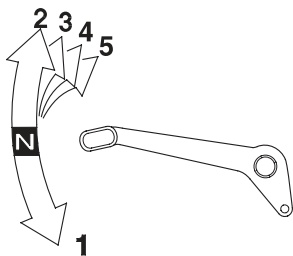


# Shifting Gears



shifting pattern

Your motorcycle has five forward gears in a one-down, four-up shift pattern which is coordinated with a cable-operated clutch system.

Learning when to shift gears comes with experience. Keep the following tips in mind:

- As a general rule, shift while moving in a straight line.
- Close the throttle and pull the clutch lever in completely before shifting. Improper shifting may damage the engine, transmission, and drive train.
- Learn to recognize the engagement point as you release the clutch lever. It is at this point the transmission of power to the rear wheel resumes.
- Upshift to a higher gear or reduce throttle before engine rpm (speed) gets too high. Learn the relationship between engine sound and the normal shifting points.
- Downshift to a lower gear before you feel the engine laboring (lugging) at low rpm.

(cont'd)