



Motorcycle Buyer's Checklist

So you bought your new bike, now what? Consider these tips to help keep your ride top-notch while staying safe and protected.

Register your purchase.

In most states, you'll have to register your motorcycle with the DMV and get motorcycle license plates. Check with your state's Department of Motor Vehicles to find out what is required in your state. You should also check with your local city or village government to see if you require any additional registration. There may be a charge for this, so be prepared to pay.

Get the insurance coverage you need.

Make sure you choose the appropriate coverages and amounts of coverage so that your bike and, more importantly, you are adequately protected. Allstate offers a comprehensive motorcycle insurance product at a great price. Also save when you combine multiple insurance products with Allstate. To find out more, go to allstate.com or call 1-877-361-BIKE.

Perform a thorough bike inspection.

The best bike checkup is performed at an accredited motorcycle dealership or with a motorcycle repair professional. However, if you need to perform the inspection yourself, the Motorcycle Safety Foundation has developed the T-CLOCS checklist to help make sure you have checked for all potential problems. This checklist can be found at www.msf-usa.org/downloads/T-CLOCSInspectionChecklist.pdf.

Ride safe and ride educated.

No matter how experienced you are at riding, it takes time to get used to a new bike. Go slow and get to know your new bike and how it performs. Make sure you are confident in how the bike will react before you take it for long rides or go on roads with a higher speed limit.

It's always a good idea to refresh your motorcycle riding education. The Motorcycle Safety Foundation (www.msf-usa.org) offers many great RiderCourses, even some designed specifically for the Experienced Rider. Getting a new bike is a great reason to take a course.