

Carrying a Passenger

Carrying a passenger on a motorcycle is not like taking someone with you in a car. A passenger affects the overall handling and dynamics of your motorcycle. Unless you are a fairly skilled rider, you probably should not even consider taking on a passenger.

If you do carry a passenger, you should know and do the following:

- Never carry a passenger unless your motorcycle is designed for one, including seating space and passenger foot pegs.
- NEVER allow a passenger to sit anywhere except on the area of the seat designated for a passenger.
- Make sure that the weight of yourself, your passenger and all gear does not exceed the maximum recommended weight for your motorcycle according to manufacturer's specifications.
- Make sure your passenger has proper riding gear. It's just as important for your passenger to be protected and comfortable as it is for you.
- Make sure your passenger knows what he/she is supposed to do. Unless the person has ridden with you many times and you know he/she understands the rules, take the time to go over them before you start your ride. The passenger should:
 - Keep his/her feet on the foot pegs at all times, and avoid contact with hot parts.
 - Sit still as much as possible, particularly when slowing or stopped.
 - Always lean with the motorcycle. This means the passenger's torso should always be the same angle as the motorcycle. They should not lean in or out.
 - When in a turn, look over the shoulder of the operator in the direction of the turn.
- Make sure your suspension is properly adjusted for the extra weight.