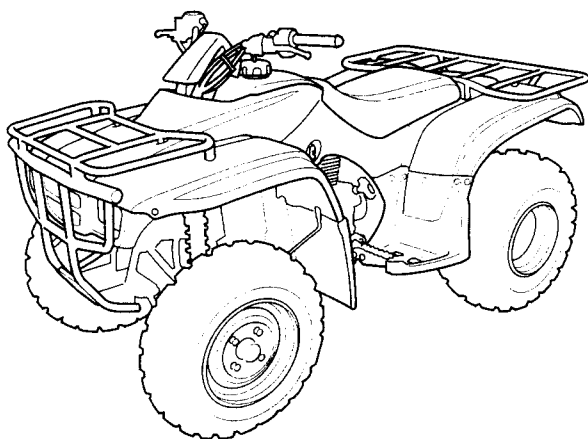


TRX 250TM

**Honda FOURTRAX 250TM
OWNER'S MANUAL**



PREFACE

Thank you for buying a Honda FOURTRAX. Honda takes pride in a worldwide reputation for quality—in research, design, production and service. Quality is the hallmark of all Honda products and one reason why Honda is the leading manufacturer of ATVs.

Help assure your FOURTRAX's future reliability and performance by paying extra attention to how you ride during the first operating day or 25 km (15 miles). During this period, avoid full-throttle starts and rapid acceleration.

For replacement parts and accessories, we recommend genuine Honda products. They've been specially designed for your vehicle and manufactured to meet Honda's demanding standards.

This manual contains a Maintenance Schedule and information on basic maintenance procedures. If you have the required skills and tools, your Honda dealer can supply you with an Official Honda Service Manual to help you perform more advanced maintenance and repairs. When you need service, remember that your Honda dealer knows your vehicle best and is interested in your complete satisfaction.

We wish you many years of safe and enjoyable riding.

While reading this manual, remember:

▲WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

All information in this publication is based on the latest product information available at the time of approval for printing. Honda Motor Co., Ltd. reserves the right to make changes at any time without notice and without incurring any obligation.

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FOURTRAX SAFETY

SPECIAL SAFETY MESSAGES

AN ATV IS NOT A TOY AND CAN BE HAZARDOUS TO OPERATE.

An ATV handles differently from other vehicles including motorcycles and cars. A collision or rollover can occur quickly, even during routine maneuvers such as turning and driving on hills or over obstacles, if you fail to take proper precautions.

SEVERE INJURY OR DEATH can result if you do not follow these instructions:

- * Read this manual and all labels carefully and follow the operating procedures described.
- * Always follow this age recommendation: A child under 16 years old should never operate an ATV with engine size greater than 90 cc.
- * Never allow a child under age 16 to operate an ATV without adult supervision, and never allow continued use of an ATV by a child if he or she does not have the abilities to operate it safely.

- * Never carry a passenger on an ATV.
- * Never operate an ATV on any paved surfaces, including sidewalks, driveways, parking lots and streets.
- * Never operate an ATV on any public street, road or highway, even a dirt or gravel one.
- * Never operate an ATV without wearing an approved motorcycle helmet that fits properly. You should also wear eye protection (goggles or face shield), gloves, boots, long-sleeved shirt or jacket, and long pants.
- * Never consume alcohol or drugs before or while operating this ATV.
- * Never operate at excessive speeds. Always go at a speed that is proper for the terrain, visibility, operating conditions, and your experience.
- * Never attempt wheelies, jumps, or other stunts.
- * Always inspect your ATV each time you use it to make sure it is in safe operating condition. Always follow the inspection and maintenance procedures and schedules described in this manual.
- * Always keep both hands on the handlebars and both feet on the footpegs of the ATV during operation.

- * Always go slowly and be extra careful when operating on unfamiliar terrain. Always be alert to changing terrain conditions when operating the ATV.
- * Never operate on excessively rough, slippery or loose terrain until you have learned and practiced the skills necessary to control the ATV on such terrain. Always be especially cautious on these kinds of terrain.
- * Always follow proper procedures for turning as described in this manual. Practice turning at low speeds before attempting to turn at faster speeds. Do not turn at excessive speed.
- * Never operate the ATV on hills too steep for the ATV or for your abilities. Practice on smaller hills before attempting larger hills.
- * Always follow proper procedures for climbing hills as described in this manual. Check the terrain carefully before you start up any hill. Never climb hills with excessively slippery or loose surfaces. Shift your weight forward. Never open the throttle suddenly or make sudden gear changes. Never go over the top of any hill at high speed.
- * Always follow proper procedures for going down hills and for braking on hills as described in this manual. Check the terrain carefully before you start down any hill. Shift your weight backward. Never go down a hill at high speed. Avoid going down a hill at an angle that would cause the vehicle to lean sharply to one side. Go straight down the hill where possible.

- * Always follow proper procedures for crossing the side of a hill as described in this manual. Avoid hills with excessively slippery or loose surfaces. Shift your weight to the uphill side of the ATV. Never attempt to turn the ATV around on any hill until you have mastered the turning technique described in this manual on level ground. Avoid crossing the side of a steep hill if possible.
- * Always use proper procedures if you stall or roll backwards when climbing a hill. To avoid stalling, use the proper gear and maintain a steady speed when climbing a hill. If you stall or roll backwards, follow the special procedure for braking described in this manual. Dismount and follow the procedures provided in this manual.
- * Always check for obstacles before operating in a new area. Never attempt to operate over large obstacles, such as large rocks or fallen trees. Always follow proper procedures when operating over obstacles as described in this manual.
- * Always be careful when skidding or sliding. Learn to safely control skidding or sliding by practicing at low speeds and on level, smooth terrain. On extremely slippery surfaces, such as ice, go slowly and be very cautious in order to reduce the chance of skidding out of control.

- * Never operate an ATV in fast flowing water or in water deeper than that specified in this manual. Remember that wet brakes may have reduced stopping ability. Test your brakes after leaving water. If necessary, apply them several times to let friction dry out the linings.
- * Always be sure there are no obstacles or people behind you when you operate in reverse. When it is safe to proceed in reverse, go slowly.
- * Always use the size and type tyres specified in this manual. Always maintain proper tyre pressure as described in this manual.
- * Never modify an ATV through improper installation or use of accessories.
- * Never exceed the stated load limits for an ATV. Cargo should be properly distributed and securely attached. Reduce speed and follow instructions in this manual for carrying cargo or pulling a trailer. Allow greater distance for braking.

WARNING INFORMATION

Your FOURTRAX comes with several labels containing important safety information. Anyone who rides the vehicle should read and understand this information before riding.

The labels should be considered as permanent parts of the vehicle. If a label comes off or becomes hard to read, contact your Honda dealer for replacements.

While reading this manual, remember:

▲WARNING Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

▲▲ WARNING



Operating this ATV if you are under the age of 16 increases your chance of severe injury or death.

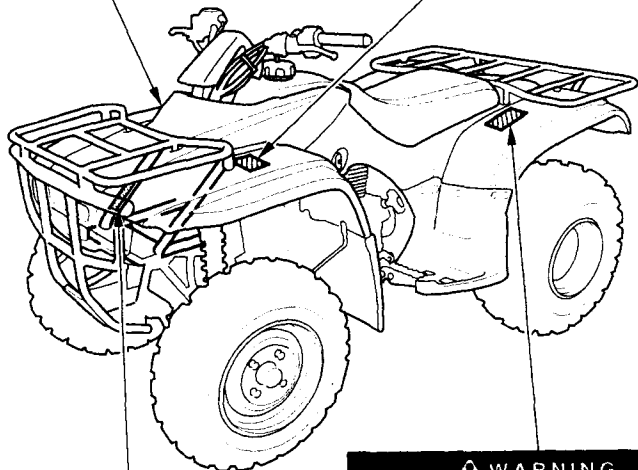
NEVER operate this ATV if you are under age 16.

▲▲ WARNING

Overloading this ATV or carrying cargo improperly can change handling, stability and braking performance and can lead to an accident.

Never exceed the maximum front cargo limit of: 33lbs 15kg

Refer to instructions in the Owner's Manual.



▲▲ WARNING

Improper tire pressure or overloading can cause loss of control. Loss of control can result in severe injury or death.

● Cold tire pressure:

Front: 20 ± 3kPa 0.20 ± 0.03kg/cm² 2.9 ± 0.4psi

Rear: 20 ± 3kPa 0.20 ± 0.03kg/cm² 2.9 ± 0.4psi

● Maximum weight capacity: 175kg (386lbs.)



TRX250TM 2001

HONDA OF SOUTH CAROLINA MFG., INC.

Nominal power 11.6kw

Dry weight 187kg

1111 HONDA WAY, TIMMONSVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29161 U.S.A

MADE IN U.S.A

⚠ WARNING



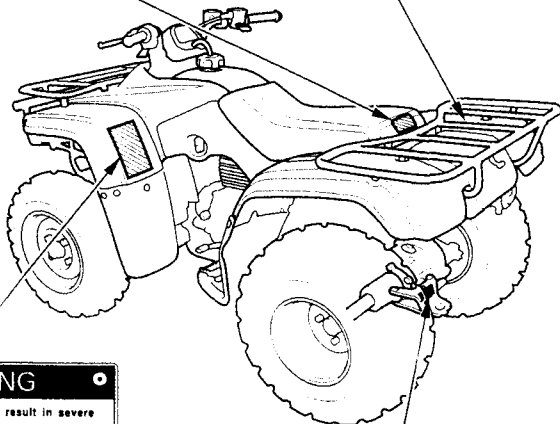
NEVER ride as a passenger.
Passengers can cause a loss of control, resulting in **SEVERE INJURY** or **DEATH**.

⚠ WARNING

Overloading this ATV or carrying cargo improperly can change handling, stability and braking performance and can lead to an accident.

Never exceed the maximum rear cargo limit (combined weight on the rear rack and in the storage area) of: **66lbs (30kg)**.

Refer to instructions in the Owner's Manual.



⚠ WARNING

The improper operation of ATVs may result in severe injury or death.

- Read the owner's Manual.
- Follow all warnings and instructions.
- Never use without proper training and instruction.

While riding

- Never ride too fast for your skills or the conditions.
- Always use proper riding techniques for hills, slopes and rough terrain.
- Use care when changing riding surfaces. ATVs handle differently on different surfaces, such as sand, dirt, or pavement.



- Never carry a passenger since it would affect balance and steering and may cause you to lose control.



- Avoid operating on public roads, since a collision can occur with another vehicle.



- Never ride after drinking alcohol or using drugs.



- Always wear a helmet, eye protection, and protective gear.

⚠ WARNING

Towing an improperly loaded trailer can cause loss of control.

- Read owner's manual.
- Tow weight limit : **2206N (225kgf) 500lbs**
- Tongue weight : **137N (14kgf) 30lbs**

PARTS LOCATION AND OPERATION

PARTS LOCATION

- (1) Rear brake lever
Parking brake
- (2) Headlight switch
Engine stop switch
Headlight dimmer switch
Starter button
- (3) Reverse selector knob
- (4) Horn button
- (5) Choke knob
- (6) Ignition switch
- (7) Throttle lever
- (8) Front brake lever

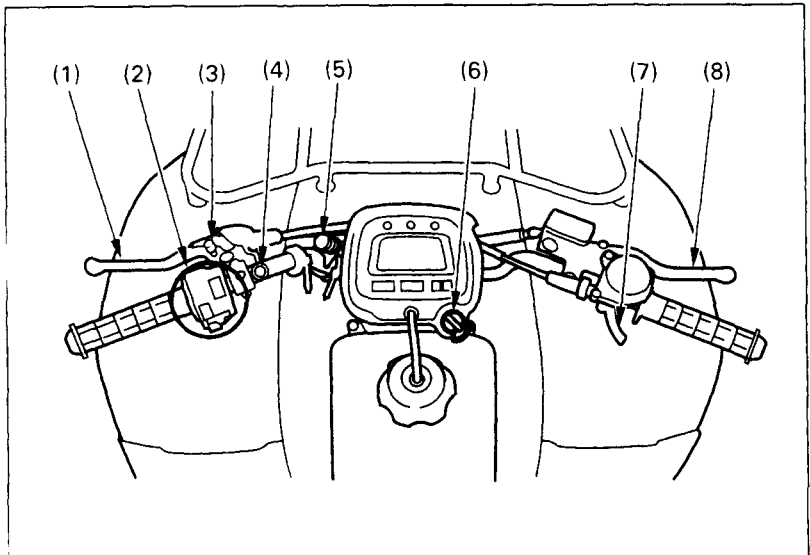


Fig. 2-1

Handlebars, from rider's point of view

- (9) Reverse indicator
- (10) Neutral indicator
- (11) Oil high temperature indicator
- (12) Multi-function display
 - Speedometer
 - Odometer/Tripmeter
 - Digital clock/Hourmeter
- (13) Minute select button
- (14) Hour select button
- (15) Hourmeter/Digital clock select button
- (16) Odometer/Tripmeter select button

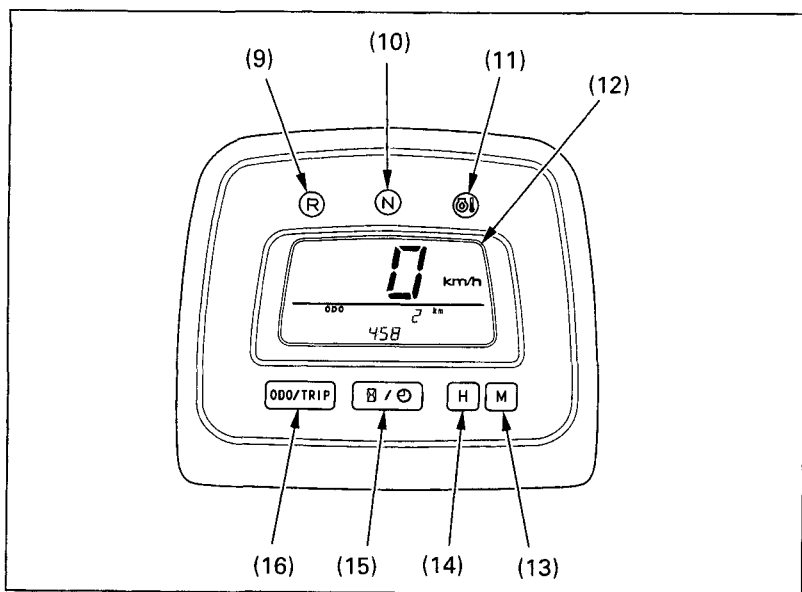


Fig. 2-2 Indicators and multi-function display, from rider's point of view

- (17) Flag pole bracket
- (18) Rear cargo rack
- (19) Fuel fill cap
- (20) Front cargo rack
- (21) Operator footpeg
- (22) Rear brake pedal
- (23) Headlights

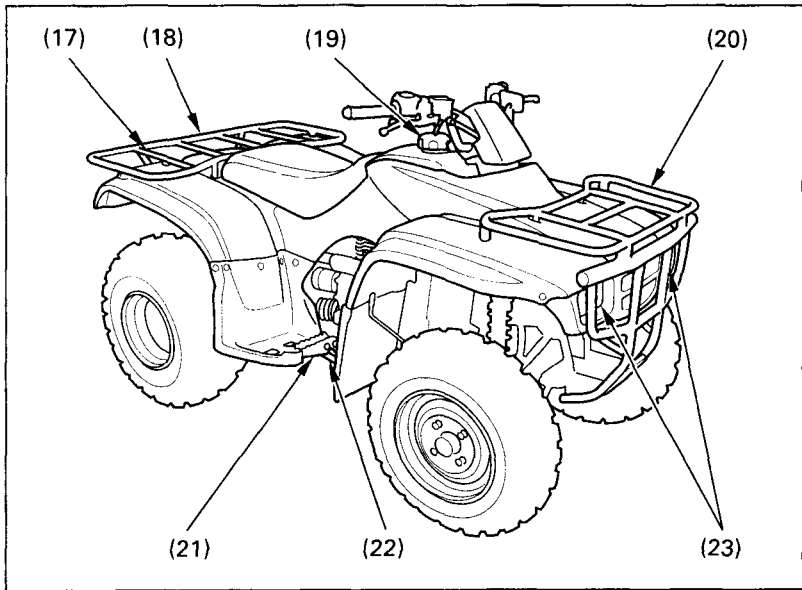


Fig. 2-3

Right side of FOURTRAX

- (24) Fuel valve
- (25) Owner's Manual storage
- (26) Storage compartment, containing:
 - Tool kit
 - Air pressure gauge
- (27) Oil filler cap/dipstick
- (28) Gearshift pedal
- (29) Operator footpeg
- (30) Trailer hitch

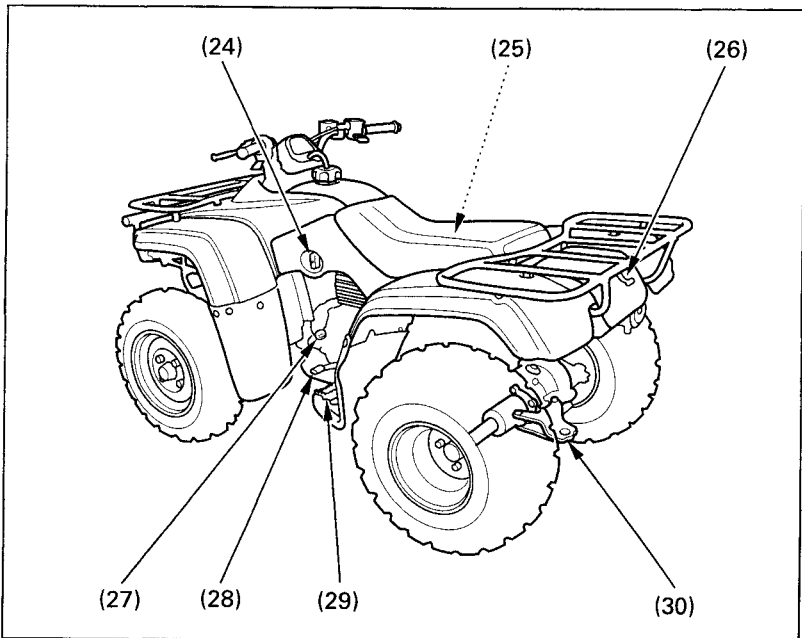


Fig. 2-4

Left side of FOURTRAX

PARTS OPERATION

POWER CONTROLS

Ignition Switch

The ignition switch (Fig. 2-5) is in the center of the handlebars directly in front of the seat.

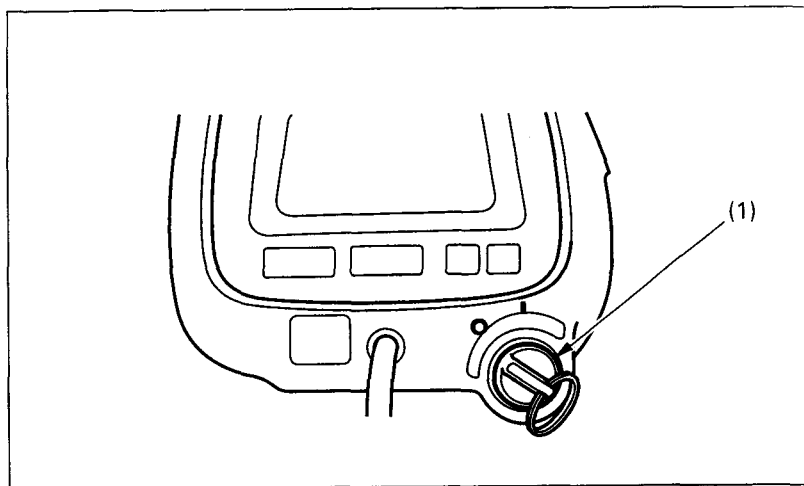


Fig. 2-5

(1) Ignition switch

Key Position	Function	Key Removal
○ (OFF)	The engine and headlight cannot be operated.	The key can be removed.
I (ON)	The headlights can be turned on. With the engine stop switch at RUN (○) and the transmission in neutral, the engine can be started.	The key cannot be removed.

Engine Stop Switch

The engine stop switch (Fig. 2-6) is next to the left handgrip, and it has three positions. When the switch is in the ○ (RUN) position, the engine will operate. When the switch is in either ☒ (OFF) position, the engine will not operate.

This switch is intended primarily as a safety or emergency control, and it should normally remain in the ○ (RUN) position.

NOTE:

If you stop your FOURTRAX by turning the engine stop switch ☒ (OFF), be sure to turn the ignition switch ○ (OFF) to prevent battery discharge.

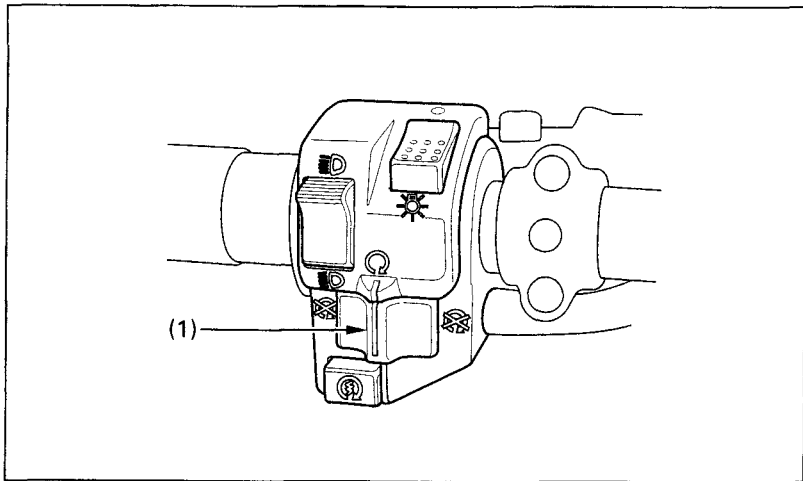


Fig. 2-6

(1) Engine stop switch

Choke Knob

The choke knob (Fig. 2-7) is located above the indicator lamp. The choke has three positions: fully ON (A), halfway position (B), and fully OFF (C).

To start a cold engine when air temperature is 10–35 °C (50–90 °F), pull the choke knob up to fully ON before pressing the starter button. At colder air temperatures, pull the choke knob up to the fully ON position before pressing the starter button. As the engine warms, push the knob down to the halfway position. After the engine is warm, push the choke knob down to fully OFF. To restart a warm engine, it is not necessary to use the choke.

CAUTION:

- * **Extended use of the choke may impair piston and cylinder wall lubrication and shorten the life of the engine.**
- * **Pushing the choke knob too hard to the OFF position may dislodge the choke cable boot. If this happens, water and dirt may enter the choke cable and cause corrosion. If the choke is hard to actuate, or feels like it is sticking, check the cable boot.**

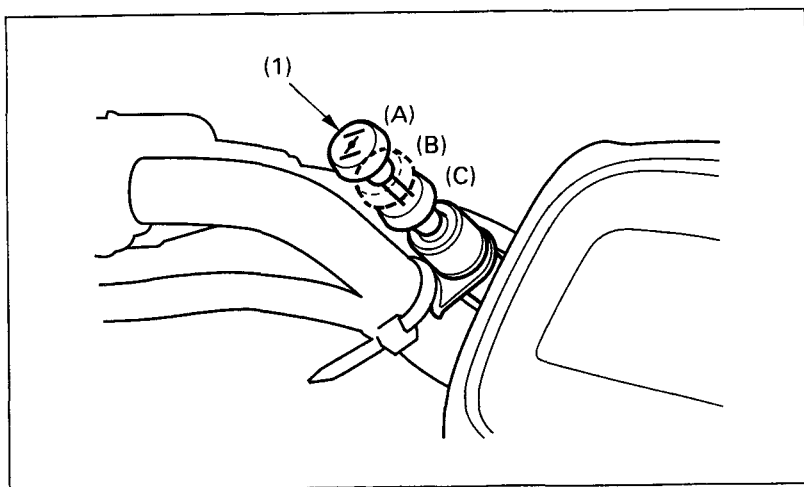


Fig. 2-7

(1) Choke knob

(A) Fully ON

(B) Halfway position

(C) Fully OFF

Starter Button

The starter button (Fig. 2-8) is below the engine stop switch. To start the engine, press the starter button (1), with the transmission in neutral, the ignition switch I (ON) and the engine stop switch (2) at ○ (RUN).

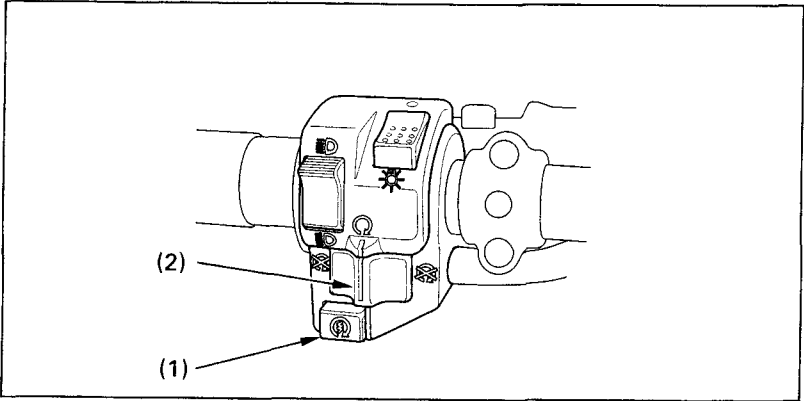


Fig. 2-8 (1) Starter button (2) Engine stop switch

Horn button

Horn button (Fig. 2-9) is next to the headlight switch. Press the button to sound the born.

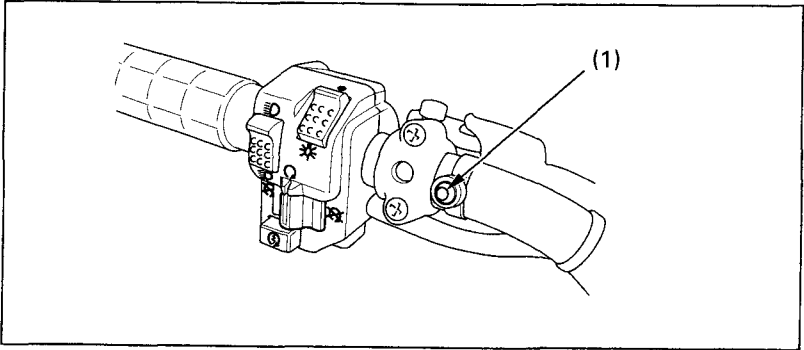


Fig. 2-9 (1) Horn button

Recoil Starter

The recoil starter (Fig. 2-10) is on the left side of the FOURTRAX. It is used to start the engine when the battery is low.

To operate the recoil starter:

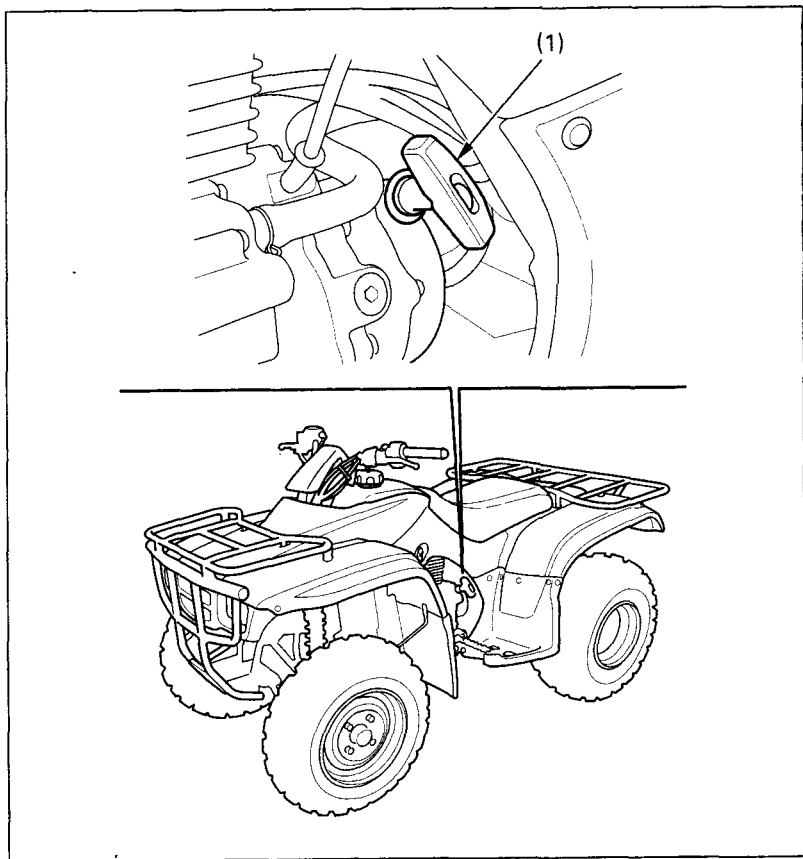


Fig. 2-10

(1) Recoil starter grip

1. Grasp the starter grip (1) firmly, then pull it out slowly approximately 100 mm (4 in).
2. Pull the grip up briskly and fully.
3. After the engine starts, allow the starter grip to return slowly.

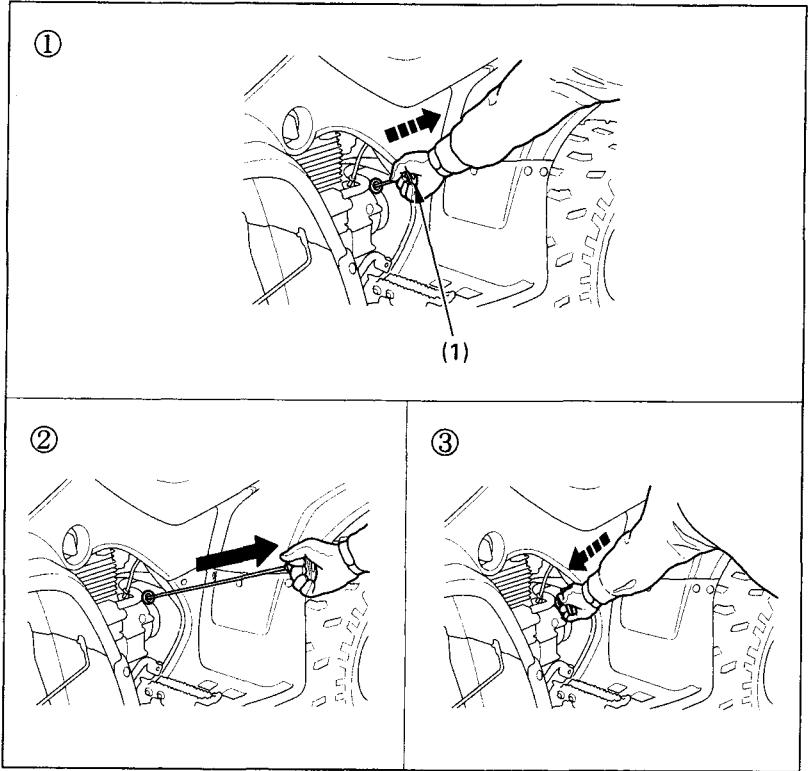


Fig. 2-11

(1) Recoil starter grip

Pull the recoil starter grip straight out so that the cord does not touch the side cover. Repeated contact with the side cover can damage the starter cord.

Throttle Lever

The throttle lever (Fig. 2-12) is next to the right handgrip, and it is operated by the thumb. Pressing the lever opens the throttle. When pressure is released, spring tension automatically closes the throttle.

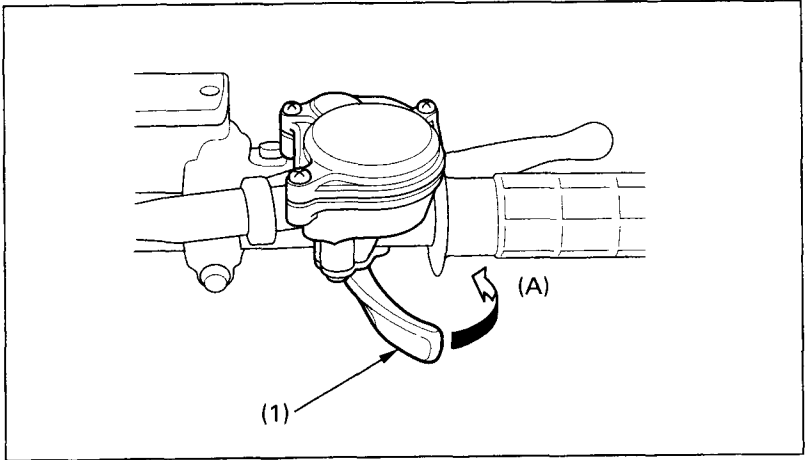


Fig. 2-12 (1) Throttle lever

(A) To open the throttle

LIGHTS

Headlight and Dimmer Switches

The headlight and dimmer switches (Fig. 2-13) are above the engine stop switch, next to the left handgrip.

Turning the headlight switch (1) ☼ (ON) turns the headlight on. Use the dimmer switch (2) to select either high beam ≡D (HI) or low beam ≡D (LO).

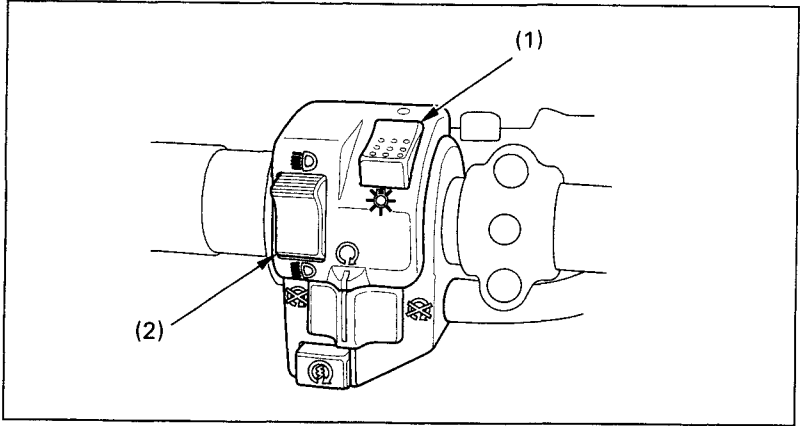


Fig. 2-13 (1) Headlight switch

(2) Dimmer switch

Reverse and Neutral Indicators

The reverse indicator (1) and the neutral indicator (2) (Fig. 2-14) are located above the multi-function display.

The reverse indicator will light when the transmission is in reverse and the ignition switch is I (ON). The neutral indicator will light when the transmission is in neutral and the ignition switch is I (ON).

Oil High Temperature Indicator

If the engine oil gets too hot, the oil high temperature indicator (3) (Fig. 2-14) will light.

NOTE:

The oil high temperature indicator should come on when the ignition switch is turned I (ON). This is not a problem. The light should go off a few seconds after the engine is started.

CAUTION:

If the light does not come on with ignition switch I (ON), contact your authorized Honda dealer for assistance if you cannot correct the problem.

If the oil high temperature indicator comes on while you are riding, immediately bring the vehicle to a stop, turn the engine off and let it cool.

CAUTION:

- * Failure to stop the engine immediately after the oil high temperature indicator comes on will adversely affect the service life of the engine.**
- * Do not carry or store articles on the front bumper. This may restrict air flow through the engine oil cooler, causing it to overheat.**

If the oil high temperature indicator comes on often, have your FOURTRAX inspected by your Honda dealer.

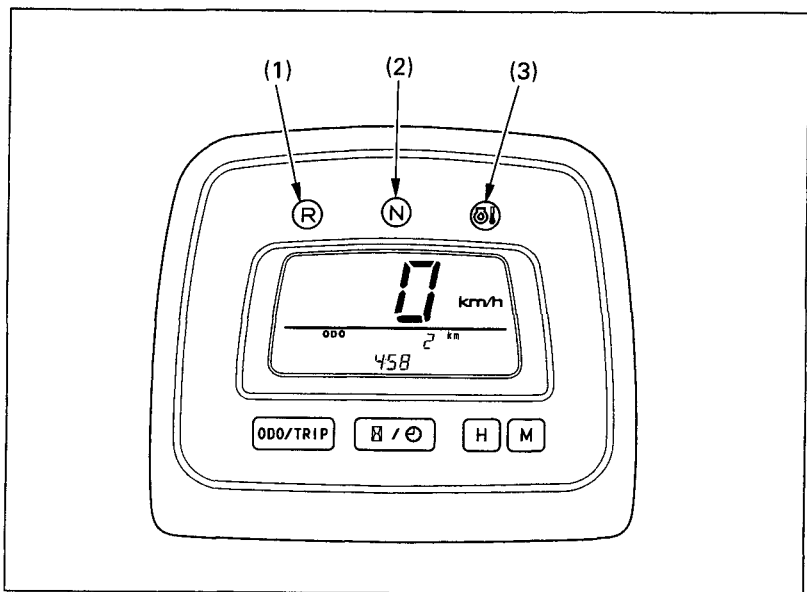


Fig. 2-14

(1) Reverse indicator
(2) Neutral indicator

(3) Oil high temperature
indicator

Multi-function Display

(Ref. No.)	Description	Function
(1)	Multi-function display	The display includes the following functions.
(A)	Speedometer	Shows riding speed.
(B)	Odometer	Shows accumulated mileage. (page 26)
	Tripmeter	Shows mileage per trip. (page 26)
(C)	Digital clock	Shows the time (hours and minutes). (page 28)
	Hourmeter	Shows hours and tenths of hours of engine operation. (page 27)
(2)	Odometer/tripmeter select button	Selects display of the odometer or tripmeter. Resets the tripmeter to zero (0). (page 26)
(3)	Digital clock/hourmeter select button	Selects display of the hourmeter or digital clock. (page 27 , 28)
(4)	Hour select button	Advances the hour displayed by the digital clock. (page 28)
(5)	Minute select button	Advances the minute displayed by the digital clock. (page 28)

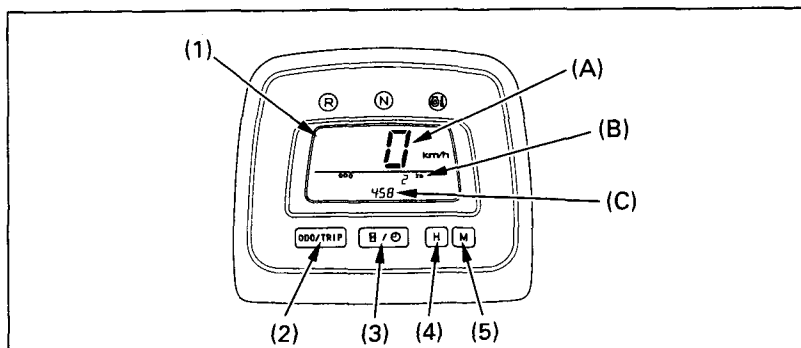


Fig. 2-15

Initial Display

When the ignition switch is turned I (ON), the display (1) (Fig. 2-16) will temporarily show all the modes and digital segments so you can make sure the liquid crystal display is functioning properly.

The digital clock will reset if the battery is disconnected.

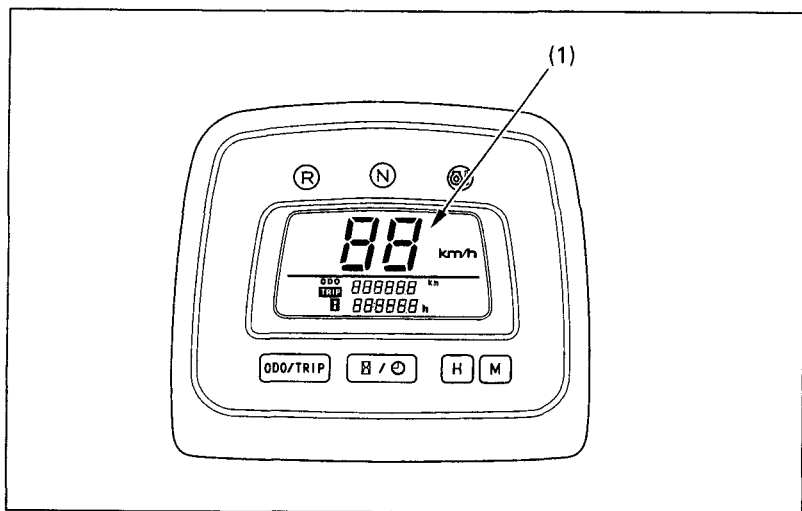


Fig. 2-16 (1) Multi-function display

Odometer/Tripmeter

Odometer

When selected, the odometer (1) (Fig. 2-17) registers total distance traveled in kilometers while the ignition is I (ON). To change the display (2) from tripmeter to odometer, press and release the Odometer/Tripmeter select button (3).

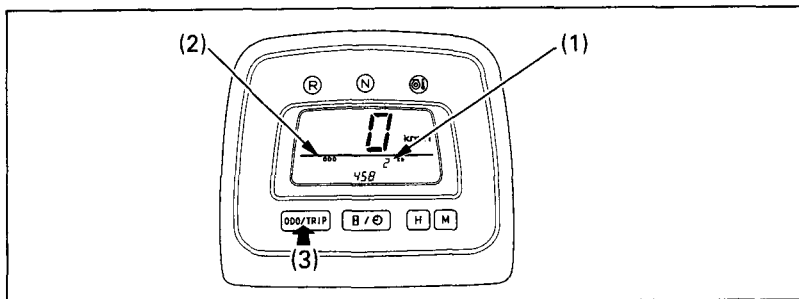


Fig. 2-17 (1) Odometer (3) Odometer/Tripmeter select button
(2) "ODO" display

Tripmeter

When selected, the tripmeter (1) (Fig. 2-18) shows mileage per trip while the ignition is I (ON). To change the display (2) from odometer to tripmeter, press and release the Odometer/Tripmeter select button (3). To reset the tripmeter to zero, press the Odometer/Tripmeter select button and hold it in for at least two seconds.

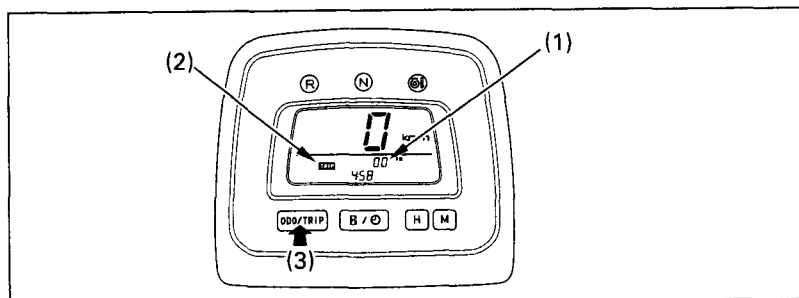


Fig. 2-18 (1) Tripmeter (3) Odometer/Tripmeter select button
(2) "TRIP" display

Hourmeter

When selected, the hourmeter (1) (Fig. 2-19) shows accumulated hours while the ignition is I (ON). The hourmeter provides accurate service period information for initial and regular maintenance. To change the display from the digital clock to the hourmeter mark (2), press and release the hourmeter/digital clock select button (3).

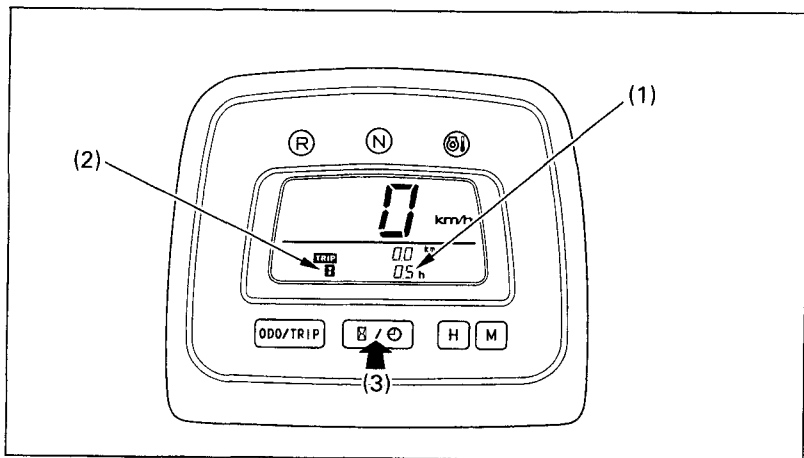


Fig. 2-19 (1) Hourmeter
(2) Hourmeter mark
(3) Hourmeter/digital clock select button

Digital Clock

When selected, the digital clock (1) (Fig. 2-20) shows the time while the ignition is I (ON). To change the display from hourmeter to digital clock, press and release the hourmeter/digital clock select button (2).

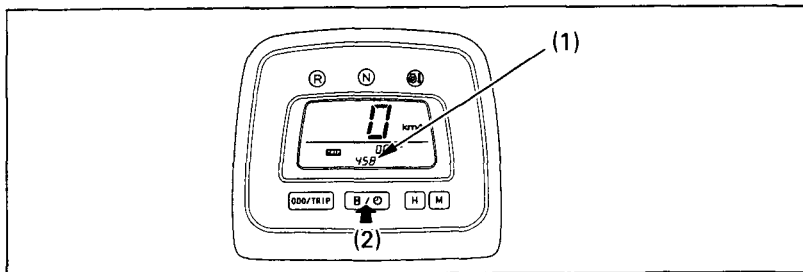


Fig. 2-20 (1) Digital clock (2) Hourmeter/digital clock select button

Digital Clock Adjustment:

Turn the ignition switch I (ON).

To advance the hour display one unit at a time, press and release the hour select button (1).

To advance the hour display automatically, press and hold the hour select button. After two seconds, the hour display will begin advancing. Release the button when the display reaches the desired hour (2).

To advance the minute display one unit at a time, press and release the minute select button (3).

To advance the minute display automatically, press and hold the minute select button. After two seconds, the minute display will begin advancing. Release the button when the display reaches the desired minute (4).

To zero the minute display, press and hold both the hour and minute buttons simultaneously for two seconds.

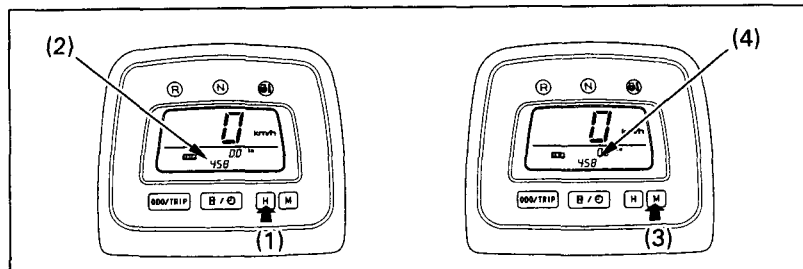


Fig. 2-21 (1) Hour select button
(2) Hour

(3) Minute select button
(4) Minute

GEARSHIFT CONTROLS

Gearshift Pedal

The gearshift pedal is near the left footpeg. One full stroke of the pedal shifts the transmission to the next higher or lower gear in the shifting sequence (Fig. 2-22). The pedal automatically returns to the horizontal position when released.

Your FOURTRAX has five forward gears (1, 2, 3, 4 and 5).

To upshift to a higher gear, put the toe of your boot under the gearshift pedal and raise the pedal one full stroke. To downshift, step on the gearshift pedal and depress the pedal one full stroke. (For further operational instructions, see page 67 .)

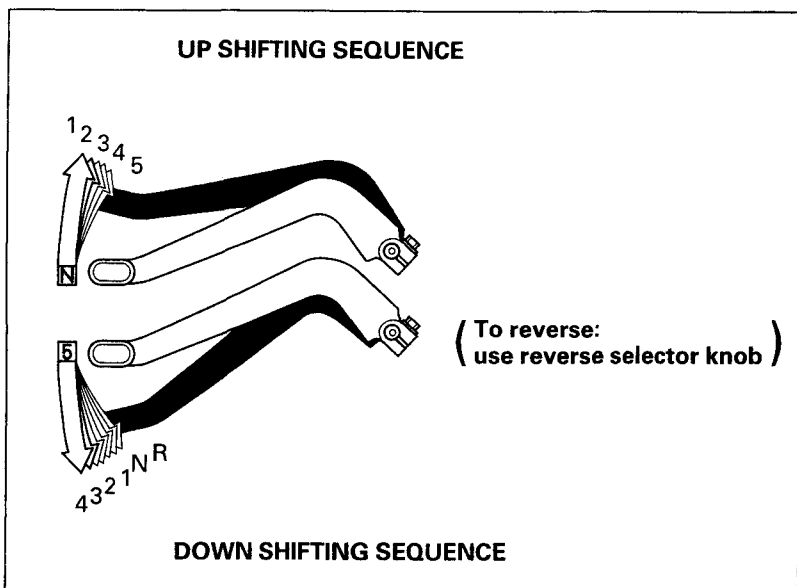


Fig. 2-22

Gearshifting sequence

Reverse Selector Knob

The reverse selector knob (Fig. 2-23) (1) is on the rear brake lever.

To shift into reverse, first bring the FOURTRAX to a complete stop and make sure the transmission is in neutral. While pushing the reverse selector knob (1) in, squeeze the rear brake lever (2), then depress the gearshift pedal.

CAUTION:

Bring the FOURTRAX to a complete stop before shifting the transmission into reverse. If the transmission is shifted into reverse while the vehicle is moving, the transmission will be damaged.

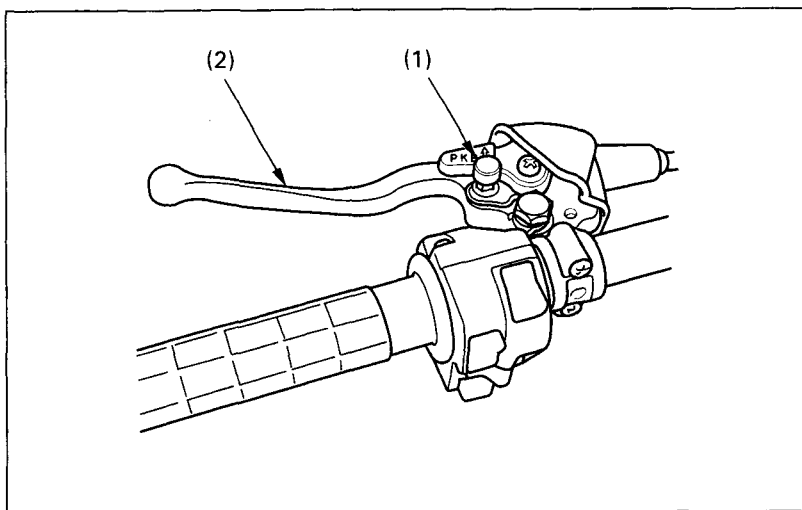


Fig. 2-23 (1) Reverse selector knob (2) Rear brake lever

BRAKE CONTROLS

Front Brakes

The front brakes are operated by squeezing the front brake lever, near the right handgrip.

Rear Brake

The rear brake is operated either by depressing the brake pedal or by squeezing the rear brake lever (Fig. 2-24).

Parking Brake

The rear brake lever has a lock which allows it to be used as a parking brake.

To set the parking brake, squeeze the rear brake lever (1) and lock it with the lock lever (2). Always set the parking brake when parking and before starting the engine.

To unlock the parking brake, squeeze the rear brake lever until the lock lever releases.

Using the parking brake in freezing weather may cause the brakes to freeze in the locked position.

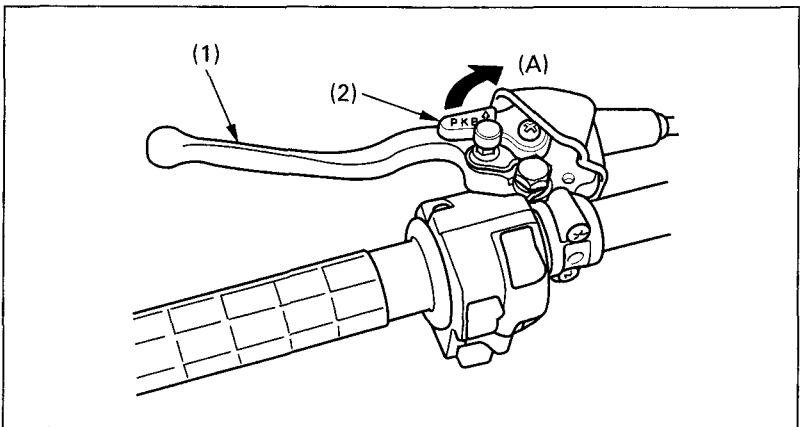


Fig. 2-24

(1) Rear brake lever/
Parking brake lever

(2) Lock lever
(A) To lock

FUEL TANK CONTROLS

Fuel Fill Cap

After refueling, be sure to tighten the fuel fill cap (Fig.2-25) until it clicks.

Insert the breather tube (2) into the handlebar cover hole (3).

To refuel refer to page 92 .

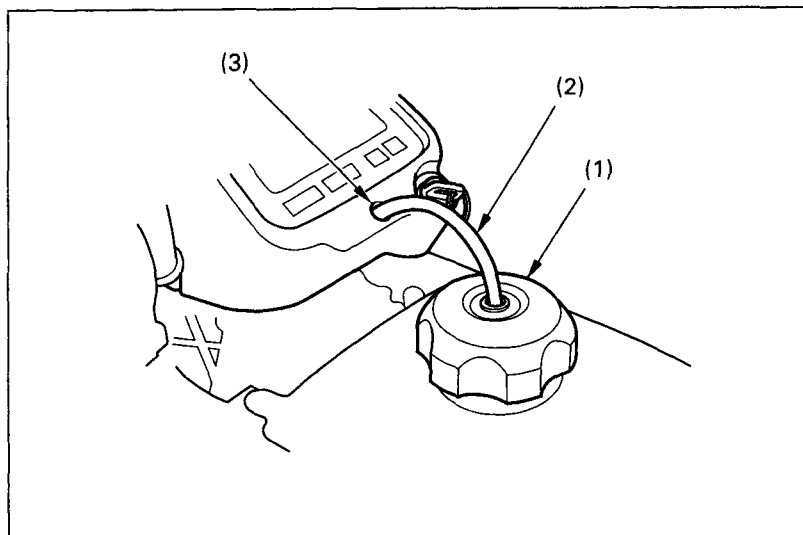


Fig. 2-25 (1) Fuel fill cap

(2) Breather tube

(3) Handlebar cover hole

Fuel Valve

The fuel valve (Fig. 2-26) is on the left side of the fuel tank, and it has three positions:

OFF

When the fuel valve is in the OFF position, fuel cannot flow to the carburetor. Turn the valve OFF whenever the FOURTRAX is not in use.

ON

When the fuel valve is in the ON position, fuel will flow from the main fuel supply to the carburetor.

RES

When the fuel valve is in the RES position, fuel will flow from the reserve fuel supply to the carburetor. Use the reserve fuel only when the main supply is gone.

Refill the tank as soon as possible after switching to RES. The reserve fuel supply is:

2.4 l (0.63 US gal , 0.53 Imp gal)

NOTE:

After refueling, do not operate the FOURTRAX with the fuel valve in the RES position. If you run out of fuel, there will be no reserve supply.

For gasoline recommendations and refueling instructions, see pages 92–95.

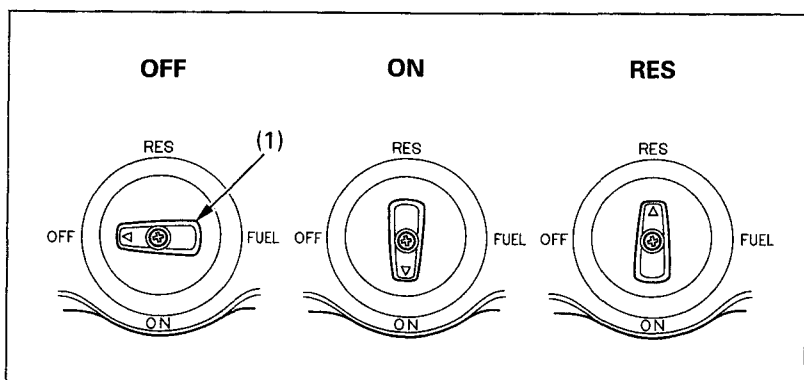


Fig. 2-26

(1) Fuel valve

ENGINE OIL

Oil Filler Cap/Dipstick

The oil filler cap/dipstick (Fig. 2-27), on the front crankcase cover, is used to measure the oil level. The oil should be checked each day before operating the FOURTRAX and maintained between the upper level mark (2) and the lower level mark (3).

For oil recommendations and instructions on checking, adding and changing oil, see pages 104 – 107.

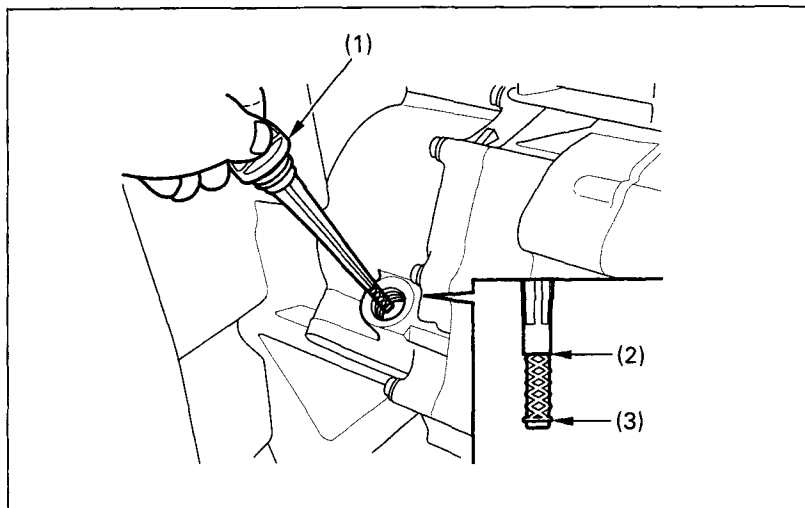


Fig. 2-27 (1) Oil filler cap/dipstick (2) Upper level mark (3) Lower level mark

While reading this manual, remember:

▲WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

Flag Pole Bracket

The flag pole bracket (Fig. 2-28) is on the rear cargo rack. Flag poles are optional equipment available from your Honda dealer. To mount a pole in the bracket, follow the instructions that come with the flag pole kit.

NOTE:

Flag poles are required in some riding areas. Check local regulations before riding.

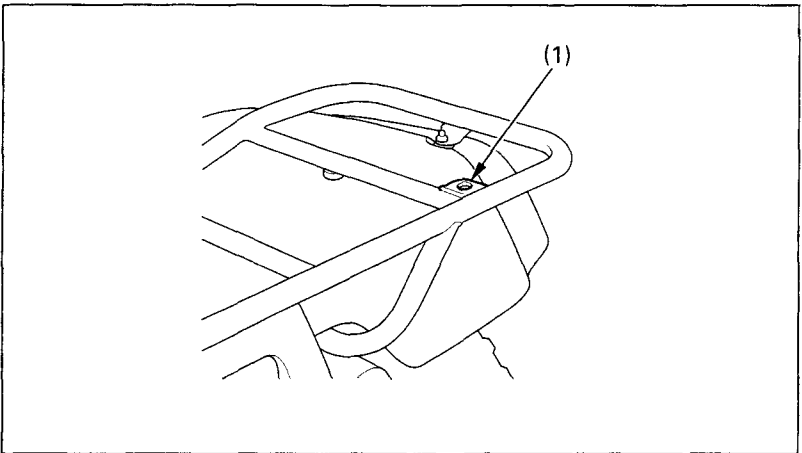


Fig. 2-28

(1) Flag pole bracket

Trailer Hitch

The trailer hitch is located on the rear axle housing. As illustrated in Fig. 2-29, to use the hitch, you'll need a proper size ball as specified by the trailer manufacturer.

To attach the ball and properly hook up a trailer, follow the trailer manufacturer's instructions. For load limits and operational guidelines, see pages 45–47.

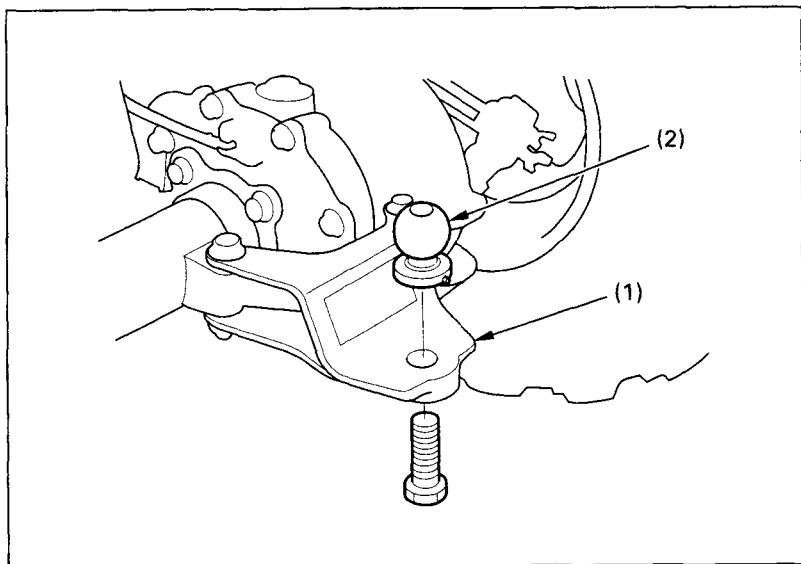


Fig. 2-29 (1) Trailer hitch

(2) An example ball

Storage Compartment

The storage compartment (Fig. 2-30) is below the rear cargo rack. To open the compartment, unhook the rubber strap (2). The tool kit (3) should be stored in the storage compartment.

Be careful not to flood this area when washing your FOURTRAX or riding through water.

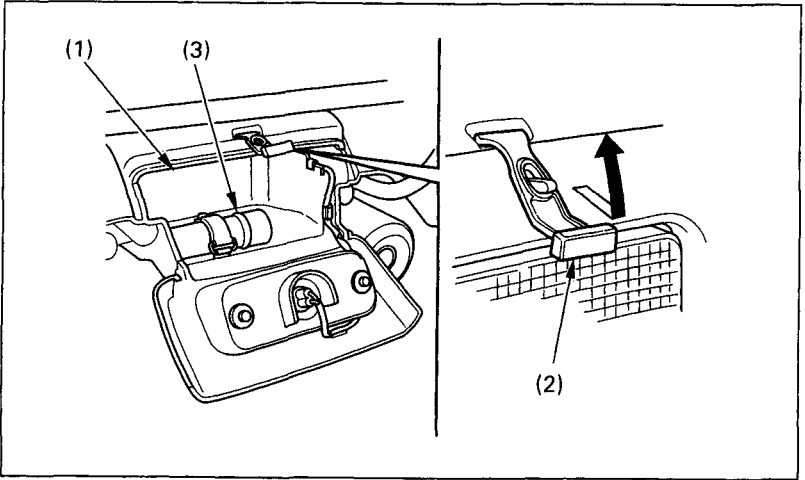


Fig. 2-30 (1) Storage compartment
(2) Rubber strap

(3) Tool kit

Owner's Manual Storage

The owner's manual storage area (Fig. 2-31) is located under the seat (1).

The owner's manual (2) and spare fuse (3) should be stored in the plastic document bag (4).

To remove the seat, see page132 .

Be careful not to flood this area when washing your FOURTRAX or riding through water.

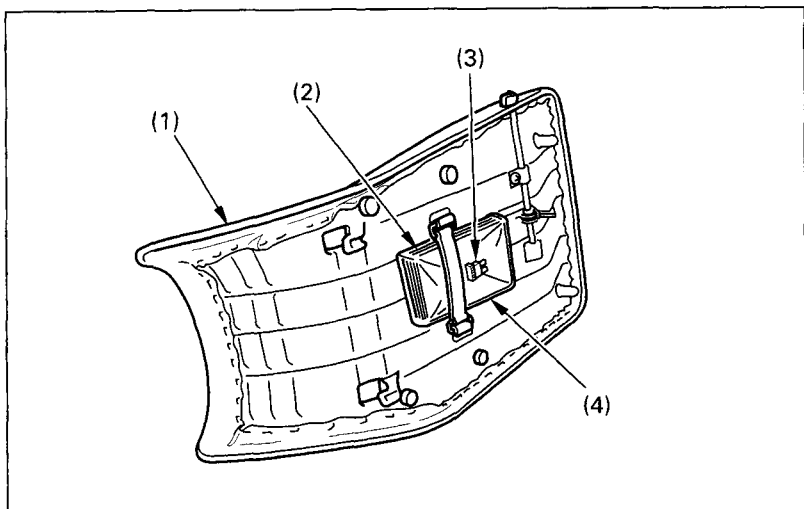


Fig. 2-31

(1) Seat

(2) Owner's manual

(3) Spare fuse

(4) Plastic document bag

While reading this manual, remember:

▲WARNING Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

RIDING YOUR FOURTRAX

This part of the Owner's Manual discusses how to ride your FOURTRAX safely. Please review the special safety messages on pages 1–5 . While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

BEFORE RIDING

You need to be prepared before riding. This includes getting proper instruction, making sure your FOURTRAX is in good operating condition, and learning some basic safe-riding rules.

RIDER PREPARATION

Age Recommendation

The minimum recommended age for this FOURTRAX model is 16. For safety, never let children under 16 years old operate this vehicle.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Failure to follow the age recommendation for this ATV.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

If children use ATVs that are not recommended for their age, severe injury or death can result.

Even though a child may be within the age group for which an ATV is recommended, he or she may not have the skills, abilities, or judgment needed to operate the ATV safely and may be involved in a serious accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

A child under 16 should never operate an ATV with engine size greater than 90 cc.

VEHICLE PREPARATION

Pre-Ride Inspection

Inspect your FOURTRAX every day before you ride it. Checking the items below will take only a few minutes, and in the long run, they can save time, expense, and possibly your life.

1. **Engine oil level.** Check the oil level and add oil if required (pages 104–107). Check for leaks.
2. **Fuel level.** Fill the fuel tank when necessary (pages 92–95). Check for leaks.
3. **Brakes.** Check operation. Make sure there is no brake fluid leakage. If necessary, adjust free play (pages 117–126).
4. **Tyres.** Check condition and pressure (pages 128–130).
5. **Throttle.** Check for smooth opening and closing in all steering positions.
6. **Headlight and headlight dimmer switches.** Check for proper function (page 21).
7. **Engine stop switch.** Check for proper function (page 15).
8. **Nuts, bolts, fasteners.** Check the wheels to see that the axle nuts are tightened. Check the security of all other nuts, bolts and fasteners.
9. **Steering.** Check that the wheels turn properly as you steer the handlebars.
10. **Cargo.** Check that all cargo is properly secured.
11. **Underbody and exhaust system.** Check for, and remove, any dirt, vegetation or other debris that could be a fire hazard or interfere with the proper operation of the vehicle.
12. **Air cleaner housing drain tube.** Check for deposits in the drain tube. If necessary, clean the tube (page 100) and check the air cleaner case.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

**Failure to inspect the ATV before operating.
Failure to properly maintain the ATV.**

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Increases the possibility of an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always inspect your ATV each time you use it to make sure the ATV is in safe operating condition.

Always follow the inspection and maintenance procedures and schedules described in this Owner's Manual.

Correct any problem before you ride. If you can't correct a problem, contact your Honda dealer for assistance.

If your FOURTRAX has overturned or been involved in a collision, do not ride the vehicle until it has been inspected by an authorized Honda dealer. There may be damage or other problems you cannot see.

Tyres

Before riding, make sure your FOURTRAX has the proper tyres and that they are in good condition. Also be sure the tyres are inflated to the proper tyre pressure (see page 129).

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV with improper tyres, or with improper or uneven tyre pressure.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Use of improper tyres on this ATV, or operation of this ATV with improper or uneven tyre pressure, may cause loss of control, increasing your risk of an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always use the size and type tyres specified in the Owner's Manual for this vehicle.

Always maintain proper tyre pressure as described in this Owner's Manual.

Loading

Load Limits

There are limits to how much weight can be carried on your FOURTRAX and be pulled in a trailer.

NOTE:

The following weight limits apply to standard equipment only. Modifying your FOURTRAX, using non-standard equipment or riding on terrain that is not flat and smooth could further reduce these limits.

Maximum weight capacity **175 kg (386 lbs) maximum**
(Combined weight of the rider, all accessories and all cargo)

Front cargo rack weight limit = **15 kg (33 lbs) maximum**

Rear cargo rack weight limit = **30 kg (66 lbs) maximum**

Tow weight limit = **2206 N (225 kgf)**
(Combined weight of the trailer and all cargo in the trailer)
(500 lbs) maximum

Tongue weight = **137 N (14 kgf)**
(Weight on the trailer tongue)
(30 lbs) recommended

Tongue and rear cargo weight = **30 kg (66 lbs) maximum**
(Combined weight on the trailer tongue and on the rear cargo rack)

Loading and Operational Guidelines

Carrying cargo or pulling a trailer will affect how your FOURTRAX handles and greatly reduce its ability in accelerating, braking and making turns and other maneuvers.

Be sure to observe the weight limits and follow these guidelines:

1. Do not place cargo anywhere on the FOURTRAX other than on the front and rear racks. Otherwise, operating stability may be adversely affected.
2. Never ride with a passenger on the front or rear cargo racks. The FOURTRAX is not designed to carry a passenger.
3. Do not tow another vehicle or a trailer with a rope or cable attached to the rear rack. Use the trailer hitch.
4. Load cargo on the rear rack as far forward as possible. Make sure cargo on the front rack does not interfere with handlebar movement.
5. Do not allow cargo to extend beyond the edges of either the front or rear racks.
6. Make sure all cargo is secured before riding.
7. When towing a trailer, take care to maintain balance and stability. Distribute cargo between the front and rear of the trailer to obtain the recommended tongue weight.

NOTE:

Tongue weight can be measured with an ordinary bathroom scale. Place the scale under the tongue, using either a tongue jack or other support to keep the trailer level.

8. Allow extra room for starting, stopping and turning whenever you carry cargo or pull a trailer.
9. Avoid riding on steep slopes when carrying cargo or pulling a trailer.
10. Never cross a slope when towing a trailer.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Overloading this ATV or carrying or towing cargo improperly.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Could cause changes in vehicle handling, stability and braking which could lead to an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never exceed the stated load limits for this ATV.

Cargo should be properly distributed and securely attached.

Reduce speed when carrying cargo or pulling a trailer. Allow greater distance for braking.

Use extra care when operating on hills and riding over obstacles. Never cross a slope when pulling a trailer.

Always follow the instructions in this Owner's Manual for carrying cargo or pulling a trailer.

Accessories

Genuine Honda accessories have been specifically designed for and tested on this vehicle. Because Honda cannot test all other accessories, you are personally responsible for properly selecting, installing, and using non-Honda accessories. Always follow the loading instructions above, plus the following:

1. Carefully inspect the accessory to make sure it does not block any lights, reduce ground clearance, or limit suspension travel, steering travel, or other controls.
2. Make sure the accessory does not interfere with your ability to shift body position on the seat or operate hand and foot controls.
3. Do not add electrical equipment that will exceed the vehicle's electrical system capacity. A blown fuse could cause a loss of lights or engine power.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV with improper modifications.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Improper installation of accessories or modification of this vehicle may cause changes in handling which could lead to an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never modify this ATV through improper installation or use of accessories. All parts and accessories added to this vehicle should be genuine Honda or equivalent components designed for use on this ATV and should be installed and used according to instructions. If you have questions, consult an authorized Honda dealer.

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

No Modifications

Modifying this FOURTRAX or removing original equipment may render the vehicle unsafe or illegal. Spark arresters and mufflers are required in most areas. Don't modify your exhaust system. Remember, excessive noise bothers everyone and creates a bad image for off-road vehicles.

SAFE RIDING RULES

Protective Apparel

Always wear an approved motorcycle helmet when riding your FOURTRAX. You should also always wear goggles or a face shield, gloves, boots, a long-sleeved shirt or jacket, and long pants.

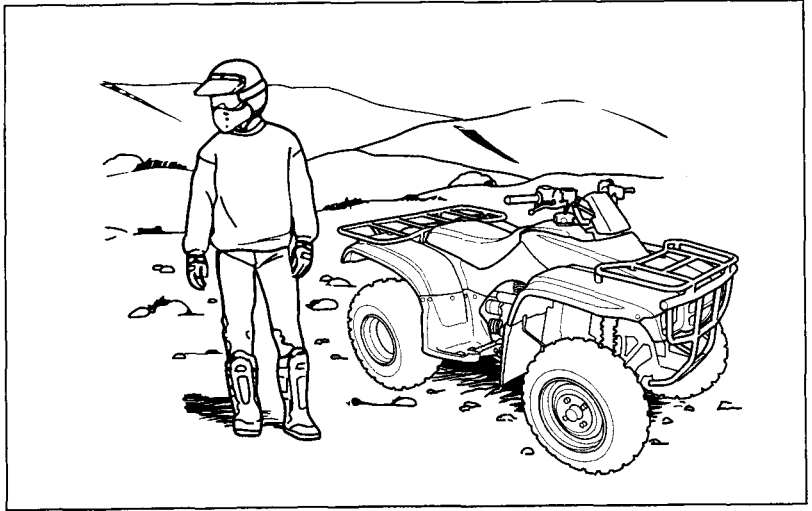


Fig. 3-1

An example of a properly dressed rider.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV without wearing an approved motorcycle helmet, eye protection and protective clothing.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Operating without an approved motorcycle helmet increases your chances of a severe head injury or death in the event of an accident.

Operating without eye protection can result in an accident and increases your chances of a severe injury in the event of an accident.

Operating without protective clothing increases your chances of severe injury in the event of an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always wear an approved motorcycle helmet that fits properly.

You should also wear: eye protection (goggles or face shield), gloves, boots, long-sleeved shirt or jacket and long pants.

No Passengers

This FOURTRAX is designed as an operator-only vehicle. The long seat is designed to allow the rider to change body position, not for carrying a passenger. Never let a passenger ride on the seat or on the front or rear cargo racks.

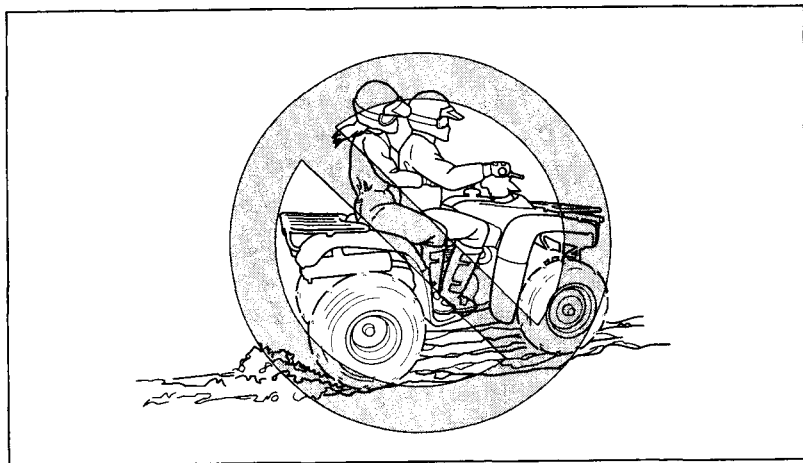


Fig. 3-2

Never carry a passenger on your FOURTRAX.

▲ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Carrying a passenger on this ATV.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Greatly reduces your ability to balance and control this ATV.

Could cause an accident, resulting in harm to you and/or your passenger.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never carry a passenger. The long seat is to allow the operator to shift position as needed during operation. It is not for carrying passengers.

No Alcohol or Drugs

Alcohol, drugs and FOURTRAX's don't mix. Even a small amount of alcohol can impair your ability to operate a FOURTRAX safely. Likewise, drugs—even if prescribed by a physician—can be dangerous while operating a FOURTRAX. Consult your doctor to be sure it is safe to operate a vehicle after taking medication.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV after consuming alcohol or drugs.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Could seriously affect your judgment.

Could cause you to react more slowly.

Could affect your balance and perception.

Could result in an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never consume alcohol or drugs before or while driving this ATV.