Get Ready for Riding Season

Before you hit the road after a long winter, give your bike the once-over.

- Test the lights, brakes, and turn signals.
- Check the oil and fuel levels.
- Make sure the mirrors are positioned correctly.
- Check the cables to make sure they aren't worn or frayed.
- Check the drive belt and adjust it according to the manufacturer's specs.
- Try a rider-training course to brush up on your skills.

Invest in Good Gear

Wearing tough gear is always a smart move.

- Pick a high-quality helmet that fits well. If it doesn't have a face shield, pair it up with goggles or glasses with safety lenses.
- Use safety as your excuse to shell out for that leather jacket. Get the pants while you're at it. (We know black and bikes are a perfect match, but a bright color will help other drivers see you better.)
- Wear durable non-slip gloves.
- Invest in boots or sneakers that cover your ankles.

When You're Out on the Road

There's a lot you can do to help keep yourself safe while riding.

- Always wear a helmet that fits right. Pick one that has the DOT label.
- Know your bike's limits.
- Stick to the speed limit.
- Don't tailgate other vehicles.
- Use your signals.
- Be respectful of other drivers. Don't weave through traffic or drive on the shoulder.
- Make sure other drivers can see you. Don't ride in blind spots and always use your headlights.
- Brake smart. Use both brakes at the same time, slow and steady.