



General Maintenance Reference Guide Honda TRX450R-ER

STARTING PROCEDURE *06-09 Models*

Do not apply throttle when starting the engine or engine kickback can result.

Kickback can damage the starting system components, ultimately leading to hard-to-start or no start conditions. The idle speed on a warm engine should be set to 1700 rpm (2006 and later models); 1600rpm (2004-2005 models). An idle speed that is set too low can cause difficult starting.

AIR CLEANER MAINTENENCE

Dirt, sand or other particles may pass through the sir filter and carburetor due to an improperly installed, maintained or modified air filter element. These particles may cause premature wear to your piston, rings, cylinder, cylinder head, valves, etc. Remember that air filters and air filter oil are cheap compared to a complete top end rebuild.

ENGINE OIL

Engine Oil is the life blood of your TRX450R. It lubricates and cools critical engine components. Your TRX450R will consume some engine oil as part of its high performance operation. Oil consumption can be quite significant if the ATV is used in high engine rev or high load conditions. **Remember to check your oil before every ride** as a part of your Pre-Ride Checklist; see your owner's manual. Change the oil and oil filter according to the maintenance schedule or more often if used in racing or particularly dusty or high load conditions. Pro Honda HP4M (with Molybdenum) provides superior protection.

To reduce weight, engine size, and windage (the power loss from the crankshaft moving through the oil), the TRX450R utilizes a relatively small quantity of engine oil (less than a quart). This, coupled with normal oil consumption, makes it imperative that you check your engine oil level before every ride. I couldn't be easier, just look through the sight-glass. See your Owners Manual for the proper checking procedure. Remember, even a short ride with low engine oil level can cause severe (and expensive) damage.

Check and change your oil often.

TRANSMISSION OIL

The transmission utilizes a unique lubrication system, which is separate from the engine oil system. In order to achieve maximum performance, an oil distribution/leveling system has been developed. This system reduces power loss by using a slightly lower oil level in the clutch cavity than the gear box cavity. This is a performance enhancing design; however, it can create some confusion when changing, checking, and maintaining the transmission oil level. Make sure to check and change the transmission oil frequently. **The Owners Manual states to start the engine let it idle for 3-5 minutes, shut it off, and let it sit for 2-3 minutes before checking and adding oil. If you do not follow this procedure, an underfill condition will result.**



After draining, if you simply pour oil into the filler until it comes out the check hole, there is a good chance you will underfill the transmission. The best way to ensure proper filling is to replace the transmission oil using a graduated measuring cup. Use Pro Honda GN4, HP4 (without Molybdenum), or HP transmission Oil for superior protection.

THROTTLE OPERATION

Check the throttle operation before every ride, make sure the throttle opens smoothly and snaps closed in all steering positions. Make sure the throttle does not “hang up.”

BATTERY (TRX450ER ONLY)

Although the battery in your TRX450ER is “maintenance free” its voltage will drop when the unit is not used for a long period of time. A battery left in a discharged state may never come back to full strength and will need to be replaced. If you do not plan to ride the ATV for more than 30 days, remove the battery and charge it frequently with the Pro Honda Optimate 3 Battery Charger (P/N 31670-BMS-000) or equivalent.

CHAIN

Clean and lube your drive chain often, check the chain slack before every ride. The chain will “stretch” most when new, so pay close attention during the break in period. Too much chain slack could cause a “thrown chain.” Too little chain slack can cause a broken chain or damage the transmission. The distance between the front and rear sprockets increases as the rear suspension is compressed (landing from jumps) so proper chain slack adjustment is critical.

Chain slack free-play should be **25-23mm (1-3/8 in)**.

BRAKE PAD WEAR

Brake pads should be inspected often. Continuing to ride with the brake pads worn past their service limit can cause damage to brake system components. Brake pads (especially the rear pads) can wear quickly depending on riding style and environment. Riding in wet, muddy conditions will wear pads more quickly.

PARKING BRAKE ADJUSTMENT

The parking brake will need to be adjusted as the rear brake pads wear. See your Owner’s Manual for “Parking Tips” and parking brake adjustment procedures. Use caution when parking on an incline or slippery surface.

CLUTCH LEVER FREEPLAY

Check and adjust the clutch lever freeplay when the engine is cold, before every ride. Too little clutch lever freeplay will cause the clutch to slip and also cause premature clutch plate wear.



AXLE CARRIER BEARINGS

Bearings and seals need to be replaced frequently when ridden in water levels that cover the rear axle or when the unit is regularly ridden at extended high speeds. Replacing these seals and bearings will prevent major repair costs, for example, new swingarm, axle and axle carriers.

NUTS, BOLTS AND FASTENERS

During the break-in process, fasteners and hardware will settle in and require tightening and adjustment. Once these parts have seated, they will require less attention. However, we recommend you follow the Owner's Manual recommendations regarding the Pre-Ride Inspection and maintenance of the nuts, bolts and fasteners.

CLEANING YOUR ATV

The best time to clean your Honda is right after riding, and the sooner the better. Leaving mud and dirt on metal parts for extended periods can promote corrosion and staining. Moreover, leaving dirt residue on suspension components can contaminate or even damage the seals the next time you ride.

Frequent cleaning and polishing will keep your Honda looking newer longer. A clean machine is also easier to inspect and service. While cleaning your ATV, be sure to look for damage, wear, and gasoline or oil leaks.

NOTE: Avoid cleaning products that contain harsh detergents or chemical solvents.

NOTE: High-pressure water (or air) can damage certain parts on your ATV. Avoid spraying at electrical components or connector and seals.

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Do not open the throttle during starting.
Throttle lever – check for smooth operation. “Snaps” closed in all steering positions.

