

14. Brakes

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Service Information

▲ WARNING

- A contaminated brake disc or pad reduces stopping power. Discard contaminated pads and clean a contaminated disc with a high quality brake degreasing agent.
- Inhaled asbestos fibers have been found to cause respiratory disease and cancer. Never use an air hose or dry brush to clean brake assemblies. Use an OSHA-approved vacuum cleaner or alternate method approved by OSHA designed to minimize the hazard caused by airborne asbestos fibers.

- Spilled brake fluid will severely damage instrument lenses and painted surfaces. It is also harmful to some rubber parts. Be very careful whenever you remove the reservoir cap: make sure the front reservoir is horizontal first.
- Never allow contaminants (dirt, water, etc.) to get into an open reservoir.
- Once the hydraulic system has been opened, or if the brakes feel spongy, the system must be bled.
- Always use fresh DOT 4 brake fluid from a sealed container when servicing the system. Do not mix different types of fluid as they may not be compatible.
- Always check brake operation before riding the motorcycle.

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Troubleshooting

Brake lever/pedal soft or spongy

- Air bubbles in the hydraulic system
- Leaking hydraulic system
- Contaminated brake pad/disc
- Worn caliper piston seal
- Worn master cylinder piston cups
- Worn brake pad
- Contaminated caliper
- Caliper not sliding properly
- Worn brake pad/disc
- Low fluid level
- Clogged fluid passage
- Warped/deformed brake disc
- Sticking/worn caliper piston
- Sticking/worn master cylinder piston
- Worn brake disc
- Contaminated master cylinder
- Bent brake lever/pedal

Brake lever/pedal hard

- Clogged/restricted brake system
- Sticking/worn caliper piston
- Caliper not sliding properly
- Clogged/restricted fluid passage
- Worn caliper piston seal
- Sticking/worn master cylinder piston
- Bent brake lever/pedal

Brakes drag

- Contaminated brake pad/disc
- Misaligned wheel
- Worn brake pad/disc
- Warped/deformed brake disc
- Caliper not sliding properly
- Caliper pivot collar not lubricated properly