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TROUBLESHOOTING

Troubleshooting: General

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⚠ WARNING

The troubleshooting section of the Owner's Manual is a guide to diagnose problems. Read the service manual before performing any work. Improper repair and/or maintenance could result in death or serious injury. (00080a)

The following checklist of possible operating troubles and their probable causes will be helpful in keeping your motorcycle in good operating condition. More than one of these conditions may be causing trouble and should be carefully checked.

Engine: Buell 1125 Models

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Starter Does Not Operate or Does Not Turn Engine Over

1. Engine run switch in OFF position.
2. Ignition switch not ON.
3. Discharged battery or loose or corroded connections (solenoid chatters).
4. Clutch lever not squeezed against handlebar or transmission not in neutral.
5. Blown fuse.
6. Security system armed or faulted. See dealer if faulted.

Engine Turns Over But Does Not Start or Starts Hard

1. Fuel tank empty.
2. Discharged battery or loose or damaged battery terminal connections.

3. Spark plugs are loose, defective, fouled, have improper gap, or not according to specification.
4. Spark plug coils are defective, have loose connection, or wiring in bad condition and shorting.
5. Engine oil too heavy (winter operation).
6. No output from ECM. See dealer.
7. Inadequate fuel pressure in fuel lines (possible leak). See dealer.
8. Clogged fuel filter. See dealer.
9. Clogged fuel injectors. See dealer.
10. Inoperative fuel pump. See dealer.
11. Water or dirt in fuel system.
12. Engine management system failure. See dealer.
13. Intake manifold leak. See dealer.
14. Tripped bank angle sensor. Turn key to OFF and then back to ON again. Start engine.

Starts But Runs Irregularly or Misses

1. Spark plugs in bad condition or partially fouled.
2. Spark plug gap too close or too wide.
3. Battery nearly discharged.
4. Damaged wire or loose connection at battery terminals or coils.
5. Intermittent short circuit due to damaged wire insulation.
6. Water or dirt in fuel system.
7. Fuel level too low. Add gasoline.
8. Inoperative fuel injector. See dealer.
9. Obstructed fuel tank vent valve or pinched vent tube. See dealer.
10. Engine management system failure. See dealer.
11. Intake manifold leak. See dealer.

A Spark Plug Fouls Repeatedly

1. Fuel mixture too rich. See dealer.
2. Incorrect spark plug.

Pre-ignition or Detonation (Knocks or Pings)

1. Incorrect fuel.

Overheats

1. Insufficient oil supply or oil not circulating.
2. Heavy carbon deposit from lugging engine. See dealer.
3. Oil cooler obstructed.
4. Cooling fan(s) inoperative. See dealer.
5. Thermostat stuck closed.
6. Plugged or restricted radiators or coolant lines.
7. Air flow to radiators obstructed.

Excessive Vibration

1. Engine mounts loose. See dealer.
2. Swingarm pivot shaft loose. See dealer.
3. Damaged frame. See dealer.
4. Drive belt badly worn.
5. Wheels and/or tires damaged. See dealer.

Poor Fuel Economy

1. O2 sensor damaged or malfunctioning (engine running rich). See dealer.
2. Clogged air filter.

Lubrication System: Buell 1125 Models

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Engine Leaks Oil From Cases or Hoses

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1. Loose parts. See dealer.
 2. Imperfect seal at gaskets, washers, etc. See dealer.
 3. Restricted oil line or oil screen. See dealer.

Electrical System

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Alternator Does Not Charge

1. Regulator not grounded. See dealer.
2. Engine ground wire loose or damaged. See dealer.
3. Loose or damaged wires in charging circuit. See dealer.

Alternator Charge Rate is Below Normal

1. Weak battery.
2. Excessive use of add-on accessories.
3. Loose or corroded connections.
4. Extensive periods of idling or low speed riding.

Transmission: Buell 1125 Models

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Transmission Shifts Hard

1. Transmission shifting mechanism worn. See dealer.

Transmission Jumps Out of Gear

1. Worn shifter dogs in transmission. See dealer.

Clutch Slips

1. Clutch fluid reservoir overfilled.
2. Worn friction discs. See dealer.
3. Insufficient clutch spring tension. See dealer.

Clutch Drags or Does Not Release

1. Improper fluid level.
2. Insufficient clutch spring tension. See dealer.
3. Clutch discs warped. See dealer.
4. Loss of vacuum to Hydraulic Vacuum Assist Slipper Action clutch.

Clutch Chatters

1. Friction discs or steel discs worn or warped. See dealer.

Brakes

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Brakes Do Not Hold Normally

1. Master cylinder low on fluid. See dealer.
2. Brake line contains air bubbles. See dealer.
3. Master cylinder piston worn. See dealer.
4. Brake pads contaminated with grease or oil. See dealer.
5. Brake pads badly worn. See dealer.
6. Brake disc badly worn or warped. See dealer.
7. Brake fades because of heat build up. Excessive braking or brake pads dragging. See dealer.
8. Brake drags. Insufficient hand lever free play. See dealer.

Cooling System

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Overheats

1. Air flow through the radiator is obstructed.
2. The radiator is internally plugged.
3. Insufficient coolant.
4. Cooling fans not operating.
5. Thermostat stuck closed.

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