156 MAINTENANCE

Drive Chain



Measure this length

NOTE: The drive system was designed for use with the standard chain. For maximum strength and safety, the standard chain must be used for replacement.



Table 91 Drive Chain Length

	Standard	Service Limit
20-link length	317.5mm	323 mm

Lubrication

In order for the chain to function safely and wear slowly, it should be properly lubricated in accordance with the Periodic Maintenance Chart (Pg. 195). Lubrication is also necessary after riding through rain or on wet roads, or any time that the chain appears dry. Anytime that the motorcycle has been washed, the chain should be adequately lubricated on the spot in order to avoid rust. The chain should be lubricated with a lubricant which will both prevent the exterior from rusting and also absorb shock and reduce friction in the interior of the chain. An effective, good quality lubricant specially formulated for chains is best for regular chain lubrication. If a special lubricant is not available, a heavy oil such as SAE 90 is preferred to a lighter oil because it will stay on the chain longer and provide better lubrication. Apply the oil to the sides of the rollers and between the side plates of the links so that oil will penetrate to the pins and bushings where most wear takes place. Wipe off any excess oil.

Dirt will cling to the oil and act as an abrasive, accelerating chain wear. Whenever the chain becomes particularly dirty, it must be cleaned in kerosene and then soaked in a heavy oil. Shake the chain while it is in the oil so that oil will penetrate to the inside of the rollers.



SPROCKETS

There are two sprockets for the drive chain. A forward sprocket, or engine sprocket, is mounted on the end of the output shaft and is used to drive the chain. A rear sprocket is connected to the rear wheel hub through the rear wheel coupling and is driven by the chain to turn the rear wheel.

Sprockets that have become excessively worn cause chain noise and greatly accelerate chain and sprocket wear. The sprockets should be checked for wear any time that the chain is replaced. A warped rear sprocket destroys chain alignment such that the chain may break or jump from the sprockets when traveling at high speed. The sprockets should be checked for wear and the rear sprocket for warp any time the chain is replaced.

Sprocket wear

Visually inspect the sprocket teeth. If they are worn as illustrated, replace the sprocket.

Measure the diameter of the sprocket at the base of the teeth. If the sprocket is worn down to less than the service limit, replace the sprocket.

NOTE: If a sprocket requires replacement, the chain is probably worn also. Upon replacing a sprocket, inspect the chain.