

# Braking

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To slow or stop, apply the front brake and rear brake pedal smoothly, while downshifting to match your speed. Gradually increase braking as you feel the brakes slowing your speed. For support, put your left foot down first, then your right foot when you have finished using the rear brake.

For maximum braking, close the throttle and firmly apply the brake lever and pedal controls.

Applying the brakes too hard may cause the wheels to lock and slide, reducing control of your motorcycle. If this happens, release the brake controls, steer straight ahead until you regain control, then reapply the brakes more gently.

Generally, reduce your speed or complete braking before beginning a turn. Avoid braking or closing the throttle quickly while turning. Either action may cause one or both wheels to slip. Any wheel slip will reduce your control of your motorcycle.

When riding in wet or rainy conditions, or on loose surfaces, the ability to maneuver and stop will be reduced. All of your actions should be smooth under these conditions. Rapid acceleration, braking or turning may cause loss of control. For your safety, exercise extreme caution when braking, accelerating, or turning.

When descending a long, steep grade, use engine compression braking by downshifting, with intermittent use of both brakes.