

General Competition Maintenance

Handgrips

CRF450RX/R

Always use Honda Bond A, Pro Honda Handgrip Cement (U.S.A. only) when replacing handgrips.

CRF450RWE

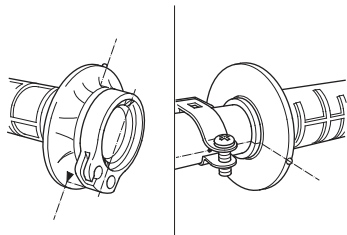
Always use double-sided tape of Honda genuine parts when replacing handgrips.

Refer to an official Honda Service Manual (page 186) for installation instructions.

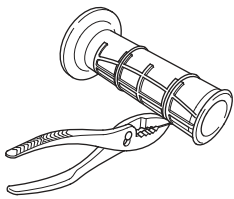
Throttle Grip/Handlebar Grip

Right throttle grip: Align the index mark on the throttle grip with the index mark of the throttle pipe.

Left handlebar grip: Align the index mark on the left handlebar grip with the paint mark on the handlebar.



For added security, you may choose to bind the handgrips to the handlebar and throttle pipe with safety wires to prevent the possibility of them loosening. Position the twisted wire ends away from your palms and be sure to bend the wire ends well into the handgrip rubber so they will not snag your glove.

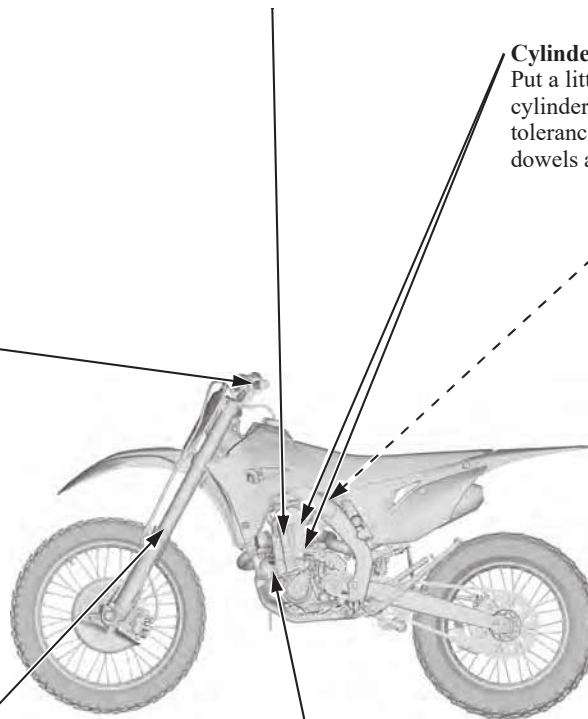


Fork Oil/Performance

Disassemble, clean and inspect the fork and replace the oil regularly. Contamination due to the tiny metal particles produced from the normal action of the fork, as well as normal oil breakdown, will deteriorate the performance of the suspension. Refer to an official Honda Service Manual (page 186). Use only Pro Honda HP Fork Oil, A15-00 or an equivalent which contains special additives to assure maximum performance of your CRF's front suspension.

Gaskets

Always use new gaskets when reassembling components.



Cylinder head/Cylinder

Put a little grease on the dowel pins of the cylinder head and cylinder to prevent corrosion from dissimilar metals. The tolerances are quite tight, so it's important to keep these dowels absolutely clean (pages 93, 94).

Fuel Line

Refer to *Fuel Line Inspection* on pages 42 and 52. Check the fuel line for deterioration, damage, or leakage. Replace the fuel line every year.

Fuse

Check the fuse before looking elsewhere for the cause of an electrical problem.

Battery

The start button uses current from the battery. Limited operation also allows the battery to discharge. If you do not ride frequently, we recommend that you charge the battery frequently (see *Battery Charging* on page 135). If you do not expect to ride your CRF for at least 2 weeks, we recommend you remove the battery – or at least disconnect the battery cables (negative cable first).

Electrical Connectors

Clean electrical connectors and wrap them with electrical tape to reduce the possibility of unwanted disconnections, water shorts or corrosion.

Frame

Because your CRF is a high-performance machine, the frame should not be overlooked as part of your overall competition maintenance program. Periodically inspect the frame closely for possible cracking or other damage. It makes good racing sense.

Engine Mounting Bolts and Nuts

Make sure the engine mounting bolts and nuts are tightened to the proper torque specification.