



VISION ZERO SOUTH WEST

MAINTAINING YOUR MOTORBIKE

**CARRYING OUT REGULAR MAINTENANCE
OF YOUR BIKE IS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE
IT REMAINS SAFE. FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE
CHECKS TO KEEP YOUR BIKE ROADWORTHY.**



1. Check your tyre pressure regularly to ensure they are correctly inflated. Cold weather can reduce motorcycle tyre pressure significantly, therefore these checks are even more important in the winter.

2. Make sure your bike is well lubricated. Wet weather can wash away lubricant quickly. A dry or rusty chain will wear out more quickly and reduce fuel efficiency. Applying motorcycle chain lube and leaving it to coat the links overnight is most effective.

3. Maintain the correct chain tension. Different bikes will require different amounts of free play in the chain, so consult your manual and check it regularly. Keep it clean with motorcycle chain cleaner.

4. Wash your bike regularly, especially in the winter. Rock salt that is used to grit roads in cold weather can lead to motorbike components getting clogged up, if left to sit this can lead to the metal corroding. Regularly wash your bike using soapy, warm water.

5. Avoid jet-washing.

High pressure jets can damage rubber seals and even flatten some of the slanted fins of radiators. If that happens, water gets trapped, and you can end up with damage to your bike. Washing your bike by hand is recommended.

6. Listen for squealing brakes.

This could mean there is something wrong with your bike and should be taken to your local garage to ensure it remains safe to ride.

7. Keep your battery topped up at all times.

If bad weather means your bike spends a little less time out on the road then it's a good idea to either disconnect it (so it doesn't run down) or connect it to a float charger to keep it topped up.

8. Use a cover to protect your bike.

If you don't have a garage, a good quality motorcycle cover is the best way to protect your bike from being damaged by adverse weather.

9. Always pack a toolkit.

All bikes should have a small toolkit on board. Check that yours is in good working order and that it contains a puncture repair kit and any other essential motorcycle accessories.

