

 **HONDA**

**OWNER'S MANUAL**



**05**

**CRF50F**

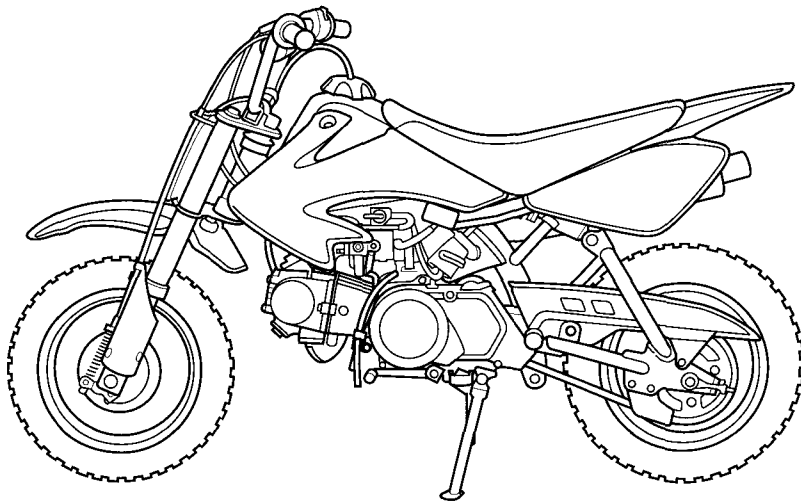
This manual should be considered a permanent part of the motorcycle and should remain with the motorcycle when it is resold.

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**2005  
Honda CRF50F  
OWNER'S MANUAL**



# A Few Words About Safety


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Your safety, and the safety of others, is very important. And operating this motorcycle safely is an important responsibility.

To help you make informed decisions about safety, we have provided operating procedures and other information on labels and in this manual. This information alerts you to potential hazards that could hurt you or others.

Of course, it is not practical or possible to warn you about all hazards associated with operating or maintaining a motorcycle. You must use your own good judgment.

You will find important safety information in a variety of forms, including:

- **Safety Labels** — on the motorcycle.
- **Safety Messages** — preceded by a safety alert symbol  and one of three signal words: **DANGER, WARNING, or CAUTION.**

These signal words mean:

## Safety Messages

## A Few Words About Safety

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### **▲ DANGER**

You **WILL** be **KILLED** or **SERIOUSLY HURT** if you don't follow instructions.

### **▲ WARNING**

You **CAN** be **KILLED** or **SERIOUSLY HURT** if you don't follow instructions.

### **▲ CAUTION**

You **CAN** be **HURT** if you don't follow instructions.

- **Safety Headings** — such as Important Safety Reminders or Important Safety Precautions.
- **Safety Section** — such as Motorcycle Safety.
- **Instructions** — how to use this motorcycle correctly and safely.

This entire book is filled with important safety information — please read it carefully.

# Contents

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These pages give an overview of the contents of your owner's manual. The first page of each section lists the topics covered in that section.

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Important safety information, a special message for parents, precautions about loading, accessories, and modifications, and the location of safety labels.

### **Operating Controls ..... 13**

The location, function, and operation of the throttle, brakes, and other basic controls.

### **Before Riding ..... 23**

The importance of wearing a helmet and other protective gear, plus how to make sure you and your motorcycle are ready to ride.

### **Basic Operation & Riding ..... 29**

How to start and stop the engine, shift gears, and brake. Also, riding precautions.

### **Servicing Your Honda ..... 41**

Why your motorcycle needs regular maintenance, what you need to know before servicing your Honda, a maintenance schedule, and instructions for specific maintenance items.

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# Introduction

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Congratulations on choosing your Honda off-road motorcycle.

When you own a Honda, you're part of a worldwide family of satisfied customers—people who appreciate Honda's reputation for building quality into every product.

Your Honda was designed as a recreational motorcycle for off-road use by one rider only. It's an ideal bike for younger, beginning riders.

Before riding, take time to get acquainted with your motorcycle and how it works. To protect your investment, we urge you to take responsibility for keeping your motorcycle well maintained. Scheduled service is a must, of course. But it's just as important to observe the break-in guidelines, and perform all the pre-ride and other periodic checks detailed in this manual.

We also recommend that you read the owner's manual before you ride. It's full of facts, instructions, safety information, and helpful tips. To make it easy to use, the manual contains a table of contents, a detailed list of topics at the beginning of each section, and an index at the back of the book.

As you read this manual, you will find information that is preceded by a **NOTICE** symbol. This information is intended to help you avoid damage to your Honda, other property, or the environment.

Read the Warranties Booklet (page 149 ) thoroughly so you understand the coverages that protect your new Honda and are aware of your rights and responsibilities.

# Introduction

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Whenever you ride, tread lightly. By staying on established trails and riding only in approved areas, you help protect the environment and keep off-road riding areas open for the future.

If you have any questions, or if you ever need a special service or repairs, remember that your Honda dealer knows your motorcycle best and is dedicated to your complete satisfaction.

Please report any change of address or ownership to your Honda dealer so we will be able to contact you concerning important production information.

You may also want to visit our website at [www.honda.com](http://www.honda.com).

Happy riding!



# Motorcycle Safety

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This section presents some of the most important information and recommendations to help you ride your motorcycle safely. Please take a few moments to read these pages. This section also includes a special message for parents and location information for the safety labels on your motorcycle.

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# Important Safety Information

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Your motorcycle can provide many years of service and pleasure — if you take responsibility for your own safety and understand the challenges you can meet while riding.

This motorcycle has been designed for younger riders. However, not all youngsters are physically or emotionally ready to ride. Therefore, before parents allow any youngster to ride this motorcycle, we urge them to carefully read the *Important Message to Parents* beginning on page 5 and the *Parents, Youngsters and Off-Highway Motorcycles* booklet that came with the motorcycle (USA only).

There is much that you can do to protect yourself when you ride. You'll find many helpful recommendations throughout this manual. The following are a few that we consider most important.

## **Always Wear a Helmet**

It's a proven fact: helmets significantly reduce the number and severity of head injuries. So always wear an approved motorcycle helmet. We also recommend that you wear eye protection, sturdy boots, gloves, and other protective gear (page 24 ).

## **Never Carry a Passenger**

Your motorcycle is designed for one person only. There are no handholds, footrests, or seat for a second person — so never carry a passenger. A passenger could interfere with your ability to move around to maintain your balance and control of the motorcycle.

# Important Safety Information

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## **Ride Off-Road Only**

Your motorcycle is designed and manufactured for off-road use only. The tires are not made for pavement, and the motorcycle does not have turn signals and other features required for use on public roads. If you need to cross a paved or public road, get off and walk your motorcycle across.

## **Take Time to Learn and Practice**

Developing off-road riding skills is a gradual, step-by-step process. Start by practicing at low speeds in a safe area and slowly build your skills. Personal instruction from an experienced rider can also be valuable.

If you need assistance, ask your dealer about riding groups in your area.

Also be sure to read the *Tips & Practice Guide for the Off-Highway Motorcyclist* booklet that came with your motorcycle (USA only).

## **Be Alert for Off-Road Hazards**

The terrain can present a variety of challenges when you ride off-road. Continually “read” the terrain for unexpected turns, drop-offs, rocks, ruts, and other hazards. Always keep your speed low enough to allow time to see and react to hazards.

## **Ride within Your Limits**

Pushing limits is another major cause of motorcycle accidents. Never ride beyond your personal abilities or faster than conditions warrant. Remember that alcohol, drugs, fatigue, and inattention can significantly reduce your ability to make good judgments and ride safely.

# Important Safety Information

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## **Don't Drink and Ride**

Alcohol and riding don't mix. Even one drink can reduce your ability to respond to changing conditions, and your reaction time gets worse with every additional drink. So don't drink and ride, and don't let your friends drink and ride either.

## **Keep Your Honda in Safe Condition**

It's important to keep your motorcycle properly maintained and in safe riding condition. Having a breakdown can be difficult, especially if you are stranded off-road far from your base. To help avoid problems, inspect your motorcycle before every ride and perform all recommended maintenance.

# Important Message to Parents

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Your child's safety is very important to Honda. That's why we urge you to read this message before you let any young person ride this motorcycle. Off-road riding can be fun. But, as with riding a bicycle, bad judgment can result in injury, and we don't want that to happen! As a parent, you can help prevent accidents by making good decisions about if, when, and how your youngster rides this motorcycle.

## Riding Readiness

The first decision you'll need to make is whether your youngster is ready to ride. Riding readiness varies widely from one person to another, and age and size are not the only factors.

**PHYSICAL ABILITY** is an important consideration. For example, riders must be big enough to hold the motorcycle up, get on, and comfortably sit on the seat with both feet touching the ground. They should also be able to easily reach and work the brakes, throttle, and all other controls.

**ATHLETIC ABILITY** is necessary for riding a motorcycle. Generally speaking, your youngster should be good at riding a bicycle before getting on a motorcycle. Can your youngster judge speeds and distances while riding a bicycle and react with proper hand and foot actions? Anyone who does not have good coordination, balance, and agility is not ready to ride this motorcycle.

# Important Message to Parents

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MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL MATURITY are requirements for safe riding. Does your youngster think through problems and come to logical solutions? On a bicycle, does your youngster obey safe riding rules? Be honest! Young people who take unnecessary risks, make bad judgments, and don't obey rules are not ready to ride this motorcycle.

## Instruction and Supervision

If you decide that your youngster is ready to safely operate this motorcycle, make sure both of you carefully read and understand the owner's manual before riding. Also be sure that your youngster has a helmet and other appropriate riding equipment and always wears it when operating the vehicle or sitting on it.

GOOD INSTRUCTION is an important part of hands-on training. The teacher can either be you or another responsible adult who has experience with off-road motorcycle riding. (For help in finding a qualified instructor, talk with your Honda dealer.) Even if you're not the main teacher, it's up to you to ensure your youngster's safety. Remember, learning to ride a motorcycle is a gradual, step-by-step process. It takes time, patience, and practice — many hours over a period of weeks or months.

To help your youngster build confidence as they're learning to ride, this Honda was delivered with a speed restrictor that limits top speed. We recommend that all beginning riders start off with the speed restrictor may be adjusted to gradually increase maximum speed as the beginner becomes more familiar with riding their Honda motorcycle. For adjustment and removal instructions, see page 71 .

## Important Message to Parents

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**SUPERVISION** is another important obligation of parents. Even after youngsters have become skilled off-road riders, they should always ride with adult supervision. It helps to regularly remind young riders of basic safety rules and precautions. And remember, it's your responsibility to see that the motorcycle is properly maintained and kept in safe operating condition.

**SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE RIDING** must be an on-going commitment — by you and your youngster. When you both put safety first, you can enjoy more peace of mind, and your youngster can enjoy more hours of safe off-road riding.

For your convenience, this CRF50F comes with an ignition switch and key. Remove the key when the motorcycle is parked to help prevent unauthorized use.

# Loading, Accessories & Modifications

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Your Honda was designed as a rider-only motorcycle. It was not designed to carry a passenger or cargo. A passenger or cargo could interfere with your ability to move around to maintain your balance and control of the motorcycle.

In addition, exceeding the weight limits or carrying an unbalanced load can seriously affect your motorcycle's handling, braking, and stability. Adding accessories or making modifications that change this motorcycle's design and performance can also make it unsafe. Also, the weight of any accessories will reduce the maximum load the motorcycle can carry.

More specific information on load limits, accessories, and modifications follows.

## Loading

How much weight you put on your motorcycle, and how you load it, are important to your safety. If you decide to carry cargo, you should be aware of the following information.

### **WARNING**

Overloading or carrying a passenger can cause a crash and you can be seriously hurt or killed.

Follow all load limits and other loading guidelines in this manual.

# Loading, Accessories & Modifications

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## Load Limits

Following are the load limits for your motorcycle:

### **Maximum weight capacity**

= 88 lbs (40 kg)

Includes the weight of the rider and any accessories.

## Loading Guidelines

As discussed on page 8, we recommend that you do not carry any cargo on this motorcycle. However, if you decide to carry cargo, ride at reduced speeds and follow these common-sense guidelines:

- Keep cargo small and light. Make sure it cannot easily be caught on brush or other objects, and that it does not interfere with your ability to shift position to maintain balance and stability.

- Place weight as close to the center of the motorcycle as possible.
- Do not attach large or heavy items (such as a sleeping bag or tent) to the handlebar, fork, or front fender.
- Make sure that all cargo is tied down securely.
- Never exceed the maximum weight limit.
- Check that both tires are inflated properly.