

Motorcycle Inspection Checklist

Before the Inspection (over phone/email/internet)

Item	What to check	Check
Title	Clean title (get PPSR/title check), no crash/money owing/salvage	
VIN matches	VIN on chassis matches paperwork (get photo of VIN)	
Roadworthy	Ensure roadworthy/safety certificate available (where required)	
Make/model	Ensure model claimed was available that year, options match	
Last maintenance	See paperwork for last maintenance, check maintenance schedule	

Inspection/Pre-ride checks (in person)

Item	What to check	Check
No crash damage	No fairing rash, no marks on controls, forks, footpegs, engine casing	
Rust	No rust anywhere – check chassis, wheels, brakes, and inside tank	
Engine	No drips/leaks, starts cleanly from cold, doesn't blow smoke on start	
Engine oil	Oil is clear (check inside oil cap used for refilling)	
Chain/Belt	Clean, no rust, easy movement, appropriate tension, aligned	
Sprockets	Clean, teeth not rounded, no shark-toothing	
Front tyre	Enough tread, not too old, not unevenly worn, no plugs	
Rear tyre	Enough tread, not too old, not unevenly worn, no plugs	
Front brake	Enough pad (at least 2mm), no corrosion, brake lines healthy	
Rear brake	Enough pad (at least 2mm), no corrosion, brake lines healthy	
Buttons	All buttons/switches work	
Controls	Lever not bent, lever action is smooth, throttle goes back smoothly	
Lights	Lights all work – signals/indicators, brake lights, headlights	
Dash	All lights on display work, including shift light	
Display	Tacho and speedo work	
Steering	Steering head bearings not notchy	
Alignment	Front wheel aligned with rear (use string to check alignment)	
Forks	No leaks/pitting, no pitting, no rust; doesn't bottom out easily	
Rear shock(s)	No leaks/weeping, no pitting	
Stuff it comes with	Comes with promised "stuff" – spare key, manual, tools, original parts	
Charging system	Voltage is >12.5V when off, <14V when revving (use multimeter)	

Test ride checks

Item	What to check	Check
Front brake	No noise, no warp (shuddering), lever doesn't bottom out	
Rear brake	No noise, no warp (shuddering), doesn't bottom out	
Clutch	Doesn't slip (accelerate in high gear)	
Gears	Engage cleanly, don't disengage (accel hard in 2nd/3rd), can find neutral	
Engine power	No flat spots or hesitation with moderate throttle at various revs	
Chassis	Tracks true, doesn't go left/right when pointing ahead "straight"	