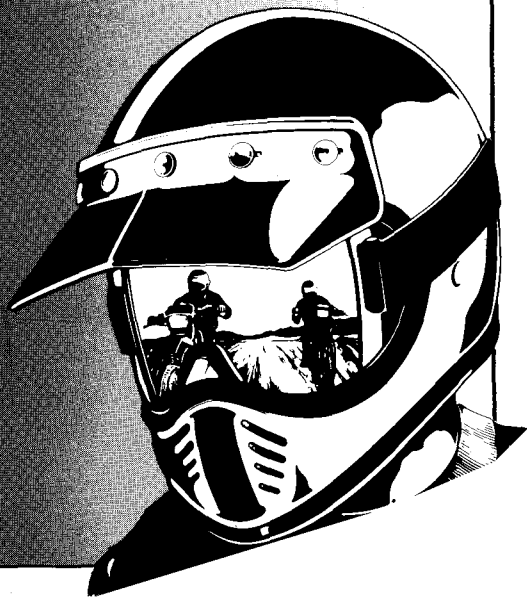


# HONDA

## OWNER'S MANUAL

**95**  
**Z50R**



## IMPORTANT NOTICE

- **OPERATOR ONLY. NO PASSENGER**

This motorcycle is designed and constructed as an operator-only model. The seating configuration does not safely permit the carrying of a passenger. Do not exceed the maximum weight capacity as shown on the tire information label.

- **FOR OFF-ROAD USE ONLY**

This vehicle is designed and manufactured for off-road use only. It conforms to US EPA Noise Emission regulations, but does not conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards or US EPA Exhaust Emission regulations, and operation on public streets, roads or highways is illegal. The vehicle is equipped with a USDA-qualified spark arrester. Obey local laws and regulations.

- **PARENTS : READ IMPORTANT MESSAGE ON PAGE 2 .**

- **READ THIS OWNER'S MANUAL CAREFULLY**

Pay special attention to statements preceded by the following words:

### **▲ DANGER**

Indicates severe personal injury or death will result if instructions are not followed.

### **▲ WARNING**

Indicates a strong possibility of severe personal injury or death if instructions are not followed.

### **CAUTION:**

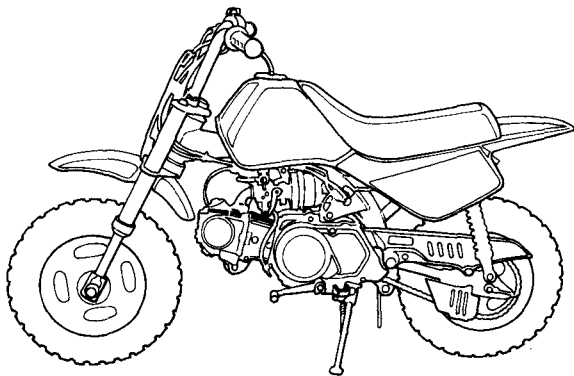
Indicates a possibility of personal injury or equipment damage if instructions are not followed.

**NOTE:** Gives helpful information.

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

# HONDA Z50R OWNER'S MANUAL

1995



All information in this publication is based on the latest production 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.

No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission.

© Honda Motor Co., Ltd. 1994

## WELCOME

Your new motorcycle presents you with an invitation to adventure and a challenge to master the machine. Your safety depends not only on your own alertness and familiarity with the motorcycle, but also the motorcycle's mechanical condition. A pre-ride inspection before every outing and regular maintenance are essential.

To help meet the challenges safely and enjoy the adventure fully, become thoroughly familiar with this Owner's Manual BEFORE YOU RIDE THE MOTORCYCLE. Also for your own and your Honda's sake, please read all the written material which came with your new Honda. These items include:

- \*Honda Owner's Identification Card
- \*Set-up and Pre-delivery Checklist
- \*Honda Motorcycle Warranties Booklet (USA only)
- \*Tips & Practice Guide For The Off-Highway Motorcyclist (USA only)
- \*Parents, Youngsters & Off-Highway Motorcycles (USA only)

When service is required, remember that your Honda dealer knows what it takes to keep your Honda going strong. If you have the required mechanical "know-how" and tools, your dealer can supply you with an official Honda Service Manual to help you perform many maintenance and repair tasks.

Pleasant riding, and thank you for choosing a Honda !

# OPERATION

## Page

1	MOTORCYCLE SAFETY
2	Important Message to Parents
4	Safe Riding Rules
6	Protective Apparel
6	Modifications
7	Loading and Accessories
8	PARTS LOCATION
11	MAJOR COMPONENTS (Information you need to operate this motorcycle)
11	Front Brake
13	Rear Brake
14	Clutch
15	Fuel
19	Engine Oil
20	Tires
21	ESSENTIAL INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS
21	Engine Stop Switch

## Page

22	OPERATION
22	Pre-ride Inspection
23	Starting the Engine
25	Break-in
25	Riding
27	Braking
28	Parking

# MAINTENANCE

Page	
29	MAINTENANCE
30	Maintenance Schedule
32	Tool Kit
33	Serial Numbers
34	Color label
34	Maintenance Precautions
35	FILTERS/LUBRICATION
35	Air Cleaner
37	Engine Oil
40	ENGINE
40	Spark Plug
42	Carburetor
43	Throttle Operation
44	Valve Clearance
46	Spark Arrester
48	DRIVE TRAIN
48	Drive Chain

Page	
53	FRAME /WHEELS /BRAKES
53	Front Suspension
54	Rear Suspension
54	Side Stand
55	Front Wheel Removal
56	Rear Wheel Removal
57	Brake Shoe Wear
58	CLEANING
59	STORAGE GUIDE
62	SPECIFICATIONS
65	CONSUMER INFORMATION
65	Noise Emission Control System
66	Warranty Service
67	Service Manuals

# MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

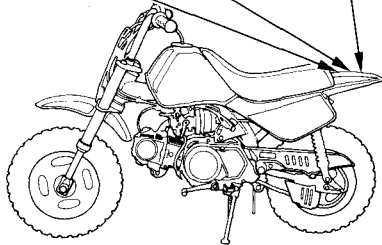
Read these **WARNING LABELS** before you ride !

TIRE INFORMATION			
COLD TIRE PRESSURES :	FRONT	100 kPa	1.00 kgf/cm <sup>2</sup> 15 psi.
	REAR	125 kPa	1.25 kgf/cm <sup>2</sup> 18 psi.
MAXIMUM WEIGHT CAPACITY :		68 kg (150lbs.)	
TIRE SIZE :	FRONT	3.50-8-35J	REAR 3.50-8-35J

**OFF ROAD USE ONLY**

THIS VEHICLE IS DESIGNED AND MANUFACTURED FOR OFF ROAD USE ONLY. IT DOES NOT CONFORM TO FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS AND OPERATION ON PUBLIC STREETS, ROADS, OR HIGHWAYS IS ILLEGAL.

For your protection, always wear your helmet while riding.  
Operator only. No passengers.



MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO PARENTS

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 judgements can result in injuries, 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, the 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 on 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.

**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 judgements 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.

**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 cautions. And remember, it's your responsibility to see that the vehicle is properly maintained and kept in safe operating condition.

**SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE RIDING** must be an ongoing 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.

**▲WARNING**

**\* Motorcycle riding requires special efforts on your part to ensure your safety. Know these requirements before you ride:**

**SAFE RIDING RULES**

This motorcycle is designed for junior riders. The rider weight limit is:

68 kg (150 lbs)

It is a fine learning motorcycle as long as the following precautions are observed:

1. This motorcycle is an OPERATOR ONLY model. The rider weight limit is:

68 kg (150 lbs)

2. The young rider should learn to ride in an uncongested off-road area free of obstacles before venturing into unfamiliar terrain.

3. It is illegal to ride this motorcycle on public streets, roads or highways. It must be ridden only in off-road areas where such activities are permitted. If it becomes necessary to cross a public roadway, remember to get off the motorcycle and push it across.

4. For safety, the motorcycle must be properly maintained. Be sure to make a "Pre-ride Inspection" before riding and be sure to impress the student rider with the importance of checking all the items thoroughly before riding the motorcycle.

5. A prime objective in the instruction process is developing the student's self-confidence. This self-confidence comes with a total familiarization with the motorcycle controls and their functions, plus lots of PRACTICE.

6. Always obey local off-road riding laws and regulations.

7. Spark arresters and mufflers are required in most off-road areas. Don't modify your exhaust system. Remember that excessive noise bothers everyone and creates a bad image for motorcycling.

8. Obtain permission to ride on private property. Avoid posted areas and obey no trespassing signs.
9. When basic riding techniques have been mastered by the young rider, remember these next few words of caution: the young rider should always ride in the company of an adult on another motorcycle so they can assist each other in the event of trouble.
10. Familiarity with your motorcycle is critically important should a problem occur far from help.
11. Caution the young rider never to ride beyond his ability and experience or faster than conditions warrant.
12. If you are not familiar with the terrain, lead the way and ride cautiously. Hidden rocks, holes or ravines could spell trouble.
13. This motorcycle is not equipped with lights. Don't ride at night.

## PROTECTIVE APPAREL

1. Most motorcycle accident fatalities are due to head injuries: ALWAYS wear a helmet. You should also wear a face shield or goggles as well as boots, gloves, and protective clothing.
2. The exhaust system becomes hot during operation, and it remains hot for a while after stopping the engine. Be careful not to touch the exhaust system while it is hot. Wear clothing that fully covers your legs.
3. Do not wear loose clothing which could catch on the control levers, footpegs or wheels.

## MODIFICATIONS

### **▲WARNING**

- \* **Modification of the motorcycle, or removal of original equipment, may render the vehicle unsafe or illegal. Obey all federal, state and local equipment regulations.**

### **NOTE:**

- \* Spark arresters and mufflers are required in most off-road areas. Don't modify your exhaust system. Remember that excessive noise bothers everyone and creates a bad image for motorcycling.

## LOADING AND ACCESSORIES

### **▲WARNING**

**\* A motorcycle is sensitive to changes in weight distribution. Addition of accessories or cargo can impair the motorcycle's stability and performance. To prevent an accident, use extreme care when adding and riding with cargo and accessories. These general guidelines may help you decide whether, or how to equip your motorcycle.**

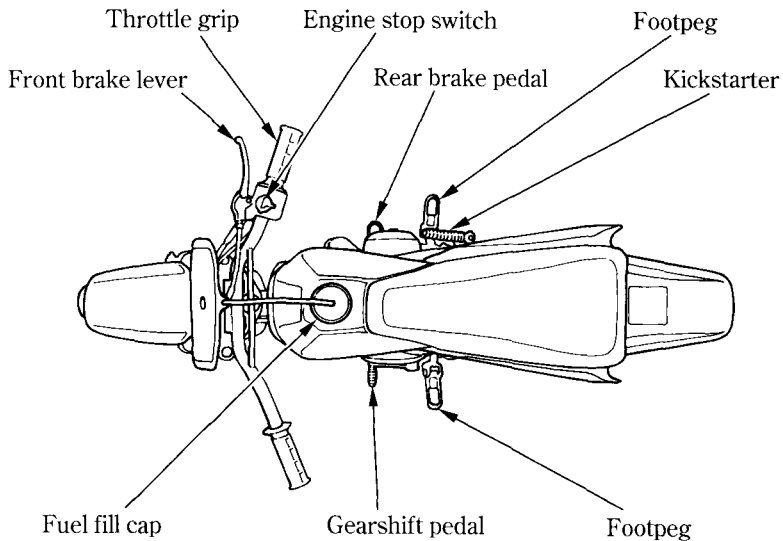
### **Loading**

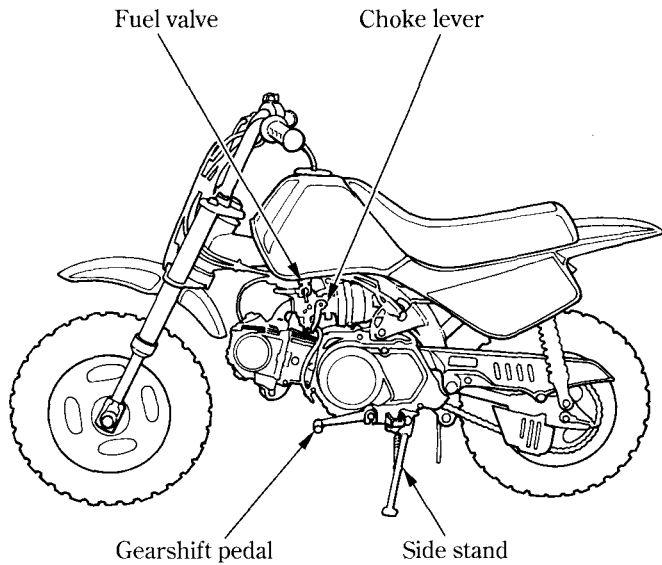
The combined weight of the rider, cargo, and all accessories must not exceed the maximum weight capacity:

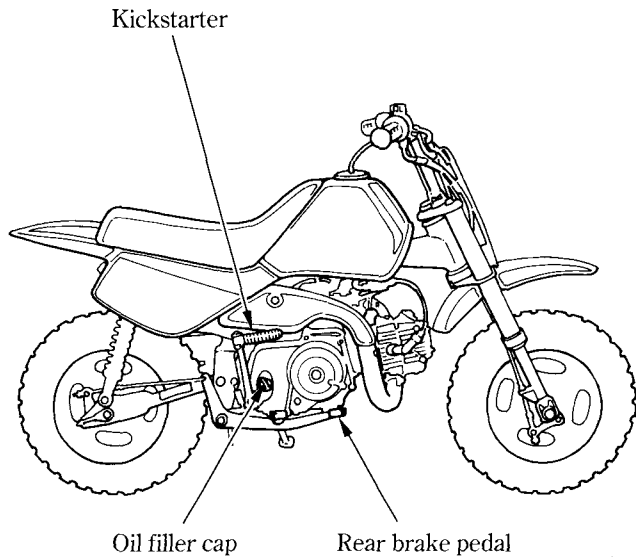
68 kg (150 lbs)

1. Keep cargo and accessory weight low and close to the center of the motorcycle. Load weight equally on both sides to minimize imbalance. As weight is located farther from the motorcycle's center of gravity, handling is proportionally affected.
2. Vehicle handling and stability can be adversely affected by loose cargo. Recheck cargo security and accessory mounts frequently.
3. Do not attach large or heavy items (such as a sleeping bag or tent) to the handlebars, fork, or fender. Unstable handling or slow steering response may result.

## PARTS LOCATION







## MAJOR COMPONENTS (Information you need to operate this motorcycle)

### **▲WARNING**

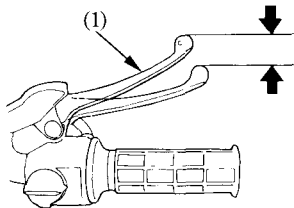
- \* If the Pre-ride Inspection (page 22) is not performed, severe personal injury or vehicle damage may result.

### FRONT BRAKE

Brakes are items of personal safety and should always be maintained in proper adjustment.

The distance the front brake lever (1) moves before the brake starts to engage is called free play.

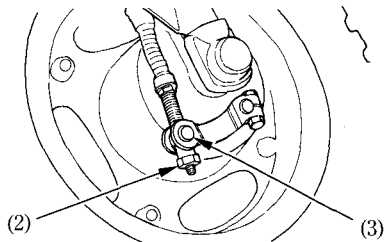
10–20 mm (0.4–0.8 in)



(1) Front brake lever

1. Adjust brake lever free play with the front brake adjusting nut (2). Turning the nut clockwise will decrease free play and turning the nut counterclockwise will increase free play.

Make sure the cut-out on the adjusting nut is seated on the brake arm pin (3) after making final free play adjustment.



- (2) Front brake adjusting nut
- (3) Brake arm pin

2. Apply the brake several times and check for free wheel rotation after the brake lever is released.

**NOTE:**

- \* If proper adjustment cannot be obtained by this method, see your authorized Honda dealer.

Other Checks :

Check the brake cable for kinks or signs of wear that could cause sticking or failure.

Lubricate the brake cable with a commercially available cable lubricant to prevent premature wear and corrosion.

Make sure the brake arm, spring and fasteners are in good condition.

## REAR BRAKE

### Adjustment:

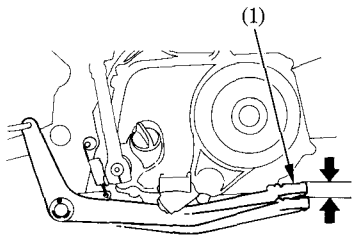
1. Place the motorcycle on its side stand.
2. Measure the distance the rear brake pedal (1) moves before the brake starts to take hold.

Free play should be:

10–20 mm (0.4–0.8 in)

3. If adjustment is necessary, turn the rear brake adjusting nut (2).

Make sure the cut-out on the adjusting nut is seated on the brake arm pin (3) after making final free play adjustment.



(1) Rear brake pedal

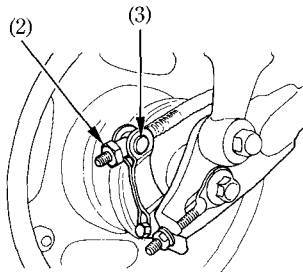
4. Apply the brake several times and check for free wheel rotation after the brake pedal is released.

### **NOTE:**

- \* If proper adjustment cannot be obtained by this method, see your authorized Honda dealer.

### Other Checks:

Make sure the brake rod, brake arm, spring and fasteners are in good condition.



(2) Rear brake adjusting nut  
(3) Brake arm pin

## CLUTCH

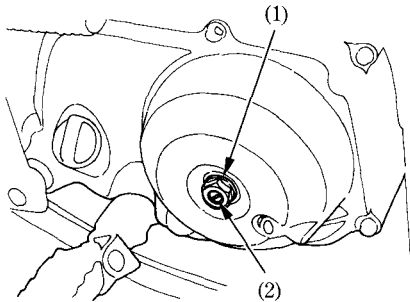
### Adjustment:

1. Loosen the adjuster lock nut (1).
2. Turn the clutch adjuster (2) clockwise one turn; do not turn excessively.
3. Slowly turn the adjuster counterclockwise until a slight resistance is felt.
4. From this position, turn the adjuster clockwise  $1/8$  to  $1/4$  turn, and tighten the lock nut.
5. After adjustment, test ride the motorcycle to be certain the clutch operates properly.

The engine should start easily with the kickstarter without the clutch slipping. When shifting gears, the clutch operation should be smooth and light, especially when shifting into neutral.

### NOTE:

- \* If proper adjustment cannot be obtained or the clutch does not work correctly, see your authorized Honda dealer.



(1) Lock nut

(2) Clutch adjuster

## FUEL

### Fuel Valve

The three way fuel valve (1) is under the left side of the fuel tank.

#### OFF

With the fuel valve in the OFF position, fuel cannot flow from the tank to the carburetor. Turn the valve OFF whenever the motorcycle is not in use.

#### ON

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

#### RES

With the fuel valve 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:

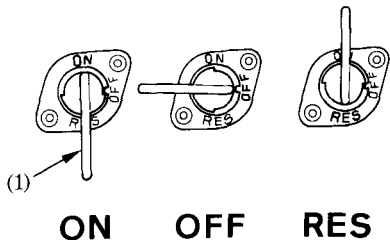
0.8 ℓ (0.21 US gal , 0.18 Imp gal)

### ⚠ WARNING

- \* To avoid running out of fuel that may result in a sudden stop, learn how to operate the fuel valve when riding the motorcycle.
- \* Be careful not to touch any hot engine parts while operating the fuel valve.

#### NOTE:

- \* Remember to check that the fuel valve is in the ON position each time you refuel. If the valve is left in the RES position, you may run out of fuel with no reserve.



(1) Fuel valve

## Fuel Tank

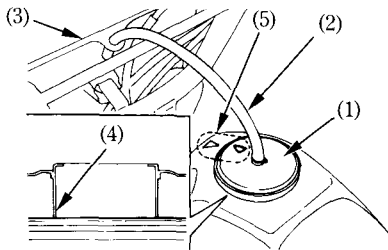
The fuel tank capacity, including reserve, is:

4.0 ℓ (1.06 US gal, 0.88 Imp gal)

To open the fuel fill cap (1), pull out the breather tube (2) from the front number plate (3). Then turn the fuel fill cap counterclockwise.

After refueling, be sure to tighten the fuel fill cap firmly by turning it clockwise.

Insert the breather tube into the front number plate.



- (1) Fuel fill cap
- (2) Breather tube
- (3) Front number plate

- (4) Filler neck
- (5) Aligning marks

Your engine is designed to use any gasoline that has a pump octane number of 86 or higher. Gasoline pumps at service stations normally display the pump octane number.

We recommend that you use unleaded fuel because it produces fewer engine and spark plug deposits and extends the life of exhaust system components.

Never use stale or contaminated gasoline or an oil/gasoline mixture. Avoid getting dirt, dust or water in the fuel tank. Use of a lower octane gasoline can cause persistent “pinging” or heavy “spark knock” (a metallic rapping noise) which, if severe, can lead to engine damage.