cable on the right side of the bike, to the side of the carburetor. Inspect for frayed ends.
8. Inspect from the sight glass the level of brake fluid in the front caliper reservoir. The rear fluid container is marked and is on the right side, below and behind where you normally sit.
9. Using only your hand, check the main axle bolts on the wheels for tightness.
10. Clean your helmet visor or goggle lenses as well as the rear view mirrors.
11. After the bike has run for some time, most likely on your first stop of the day, check the oil level on the dip stick. The dip stick is located in front of the fuel tank and below the handlebars. It is mounted into the frame of the bike. Be careful when opening and closing as it is somewhat fragile and the risk of getting dirt or other debris inside the engine is high as you have an opening to the bike engine.
12. Check yourself! Are you tired or sore? Did you have too much to drink last night and your riding will be impaired? Be Fit and Alert!

Another version of this is from the Motorcycle Safety Foundation.

## **THE T-CLOCK INSPECTION**

The [Motorcycle Safety Foundation](#) created the T-CLOCK mnemonic as a memory and organization aid for a pre-ride safety check of a typical motorcycle. Each letter represents a particular inspection category, as follows:

- T - Tires & Wheels
- C - Controls
- L - Lights & Electrics
- O - Oil
- C - Chassis
- K - Kickstand

### **TIRES AND WHEELS**

**Tires:** Pressure correct (cold), tread condition. No cuts, bulges, punctures of foreign objects.

**Wheels:** Spokes tight and intact; rims true; no free play when flexed

**Brakes:** Firm feel; sufficient pad depth, no leaks or links in hoses or cables.

### **CONTROLS**

**Cables:** Ends and shafts lubed; no fraying or kinks; no binding when handlebar turned; proper adjustment.

**Hoses:** Check for damage or leaks, proper routing.

**Throttle:** Snaps closed freely when released; no excess play.

### **LIGHTS**

**Brake and Taillight(s):** All filaments work; both levers actuate brake light.

**Headlight:** All filaments work; properly aimed; no damage.

**Lenses:** Clean; no condensation; tight.

**Reflectors:** Clean; intact.

### **OIL AND FLUIDS**

**Levels:** Brake fluid, oil, fuel.

**Leaks:** Check all systems for leaks.

### **CHASSIS**

**Suspension:** Smooth movement; proper adjustment; no leaks.

**Chain or belt:** Tension; lube, look for wear.

### **KICKSTAND**

**Sidestand:** Retracts firmly; no bending or damage; cut-out switch operates; spring intact.