Shifting Gears

- Avoid downshifting to help slow your motorcycle when engine rpm is near its allowable maximum (near the tachometer red zone). In this situation, the rev limiter in the engine ignition control module may not prevent excessive engine speed which could damage the engine.
- To prevent transmission damage, do not coast or tow the motorcycle for long distances with the engine off.

Recommended Shift Points

Ride in the highest gear that lets the engine run and accelerate smoothly. This will give you good fuel economy and effective emissions control. When changing gears under normal conditions, use these recommended shift points:

Shifting Up:

From 1st to 2nd: 12 mph (20 km/h)
From 2nd to 3rd: 19 mph (30 km/h)
From 3rd to 4th: 25 mph (40 km/h)
From 4th to 5th: 31 mph (50 km/h)
From 5th to 6th: 37 mph (60 km/h)

Shifting Down:

From 6th to 5th: 28 mph (45 km/h) From 5th to 4th: 22 mph (35 km/h) From 4th to 3rd: 16 mph (25 km/h)

Pull the clutch lever in when speed drops below 12 mph (20 km/h), when engine roughness is evident, or when engine stalling is imminent; and shift down to 1st gear for acceleration.