

Drive Chain

Refer to *Safety Precautions* on page 25.

An endless (riveted master link) chain connects the drive and driven sprockets. The O-ring chain uses rubber between the side plates of the pin and roller links to seal in the manufacturer-installed lubricating grease and keep out moisture and dirt.

The service life of the chain depends on proper lubrication and adjustment. Poor maintenance can cause premature wear or damage to the drive chain or sprockets.

Under severe usage, or when the motorcycle is ridden in unusually dusty or muddy areas, more frequent maintenance will be necessary.

Before servicing your drive chain, turn the engine OFF, raise the rear wheel off the ground by placing an optional workstand or equivalent support under the engine and check that your transmission is in neutral.

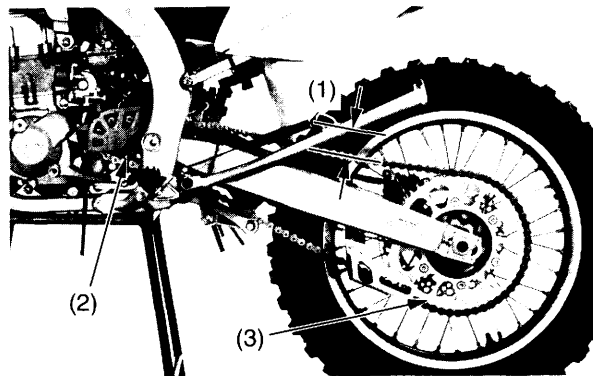
It is not necessary to remove or replace the drive chain to perform the recommended service in the Regular off-road Use Maintenance Schedule (page 27).

Inspection

1. Stop the engine and raise the rear wheel off the ground by placing an optional workstand or equivalent support under the engine and shift the transmission into neutral.
2. Check the drive chain slack (1) in the upper drive chain run midway between the drive (2) and driven sprockets (3). Drive chain slack should allow the following vertical movement by hand:
1 – 1 3/8 in (25 – 35 mm)

NOTICE

Excessive chain slack may allow the drive chain to damage the engine cases.

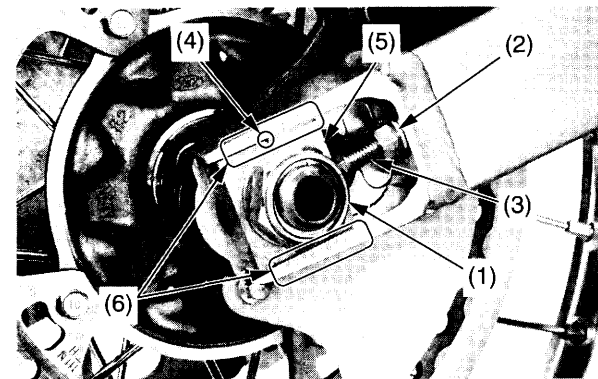


- (1) drive chain slack
(2) drive sprocket
(3) driven sprocket

If the chain is found to be slack in one segment of its length and taut in another, this indicates that some of the links are either worn, kinked or binding. Kinking and binding can frequently be eliminated by thorough cleaning and lubrication. If the drive chain requires adjustment, procedure is as follows:

Adjustment

1. Loosen the rear axle nut (1).
2. Loosen the chain adjuster lock nuts (2) and turn the adjusting bolts (3) counterclockwise to decrease slack or clockwise to increase slack.
Align the index marks (4) of the axle plates (5) with the same reference marks (6) on both sides of the swingarm.



- (1) rear axle nut
(2) chain adjuster lock nut
(3) adjusting bolt
(4) index mark
(5) axle plate
(6) reference marks

3. Tighten the rear axle nut to the specified torque:
94 lbf·ft (128 N·m, 13.1 kgf·m)
4. Recheck chain slack and adjust if necessary.
5. Turn the adjusting bolts counterclockwise until they touch the axle plates lightly. Then tighten the chain adjuster lock nuts to the specified torque while holding the adjusting bolts with a wrench.
20 lbf·ft (27 N·m, 2.8 kgf·m)