



OWNER'S MANUAL

READ THIS MANUAL CAREFULLY,
IT CONTAINS IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION.



MINIMUM RECOMMENDED OPERATOR AGE 12

02

TRX90 Sportrax 90

IMPORTANT NOTICES

READ THIS MANUAL CAREFULLY

Your Owner's Manual contains important information on safety, operation, and maintenance. Anyone who operates this Sportrax should carefully read and understand the contents of this manual before riding the vehicle.

It is especially important that parents make sure their children fully understand and follow the information and procedures contained in the manual.

AGE RECOMMENDATION

This Sportrax is intended for use by children at least 12 years old. Never allow children under the age of 12 to operate this Sportrax.

NOTE TO PARENTS

Parents should read the "Important Message to Parents" beginning on page 1 and the "Parents, Youngsters and ATVs" booklet received with the Sportrax and then decide whether their youngster is ready to ride.


"Parents, Youngsters and ATVs" focuses on the beginning rider, and discusses how to evaluate your youngster's readiness to ride as well as showing you how to introduce your youngster to ATV riding. Additional copies may be ordered from an authorized Honda dealer or directly from the ATV Safety Institute by calling (714) 727-3727 (USA only).

Your Sportrax was delivered with two speed restrictors for new riders. Please refer to page 4 for more information.

RIDER TRAINING

Anyone who operates this vehicle should get proper instruction. We recommend a certified rider training course which is available to all interested people. For information, contact your Honda dealer or call 1-800-887-2887 (USA only).

SPECIAL MESSAGES

Honda provides many important safety messages both in this manual and on the vehicle. For your safety and the safety of others, pay special attention to all warnings preceded by this alert symbol . Failure to follow the warnings contained in this manual can result in **SERIOUS INJURY or DEATH**.

DANGER

Indicates that severe personal injury or death will result if instructions are not followed.

WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

To protect your vehicle from damage, pay attention to cautions.

CAUTION:

Indicates a possibility that equipment or property damage could result if instructions are not followed.

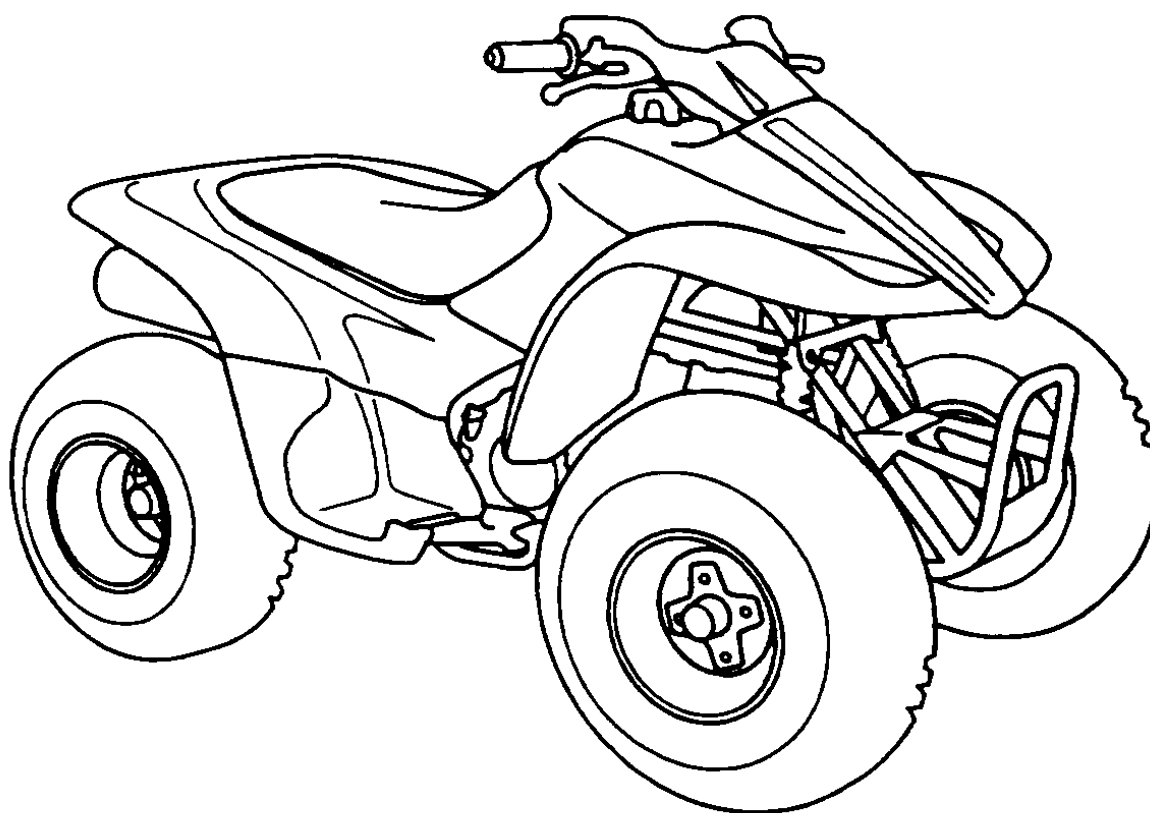
NOTE:

Gives helpful information.

The Owner's Manual should be considered a permanent part of your Sportrax. It should remain with the vehicle at all times and stay with the Sportrax if it is sold.

**2002
TRX 90**

Honda Sportrax 90 OWNER'S MANUAL



FOR OFF-ROAD USE ONLY

This vehicle is designed and manufactured for off-road use only.

USA only:

It conforms to US EPA Noise Emission regulations, but does not conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards or US EPA Exhaust Emission regulations, and operation on public streets, roads, or highways is illegal. The vehicle is equipped with a USDA qualified spark arrester. Obey local laws and regulations.

It conforms to California exhaust emission regulations for ATVs.

PREFACE

Thank you for buying a Honda Sportrax. Honda takes pride in a worldwide reputation for quality—in research, design, production and service. Quality is the hallmark of all Honda products and one reason why Honda is the leading manufacturer of ATVs.

Help assure your Sportrax's future reliability and performance by paying extra attention to how you ride during the first operating day or 15 miles (25 km). During this period, avoid full-throttle starts and rapid acceleration.

For replacement parts and accessories, we recommend genuine Honda products. They've been specially designed for your vehicle and manufactured to meet Honda's demanding standards.

This manual contains a Maintenance Schedule and information on basic maintenance procedures. If you have the required skills and tools, your Honda dealer can supply you with an Official Honda Service Manual to help you perform more advanced maintenance and repairs. When you need service, remember that your Honda dealer knows your vehicle best and is interested in your complete satisfaction.

We wish you many years of safe and enjoyable riding.

While reading this manual, remember:

WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

All information in this publication is based on the latest product information available at the time of approval for printing. Honda Motor Co., Ltd. reserves the right to make changes at any time without notice and without incurring any obligation.

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Sportrax SAFETY

IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO PARENTS

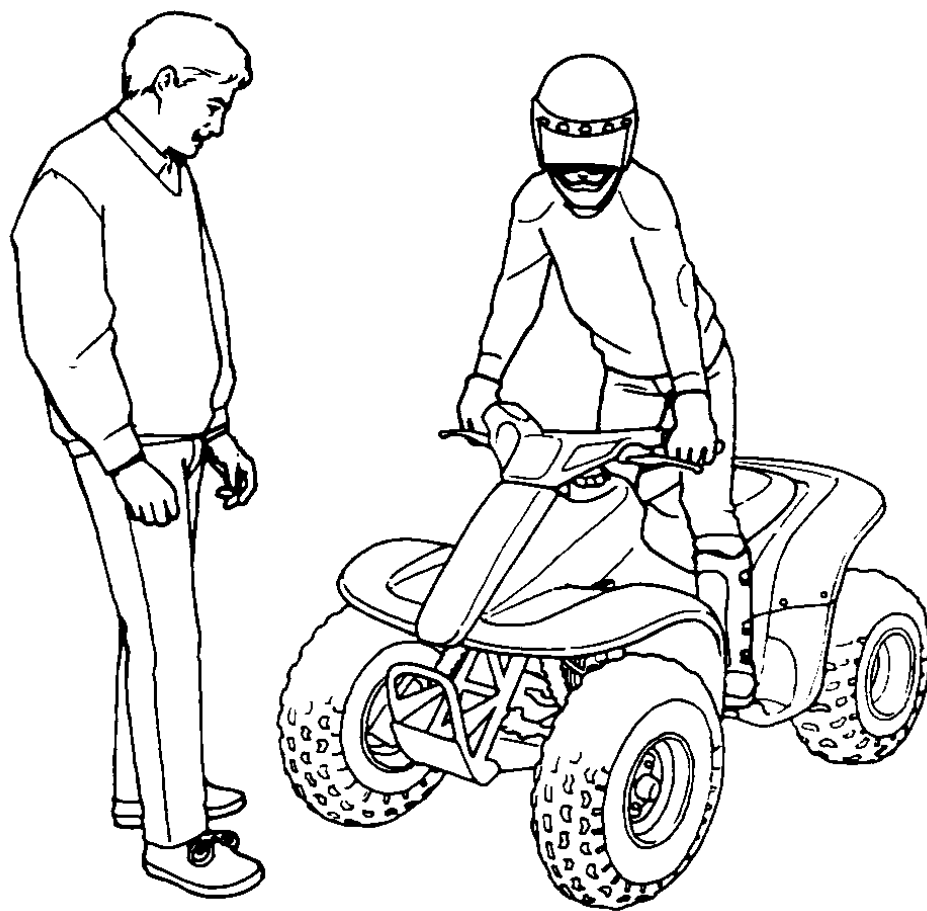
Your child's safety is very important to Honda. That's why we urge you to read this message before you let any young person ride this Sportrax. Off-road riding can be fun. However, an ATV is not a toy and it can be hazardous to operate. As with any youth activity involving speed and skill—such as bicycling or skateboarding—poor judgement can result in injuries and we don't want that to happen! You can help prevent accidents by making good decisions about if, when, and how your youngster rides this Sportrax.

Evaluate Riding Readiness

The first decision you'll need to make is whether your youngster is ready to ride. Riding readiness varies widely from one person to another, and while the minimum age recommended for this Sportrax is 12 years old, there are other factors that you should consider.

Physical size and ability are important considerations. To help determine whether a youngster is big enough for this Sportrax, have them stand up on the footpegs and grasp the handgrips. While the youngster holds this position, check that they have at least three inches of clearance between the ATV seat and the youngster's "seat of the pants." A rider needs at least three inches of clearance so they can stand up for balance and comfort, and to shift their body forward, backward and from side to side.

Also make sure your youngster can comfortably reach and work all the controls. For example, can they turn the handlebars all the way to the right and left? Can they easily use their feet to work the brake pedal and gearshift lever? Can they operate the throttle and brake levers while they hold onto the handgrips? If not, the youngster is not physically ready to ride this Sportrax.



Before you let a youngster ride an ATV, decide whether they are physically, mentally and emotionally ready to ride.

Athletic ability is another requirement for riding a Sportrax. Generally speaking, your youngster should be good at riding a bicycle before they get on an ATV. Can your youngster judge speeds and distances while riding a bicycle and react with proper hand and foot actions? Anyone who does not have good coordination, balance, and agility is not ready for this Sportrax.

Mental and emotional maturity are also necessary for safe riding. Does your youngster think through problems and come to logical solutions? On a bicycle, does your youngster obey safe riding rules? Be honest! Young people who take unnecessary risks, make bad judgments and don't obey rules are not ready to ride this Sportrax.

If you decide that your youngster is ready to safely operate this Sportrax, make sure both of you first carefully read and understand the instructions and warnings in this Owner's Manual.

Also be sure that your youngster always wears a helmet and other appropriate riding equipment when operating or sitting on the Sportrax (see page 68).

Provide Good Instruction

Because good instruction is an important part of learning how to ride, we strongly recommend that young riders take the **free hands-on training course** Honda offers to all new Sportrax owners and immediate family members. We also recommend that you take or observe the course with your youngster. This will enable you to better understand proper riding techniques and safety messages.

To enroll in a class in your area, call 1 – 800 – 887 – 2887 (USA only).

Even if a youngster takes a certified training course, it's up to you to ensure your youngster's safety. Remember, learning to ride a Sportrax is a gradual step-by-step process. It takes time, patience and practice.

To help you regulate your youngster's rate of learning, your Sportrax was delivered with an **adjustable throttle limiter** and an **air restrictor**. We recommend that all beginning riders start off with the throttle limiter adjusted as delivered. The limiter may be adjusted to gradually increase maximum speed as the beginner becomes more familiar with operating the Sportrax. For adjustment and removal instructions, see pages 81 – 84.

Always Supervise Young Riders

Supervision is another important obligation of parents. Even after youngsters have become skilled off-road riders, make sure they always have adult supervision while riding. It also helps to regularly remind young riders to follow the instructions and warnings in this manual. And remember, it's the parents' responsibility to see that the Sportrax is properly maintained and kept in safe operating condition.

If you choose to lend your Sportrax, do make sure that any riders under 16 years old will have adult supervision. Your youngster should understand that the decision to lend the Sportrax is yours.

In Summary

Children differ in skills, physical abilities, and judgement. Some children may not be able to operate an ATV safely. Parents should supervise their child's use of the ATV at all times.

Parents should permit continued use only if they determine that the child has the ability to operate the ATV safely.

Safe and responsible riding must be an on-going commitment — by you and your youngster. When you both put safety first, you can enjoy more peace of mind, and your youngster can enjoy many hours of safe off-road riding.

SPECIAL SAFETY MESSAGES

AN ATV IS NOT A TOY AND CAN BE HAZARDOUS TO OPERATE.

An ATV handles differently from other vehicles including motorcycles and cars. A collision or rollover can occur quickly, even during routine maneuvers such as turning and driving on hills or over obstacles, if you fail to take proper precautions.

SEVERE INJURY OR DEATH can result if you do not follow these instructions:

- * Read this manual and all labels carefully and follow the operating procedures described.
- * Never operate an ATV without proper instruction.
Take a training course. Beginners should receive training from a certified instructor. Contact an authorized ATV dealer or call 1–800–887–2887 (USA only) to find out about the training courses nearest you.
- * Always follow these age recommendations:
 - A child under 12 years old should never operate an ATV with engine size 70 cc or greater.
 - A child under 16 years old should never operate an ATV with engine size greater than 90 cc.
 - A child under 12 years old should never operate this ATV.

- * Never allow a child under age 16 to operate an ATV without adult supervision, and never allow continued use of an ATV by a child if he or she does not have the abilities to operate it safely.
- * Never carry a passenger on an ATV.
- * Never operate an ATV on any paved surfaces, including sidewalks, driveways, parking lots and streets.
- * Never operate an ATV on any public street, road or highway, even a dirt or gravel one.
- * Never operate an ATV without wearing an approved motorcycle helmet that fits properly. You should also wear eye protection (goggles or face shield), gloves, boots, long-sleeved shirt or jacket, and long pants.
- * Never consume alcohol or drugs before or while operating this ATV.
- * Never operate at excessive speeds. Always go at a speed that is proper for the terrain, visibility, operating conditions, and your experience.

- * Never attempt wheelies, jumps, or other stunts.
- * Always inspect your ATV each time you use it to make sure it is in safe operating condition. Always follow the inspection and maintenance procedures and schedules described in this manual.
- * Always keep both hands on the handlebars and both feet on the footpegs of the ATV during operation.
- * Always go slowly and be extra careful when operating on unfamiliar terrain. Always be alert to changing terrain conditions when operating the ATV.
- * Never operate on excessively rough, slippery or loose terrain until you have learned and practiced the skills necessary to control the ATV on such terrain. Always be especially cautious on these kinds of terrain.
- * Always follow proper procedures for turning as described in this manual. Practice turning at low speeds before attempting to turn at faster speeds. Do not turn at excessive speed.
- * Never operate the ATV on hills too steep for the ATV or for your abilities. Practice on smaller hills before attempting larger hills.

- * Always follow proper procedures for climbing hills as described in this manual. Check the terrain carefully before you start up any hill. Never climb hills with excessively slippery or loose surfaces. Shift your weight forward. Never open the throttle suddenly or make sudden gear changes. Never go over the top of any hill at high speed.
- * Always follow proper procedures for going down hills and for braking on hills as described in this manual. Check the terrain carefully before you start down any hill. Shift your weight backward. Never go down a hill at high speed. Avoid going down a hill at an angle that would cause the vehicle to lean sharply to one side. Go straight down the hill where possible.
- * Always follow proper procedures for crossing the side of a hill as described in this manual. Avoid hills with excessively slippery or loose surfaces. Shift your weight to the uphill side of the ATV. Never attempt to turn the ATV around on any hill until you have mastered the turning technique described in this manual on level ground. Avoid crossing the side of a steep hill if possible.
- * Always use proper procedures if you stall or roll backwards when climbing a hill. To avoid stalling, use the proper gear and maintain a steady speed when climbing a hill. If you stall or roll backwards, follow the special procedure for braking described in this manual. Dismount and follow the procedures provided in this manual.

- * Always check for obstacles before operating in a new area. Never attempt to operate over large obstacles, such as large rocks or fallen trees. Always follow proper procedures when operating over obstacles as described in this manual.
- * Always be careful when skidding or sliding. Learn to safely control skidding or sliding by practicing at low speeds and on level, smooth terrain. On extremely slippery surfaces, such as ice, go slowly and be very cautious in order to reduce the chance of skidding out of control.
- * Never operate an ATV in fast flowing water or in water deeper than that specified in this manual. Remember that wet brakes may have reduced stopping ability. Test your brakes after leaving water. If necessary, apply them several times to let friction dry out the linings.
- * Always use the size and type tires specified in this manual. Always maintain proper tire pressure as described in this manual.
- * Never modify an ATV through improper installation or use of accessories.

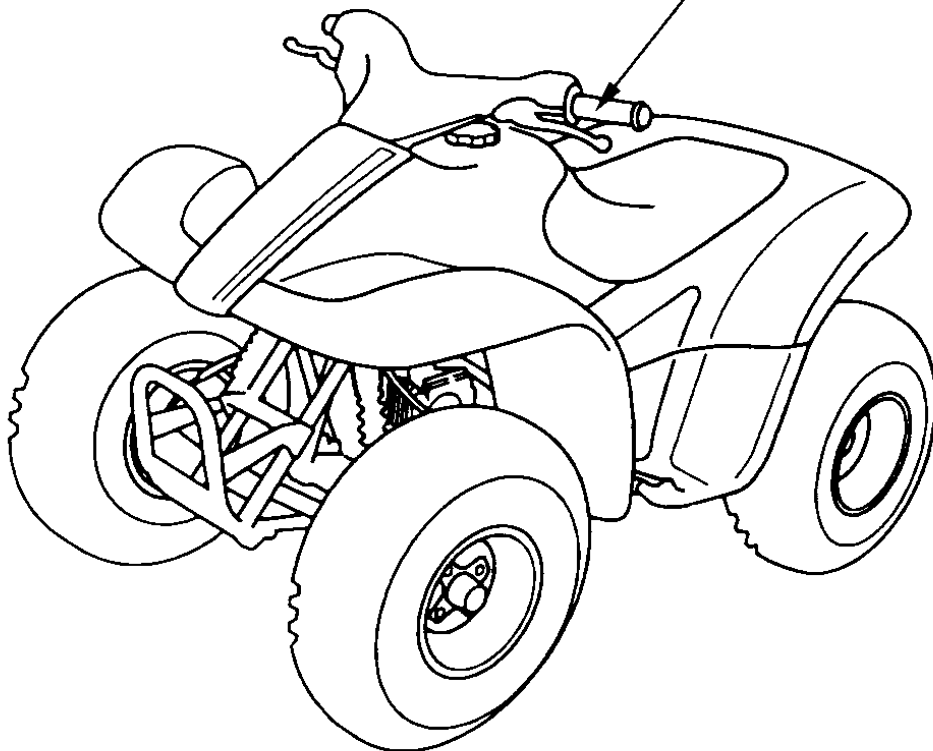
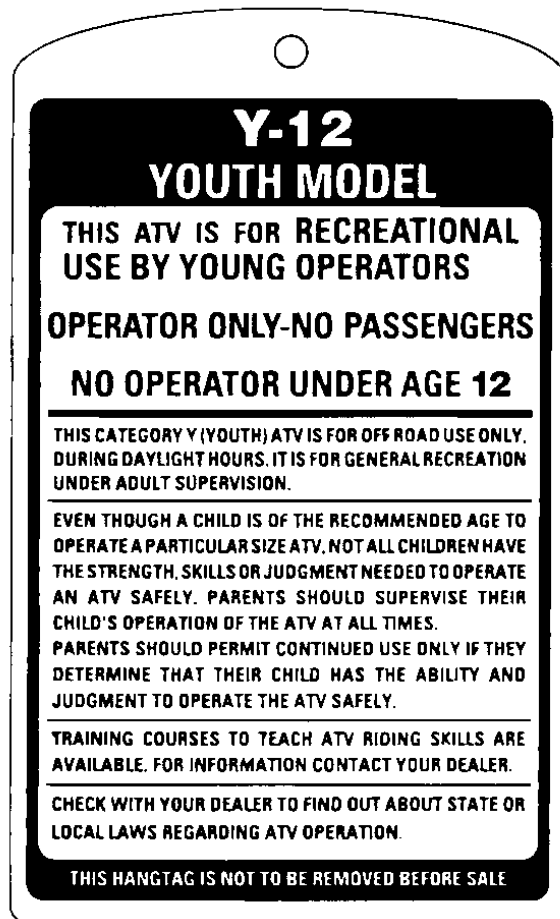
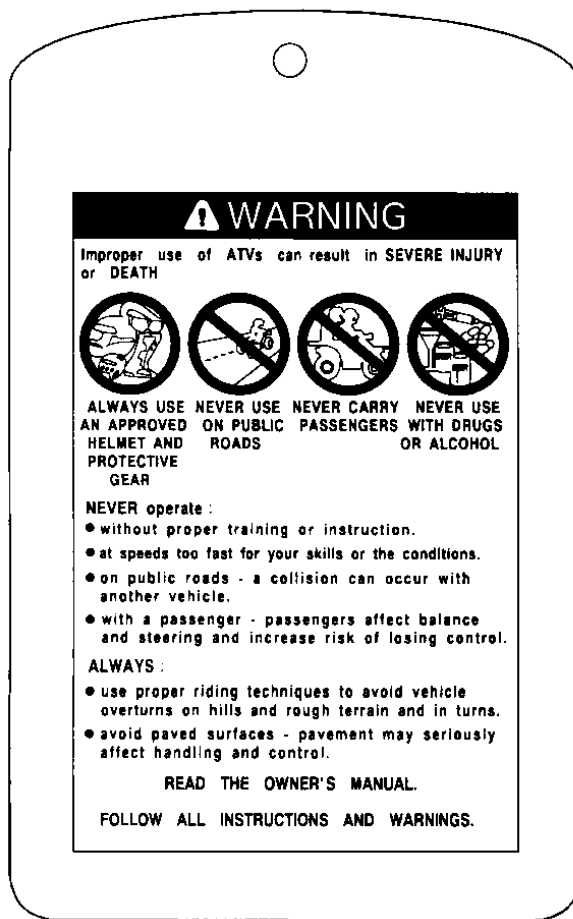
WARNING INFORMATION

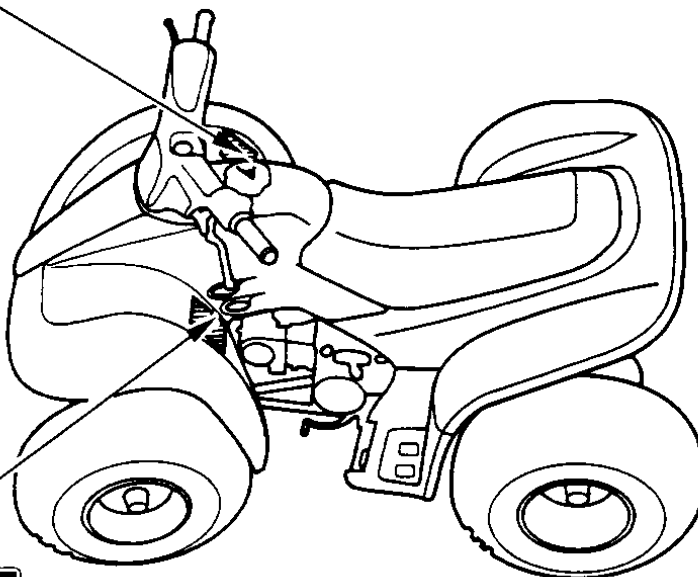
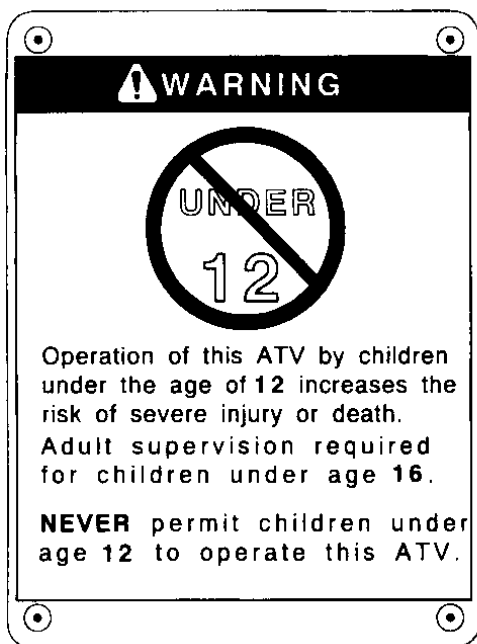
Your Sportrax comes with a hang tag (USA only) and several labels containing important safety information. Anyone who rides the vehicle should read and understand this information before riding.

Parents of young riders should make sure their youngsters read and understand the hang tag and label information before allowing them to ride.

The labels should be considered as permanent parts of the vehicle. If a label comes off or becomes hard to read, contact your Honda dealer for replacements.

USA only

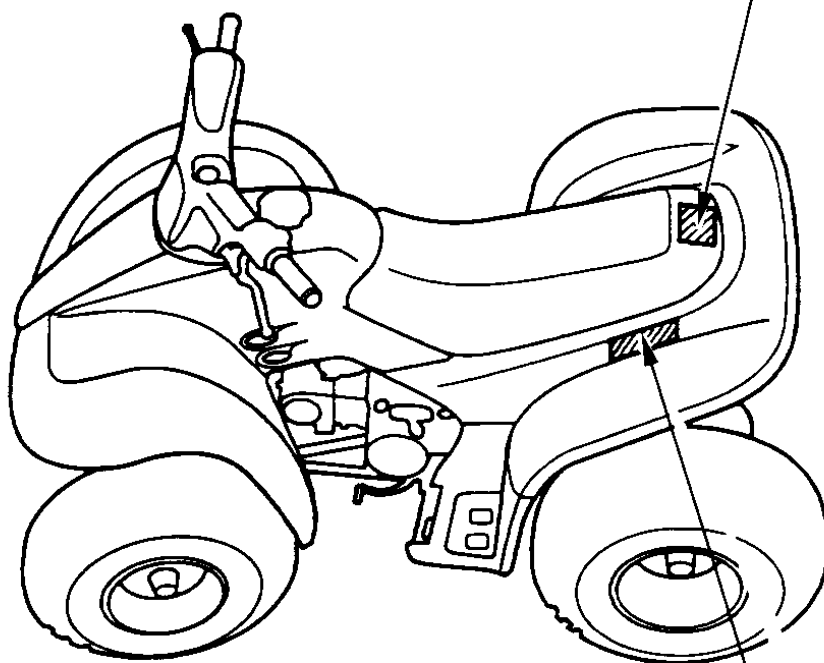





**WARNING**



NEVER ride as a passenger.
Passengers can cause a
loss of control, resulting in
SEVERE INJURY or **DEATH**.



**WARNING**

**Improper tire pressure or overloading
can cause loss of control.
Loss of control can result in severe
injury or death.**

- **Cold tire pressure;**
Front: $20 \pm 3 \text{ kPa}$ $0.20 \pm 0.03 \text{ kgf/cm}^2$ $2.9 \pm 0.4 \text{ psi}$
Rear: $20 \pm 3 \text{ kPa}$ $0.20 \pm 0.03 \text{ kgf/cm}^2$ $2.9 \pm 0.4 \text{ psi}$
- **Maximum weight capacity; 85kg (187lbs.)**

PARTS LOCATION AND OPERATION

PARTS LOCATION

- (1) Rear brake lever
Parking brake
- (2) Engine stop switch
- (3) Ignition switch
- (4) Fuel tank cap
- (5) Throttle lever
- (6) Front brake lever

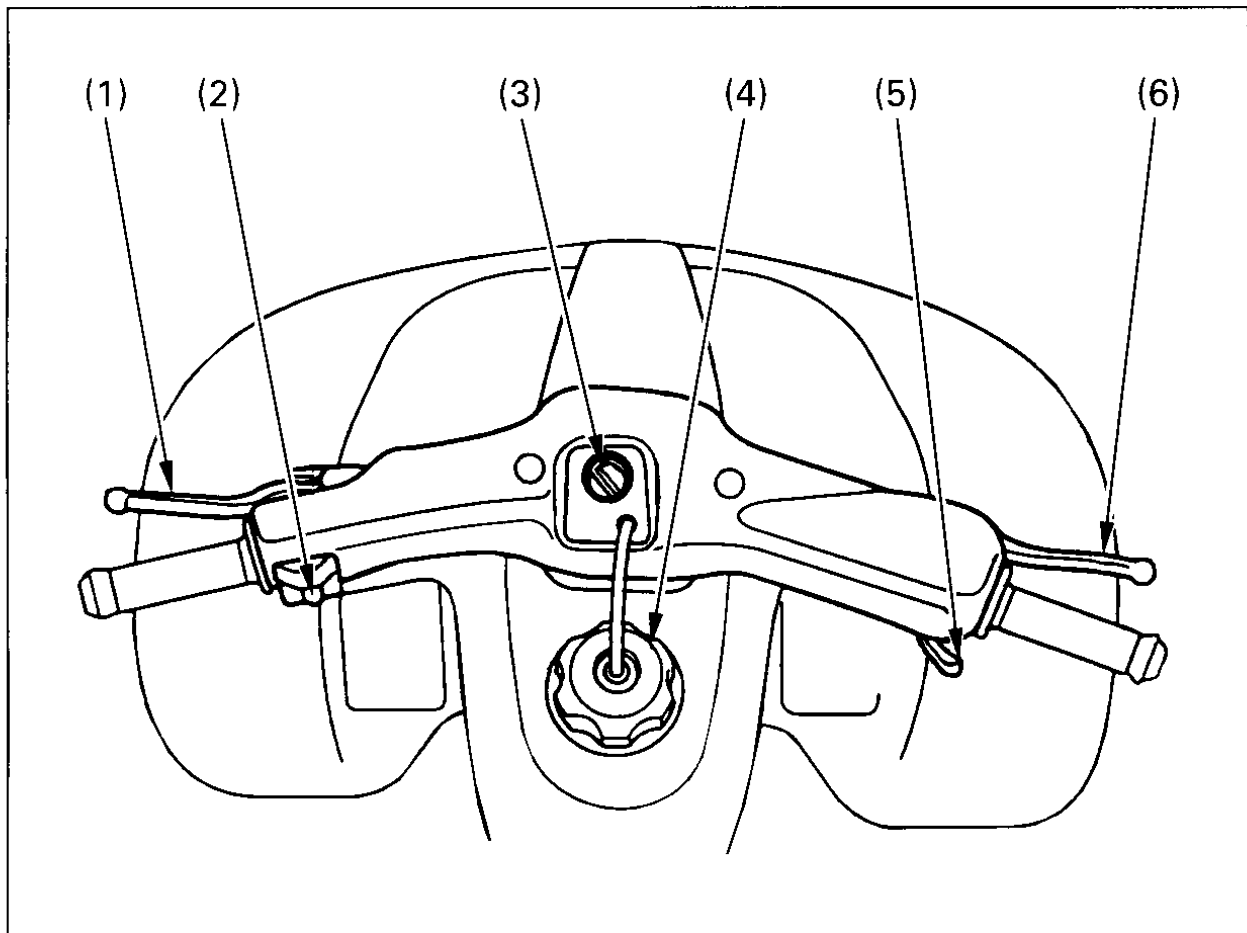


Fig. 2-1

Handlebars, from rider's point of view

- (7) Fuel valve
- (8) Choke lever
- (9) Seat lock lever
- (10) Gearshift pedal
- (11) Operator footpeg
- (12) Recoil starter
- (13) Neutral indicator

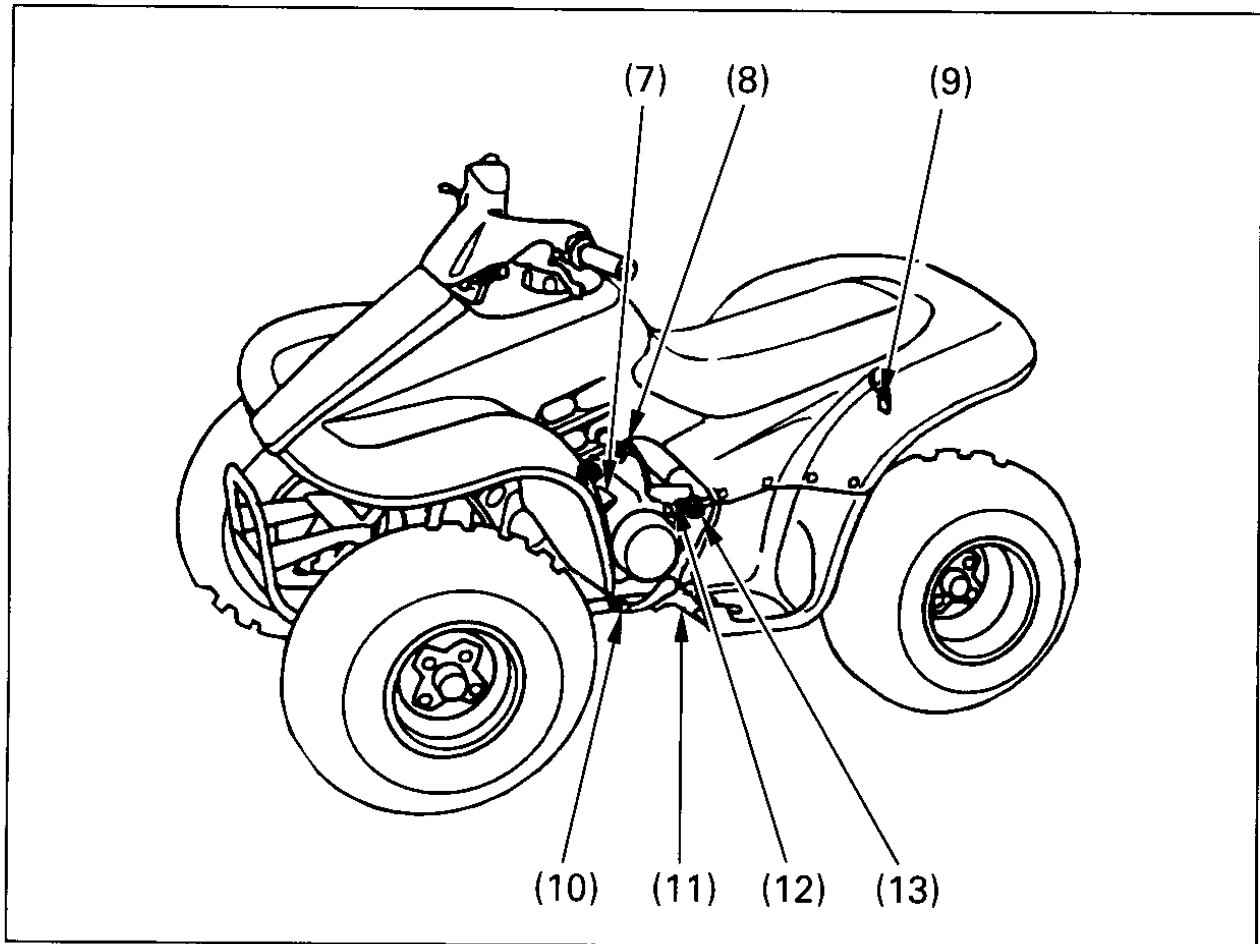


Fig. 2-2

Left side of Sportrax

- (14) Flag pole bracket
- (15) Storage compartment, containing
 - Owner's manual
 - Air pressure gauge
 - Tool kit
- (16) Oil filler cap/dipstick
- (17) Operator footpeg
- (18) Rear brake pedal

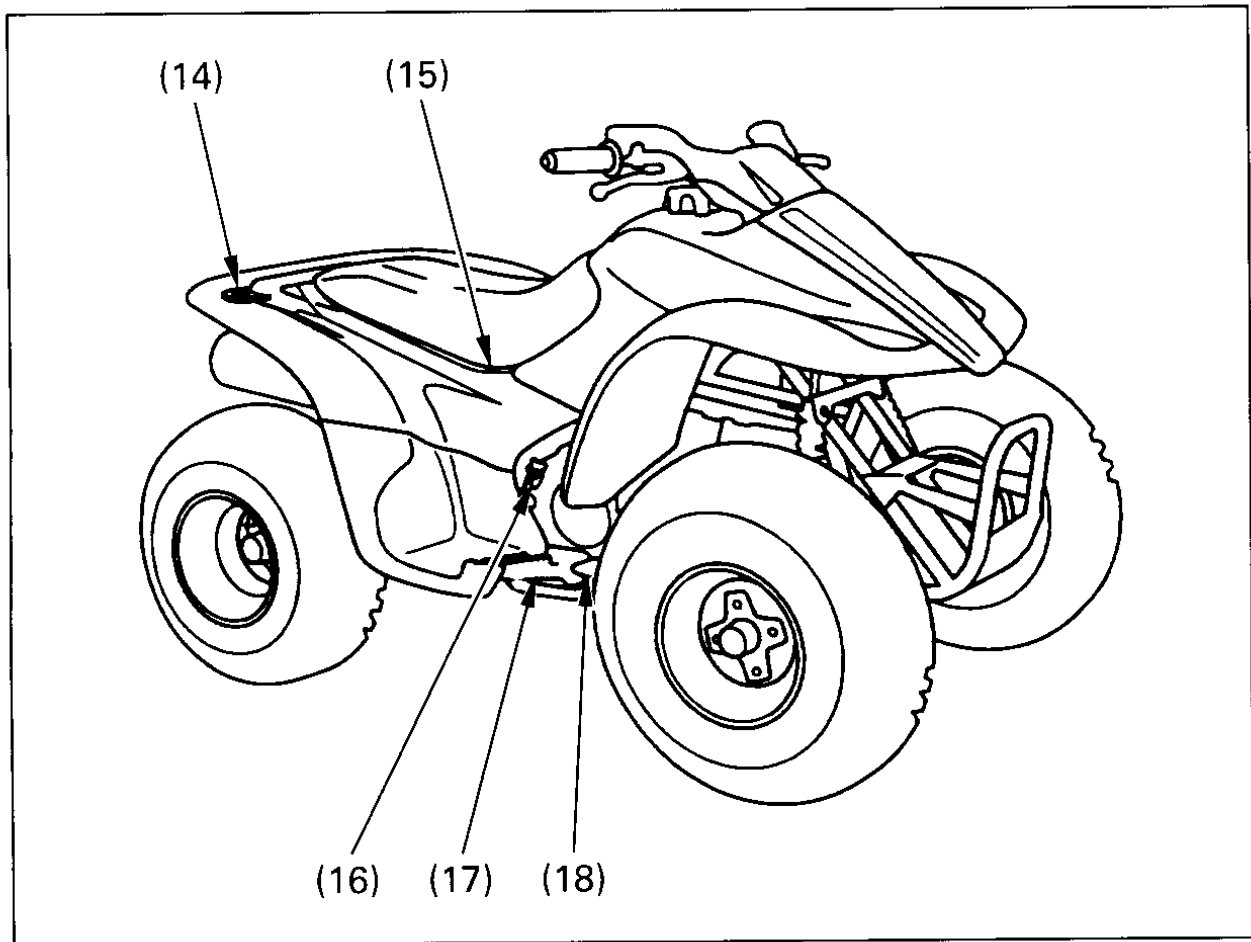


Fig. 2-3

Right side of Sportrax

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

PARTS OPERATION

POWER CONTROLS

Ignition Switch

The ignition switch (Fig. 2-4) is located in the center of the handlebar cover.

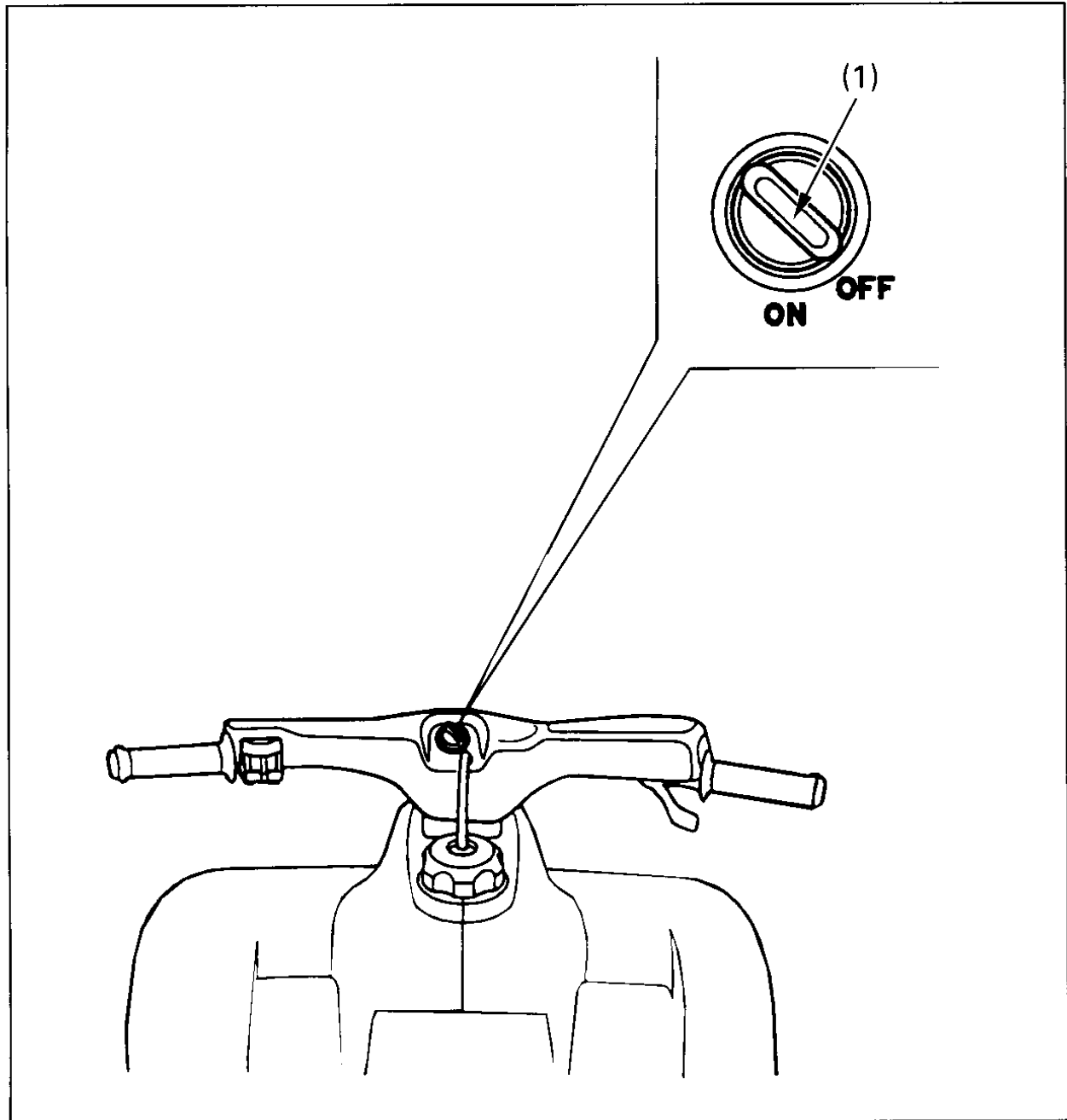
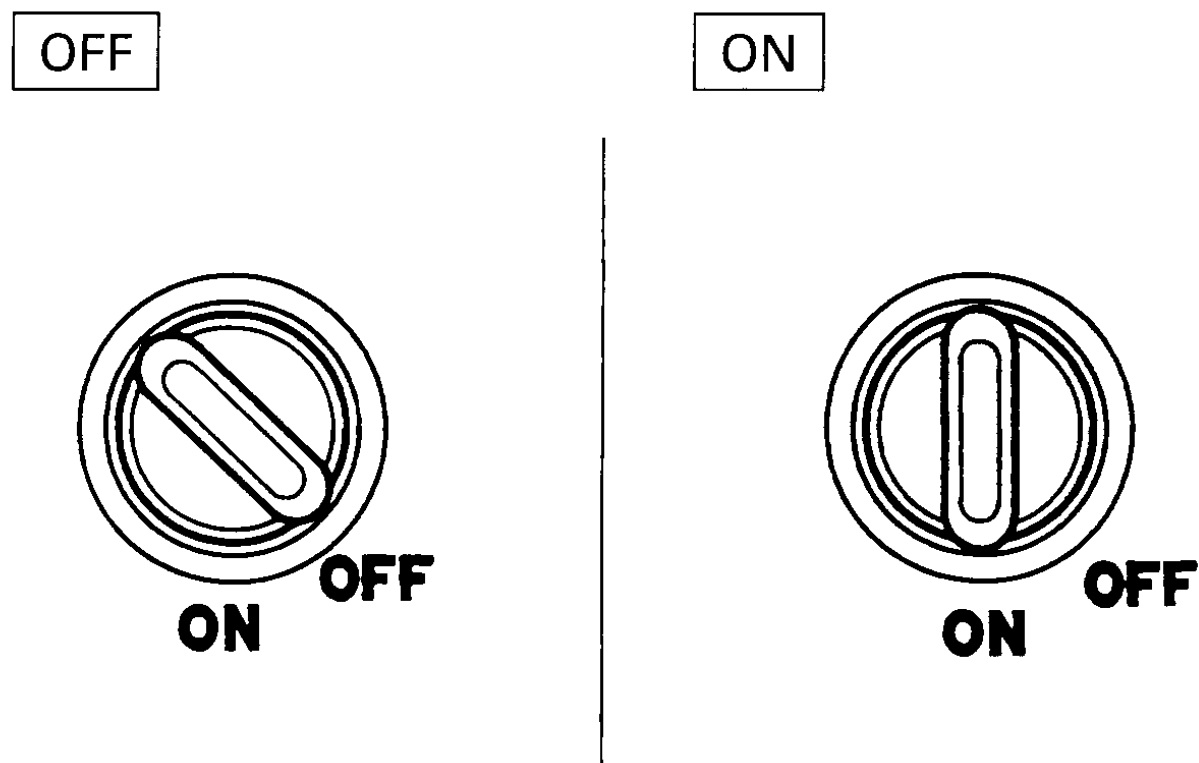


Fig. 2-4

(1) Ignition switch

The ignition switch has two positions.



Key Position	Function	Key Removal
OFF	The engine cannot be operated.	The key can be removed.
ON	With the engine stop switch at RUN and the transmission in neutral, the engine can be started.	The key cannot be removed.

Engine Stop Switch

The engine stop switch (Fig. 2-5) is next to the left handgrip, and it has three positions. When the switch is in the RUN position, the engine will operate. When the switch is in either OFF position, the engine will not operate.

This switch is intended primarily as a safety or emergency control, and it should normally remain in the RUN position.

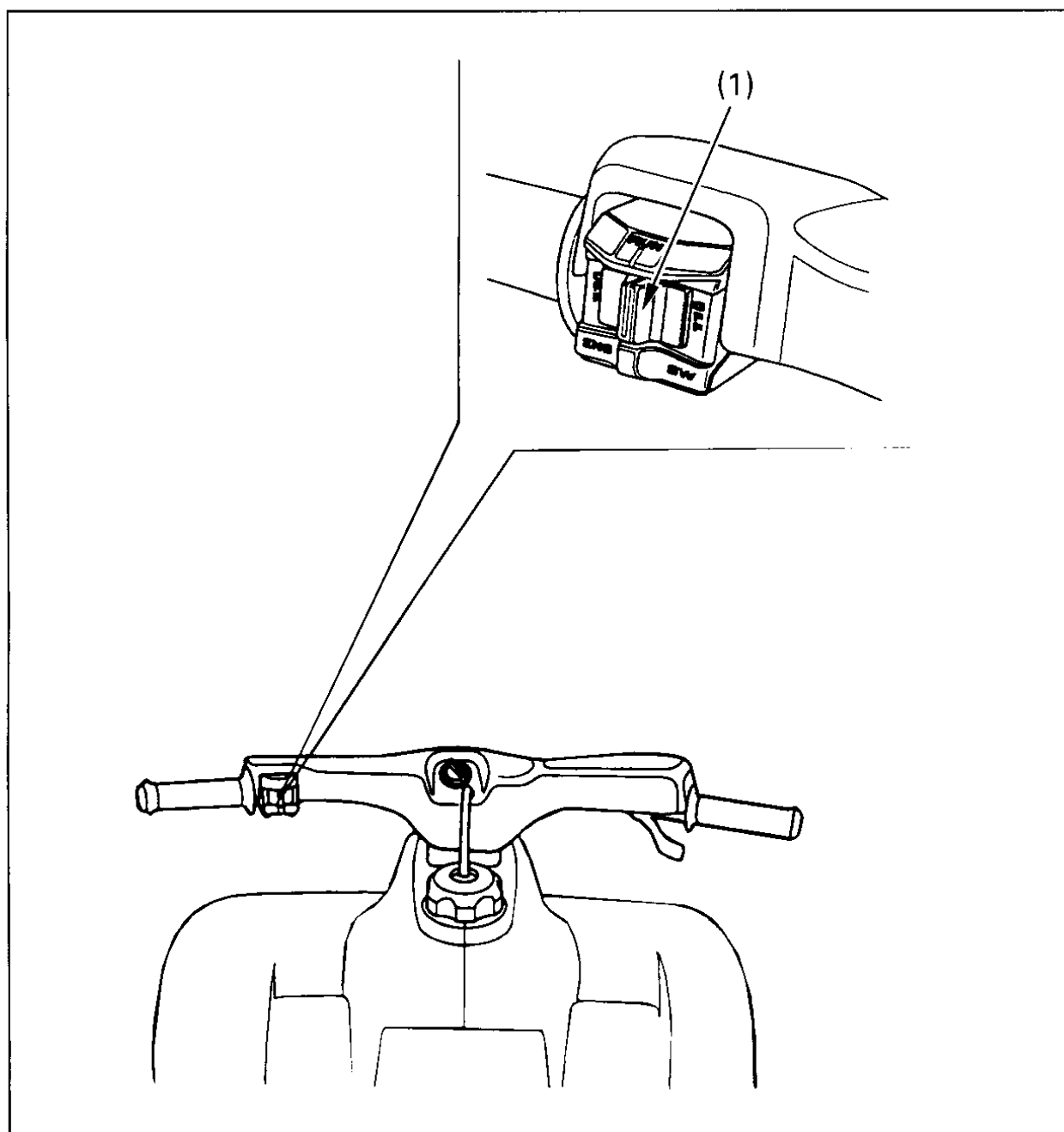
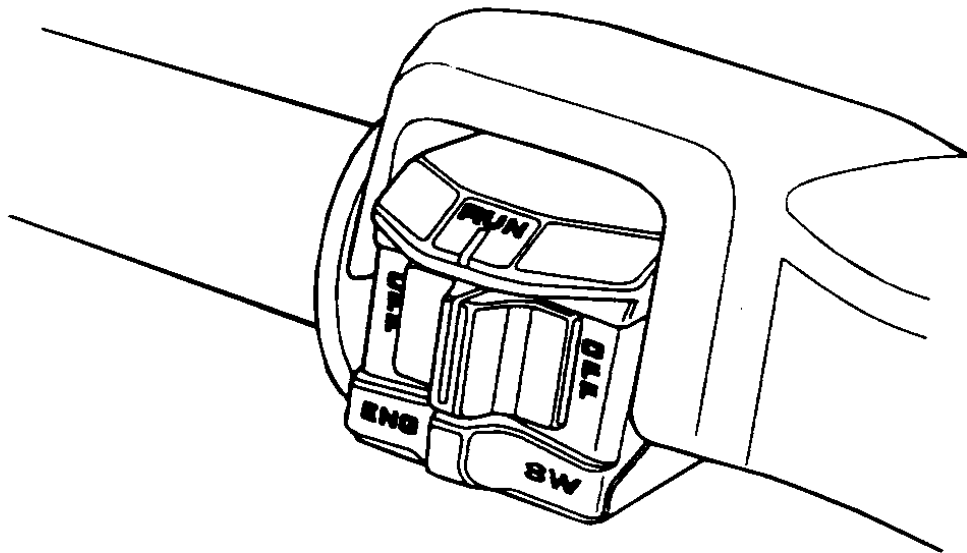


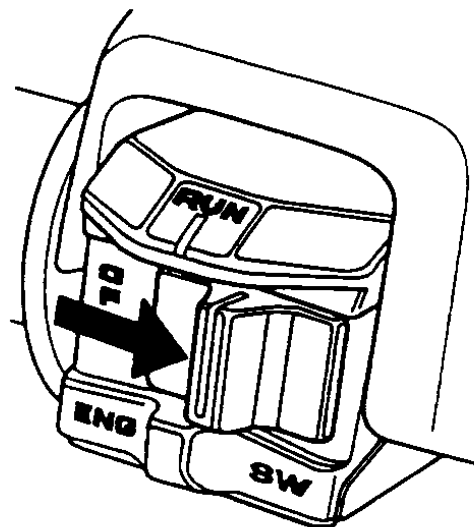
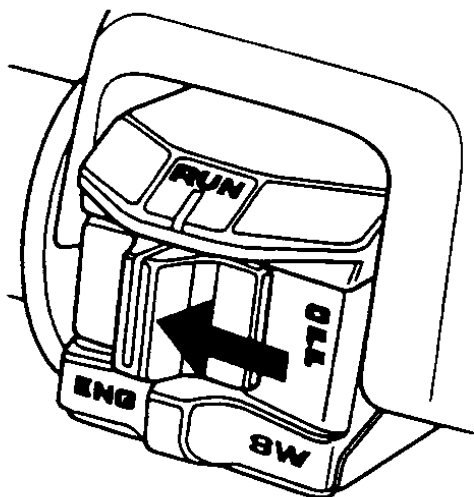
Fig. 2-5

(1) Engine stop switch

RUN



OFF



Neutral Indicator

The neutral indicator (Fig. 2-6) is on the left crankcase cover, just behind the recoil starter. This feature enables the rider to verify that the transmission is in neutral before starting the engine.

The indicator rotates as the gears are changed. When the indicator aligns with the N mark on the crankcase, the transmission is in neutral.

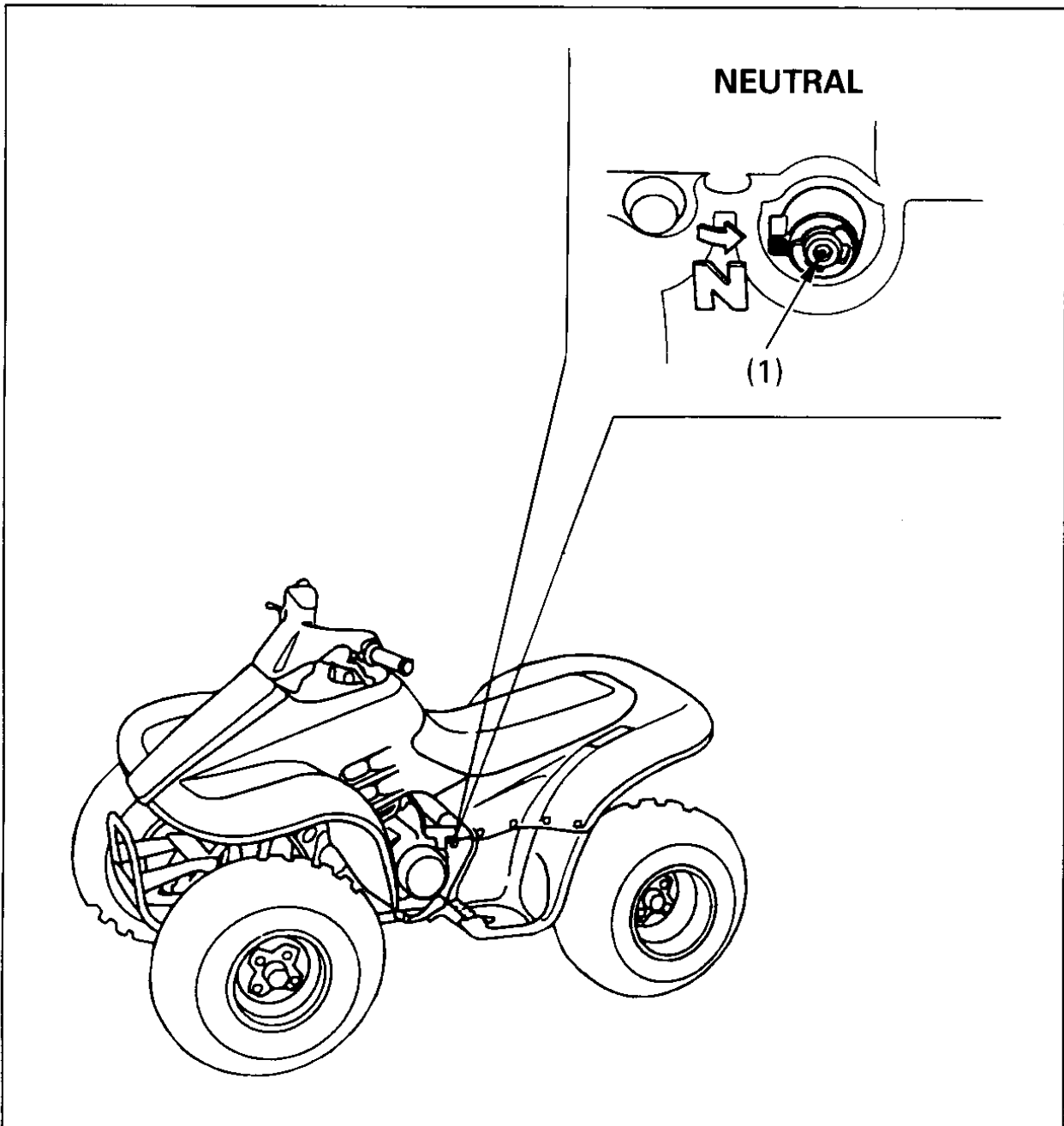


Fig. 2-6

(1) Neutral indicator

Choke Lever

The choke lever (Fig. 2-7) is on the left side of the carburetor. The choke has two positions: on (A), and off (B).

Raising the choke lever will close the choke valve. When the lever is raised, the carburetor delivers a rich fuel mixture for starting the engine when cold. Lower the lever to open the choke valve as the engine attains normal operating temperature.

CAUTION:

Extended use of the choke may impair piston and cylinder wall lubrication and shorten the life of the engine.

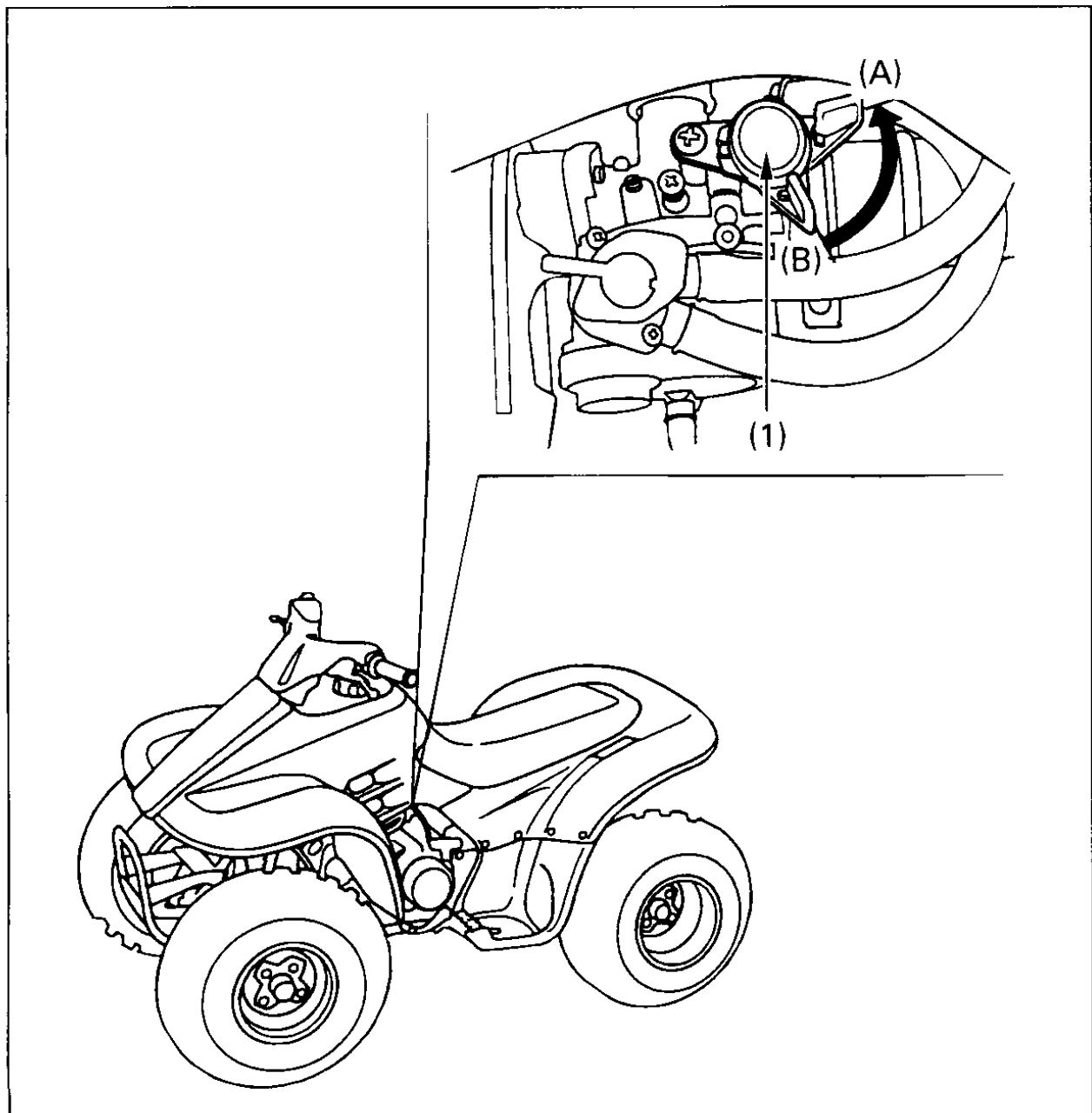


Fig. 2-7 (1) Choke lever

(A) On position
(B) Off position

Recoil Starter

The recoil starter (Fig. 2-8) is on the left side of the Sportrax. It is used to start the engine.

To operate the recoil starter:

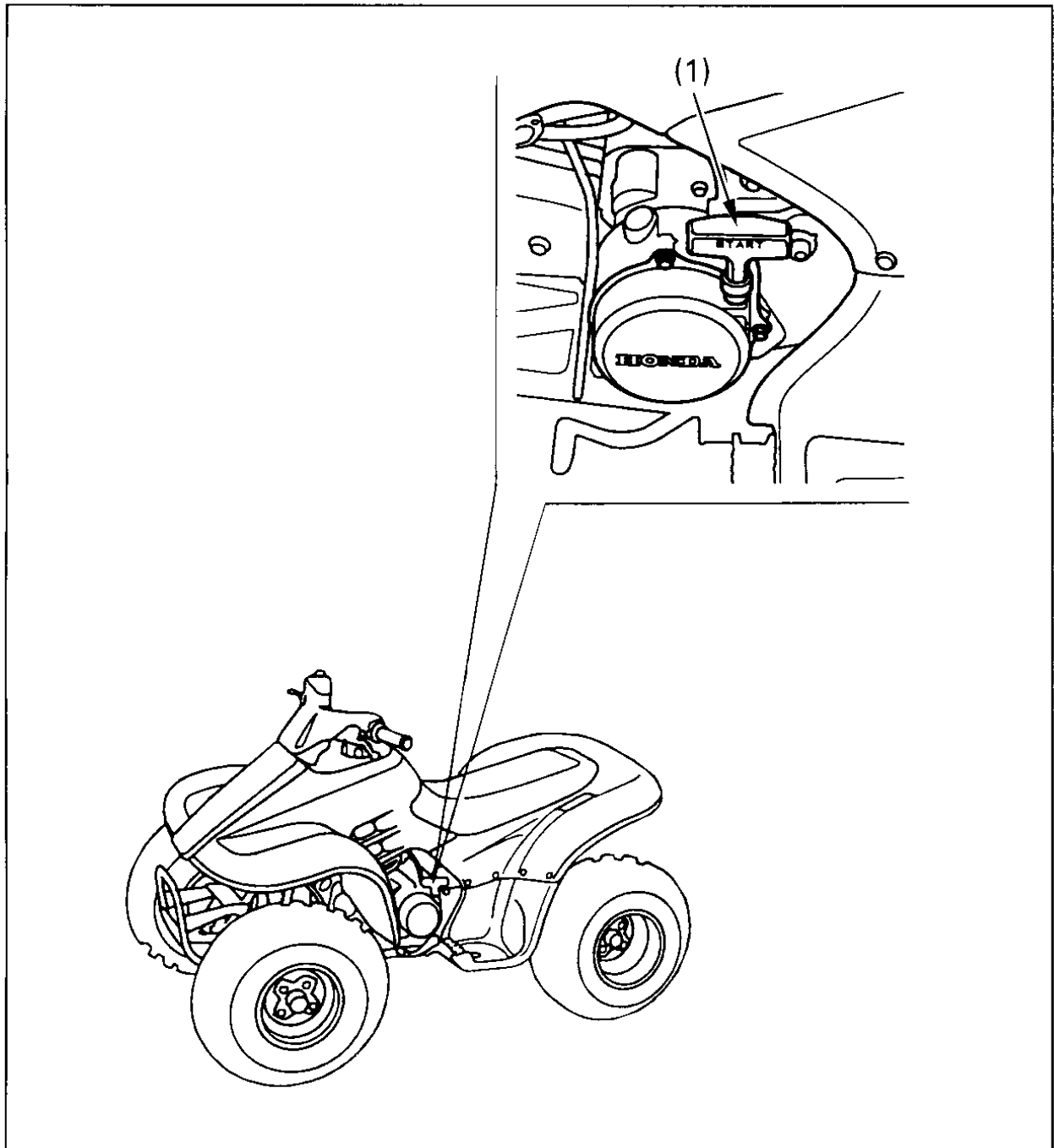


Fig. 2-8

(1) Recoil starter grip

1. Grasp the starter grip (1) firmly, then pull it out slowly approximately 4 in (100 mm).
2. Pull the grip up briskly and fully.
3. After the engine starts, allow the starter grip to return slowly.

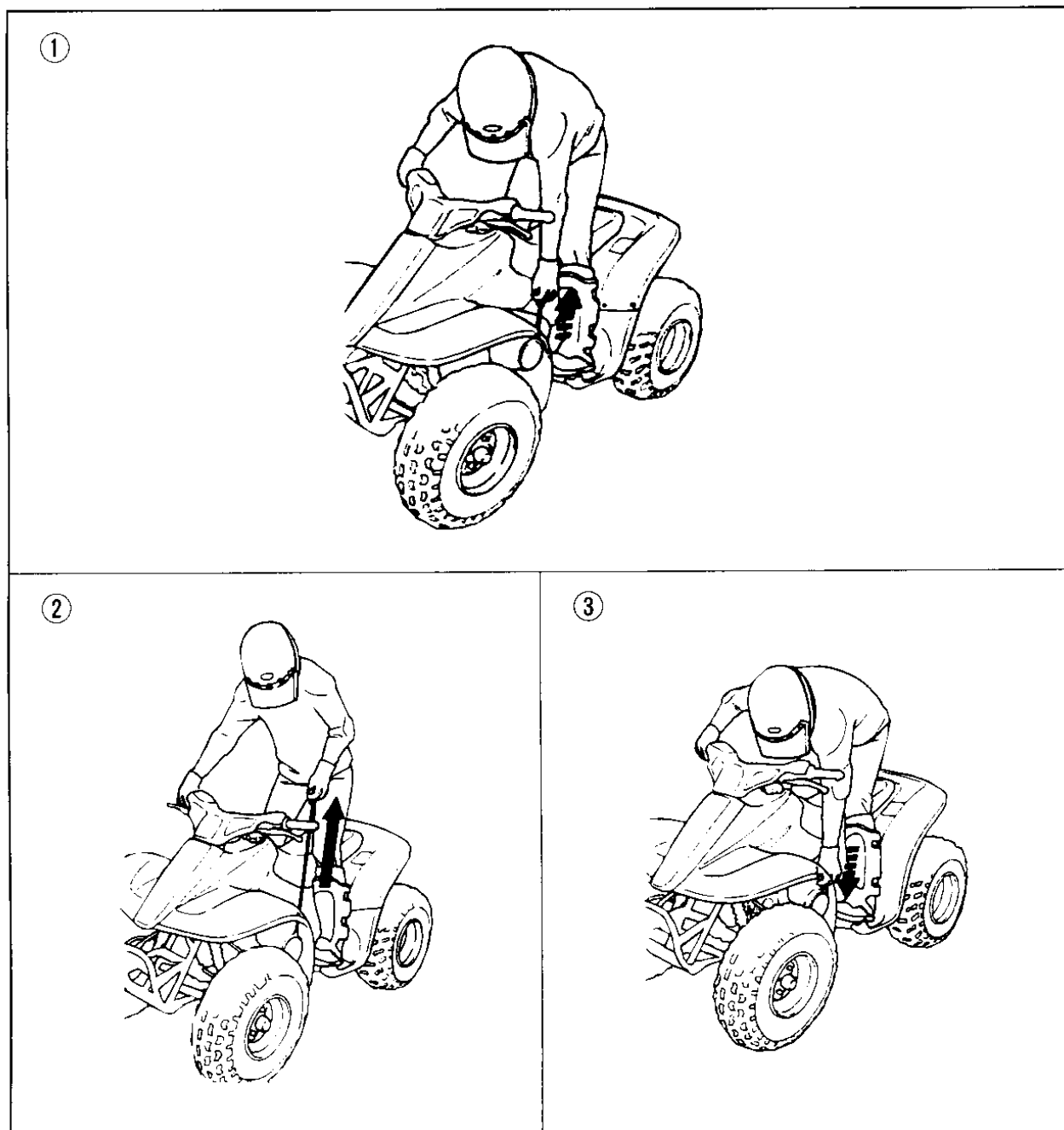


Fig. 2-9

Throttle Lever

The throttle lever (Fig. 2-10) is next to the right handgrip, and it is operated by the thumb. Pressing the lever opens the throttle. When pressure is released, spring tension automatically closes the throttle.

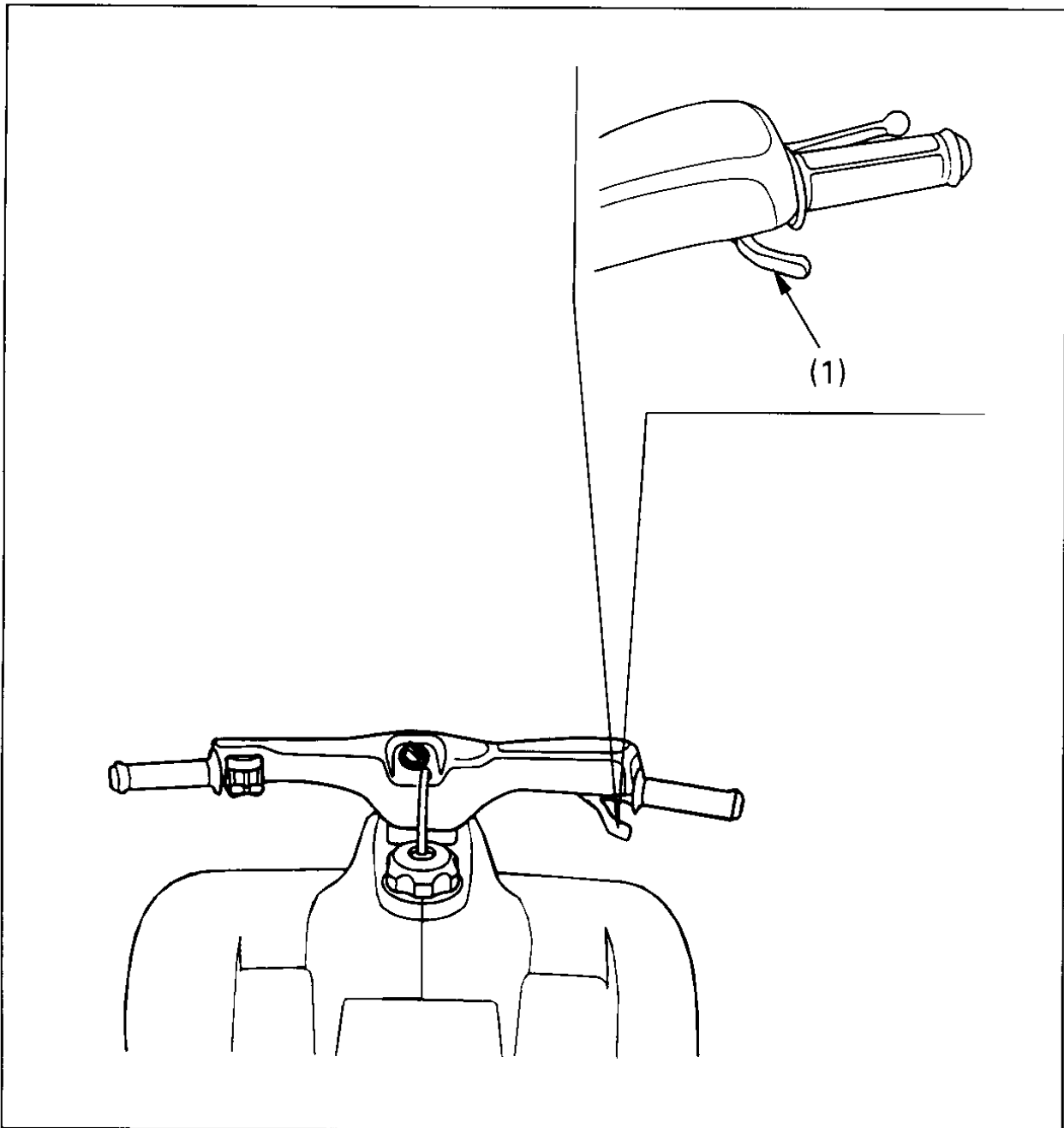
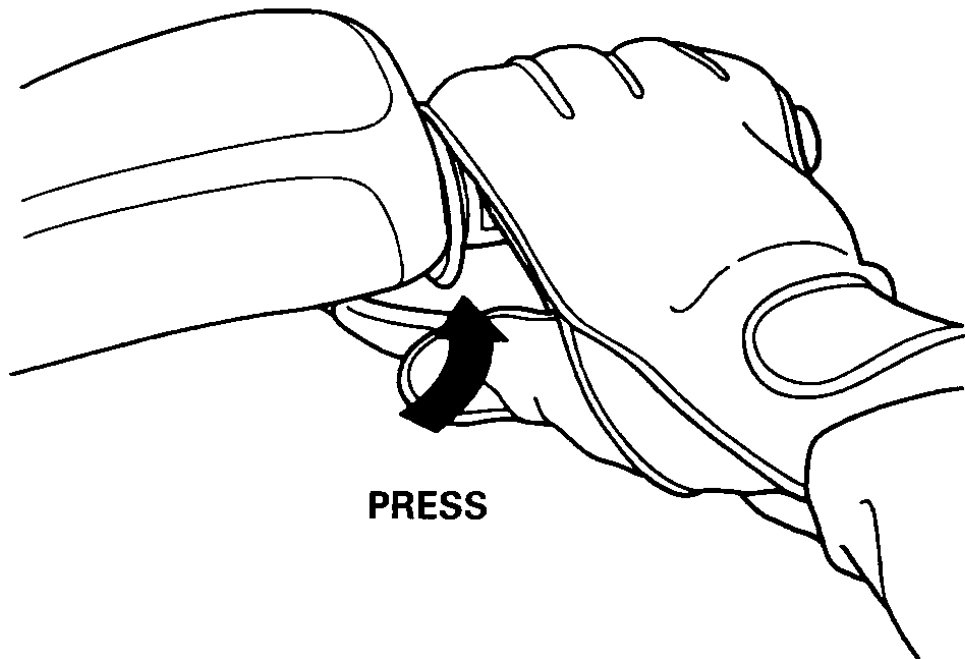


Fig. 2-10

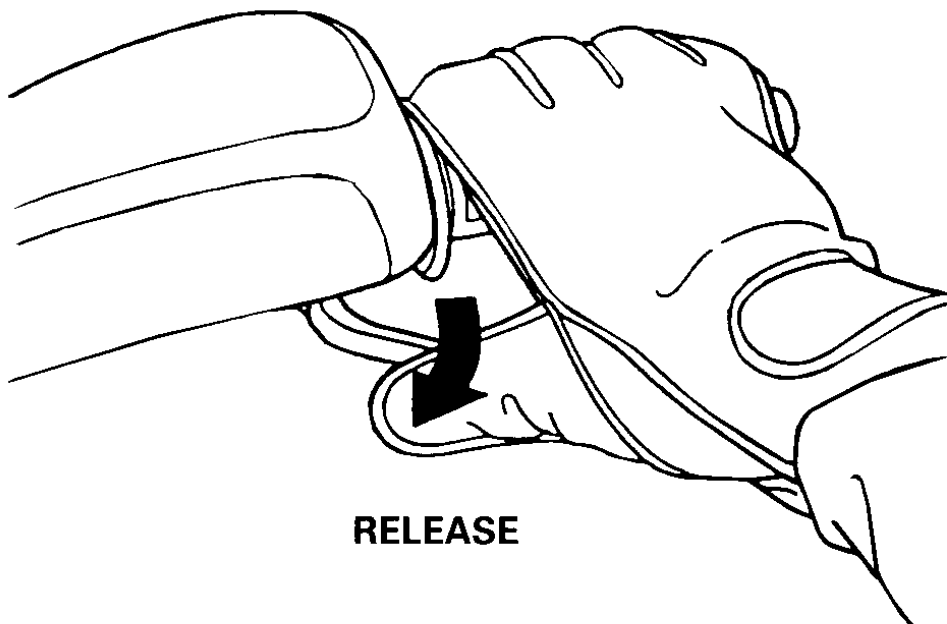
(1) Throttle lever

OPEN THE THROTTLE



PRESS

CLOSE THE THROTTLE



RELEASE

GEARSHIFT CONTROLS

Gearshift Pedal

The gearshift pedal is near the left footpeg. One full stroke of the pedal shifts the transmission to the next higher or lower gear in the shifting sequence (Fig. 2-11). The pedal automatically returns to the horizontal position when released.

Your Sportrax has four forward gears (1, 2, 3 and 4). To upshift to a higher gear, put the toe of your boot under the gearshift pedal and raise the pedal one full stroke. To downshift, step on the gearshift pedal and depress the pedal one full stroke (For further operational instructions, see page 90).

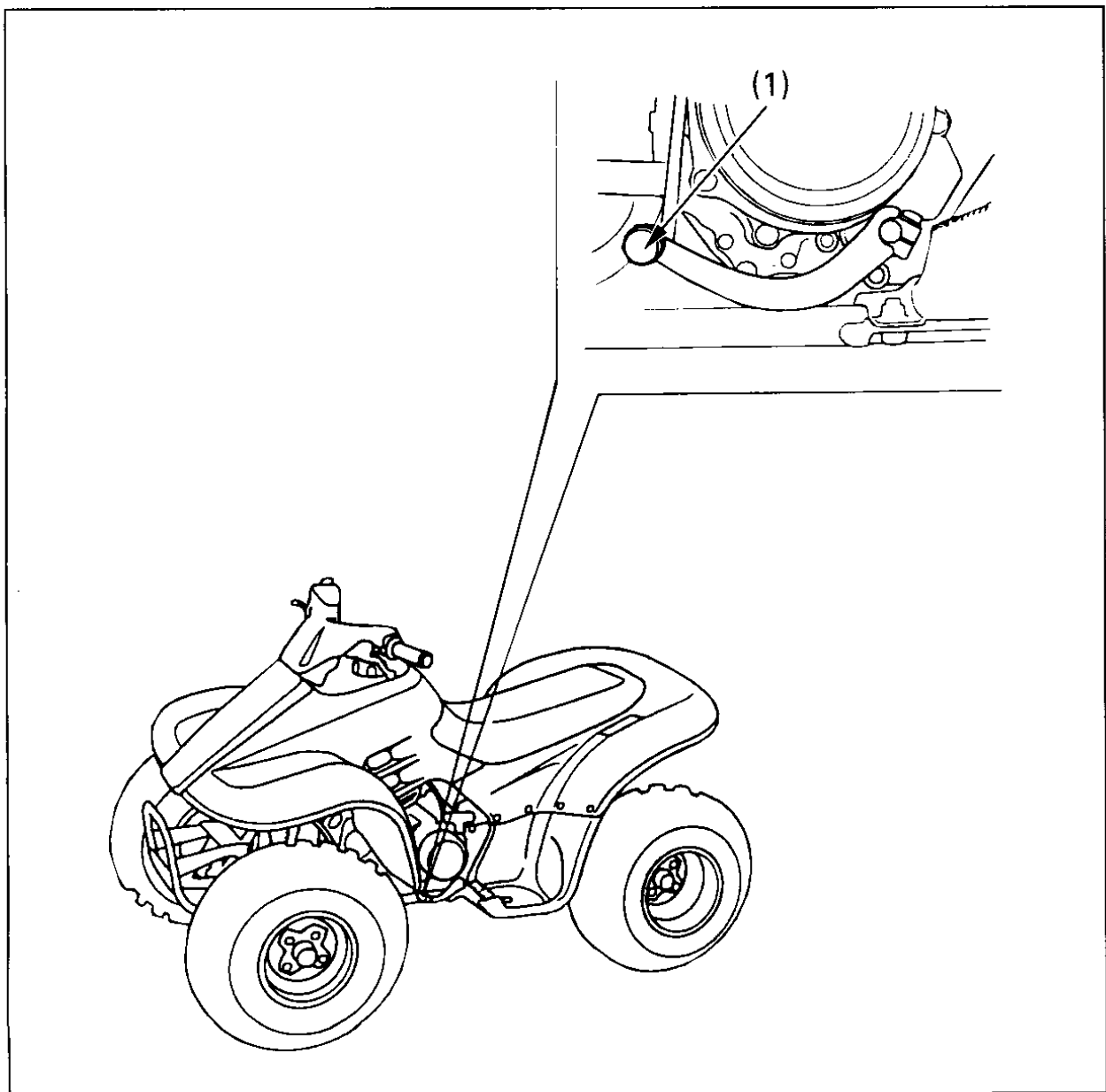
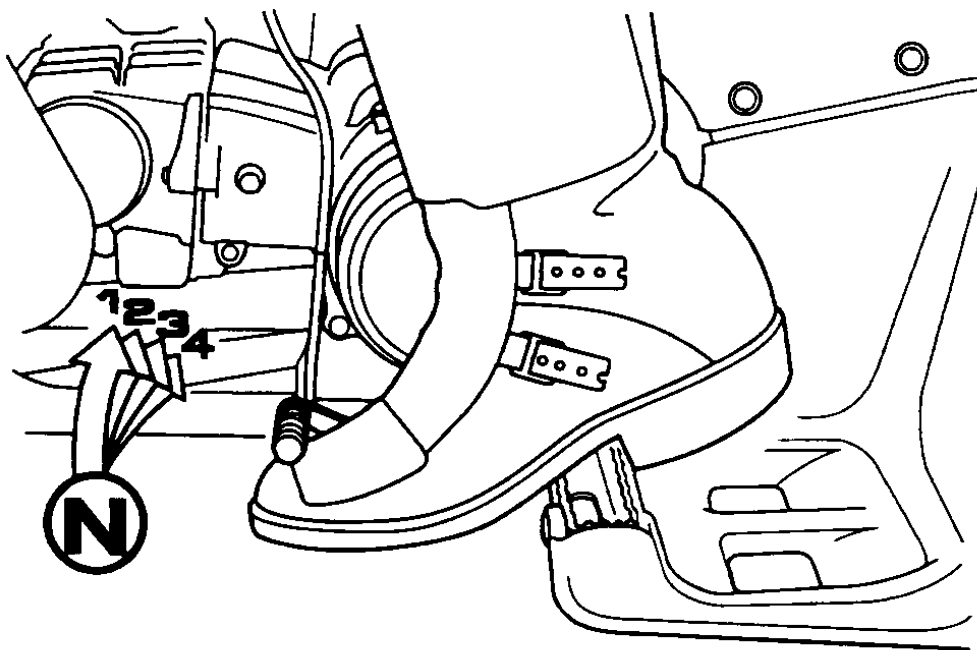


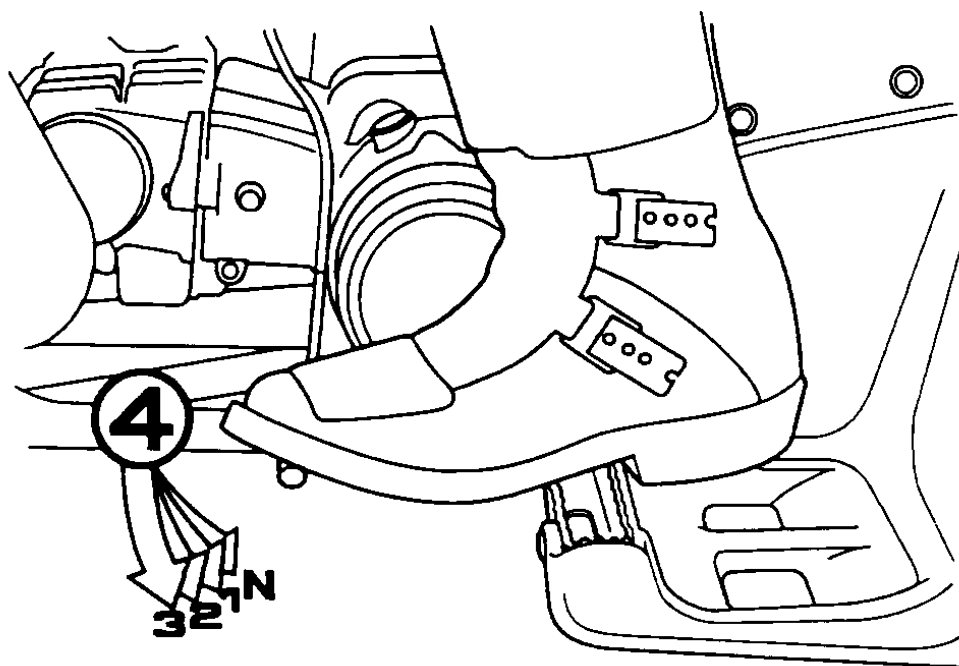
Fig. 2-11

(1) Gearshift pedal

UP SHIFTING SEQUENCE



DOWN SHIFTING SEQUENCE



BRAKE CONTROLS

Front Brakes

The front brakes are operated by squeezing the front brake lever (1), near the right handgrip.

Rear Brake

The rear brake is operated by depressing the brake pedal (2) or by squeezing the rear brake lever (3).

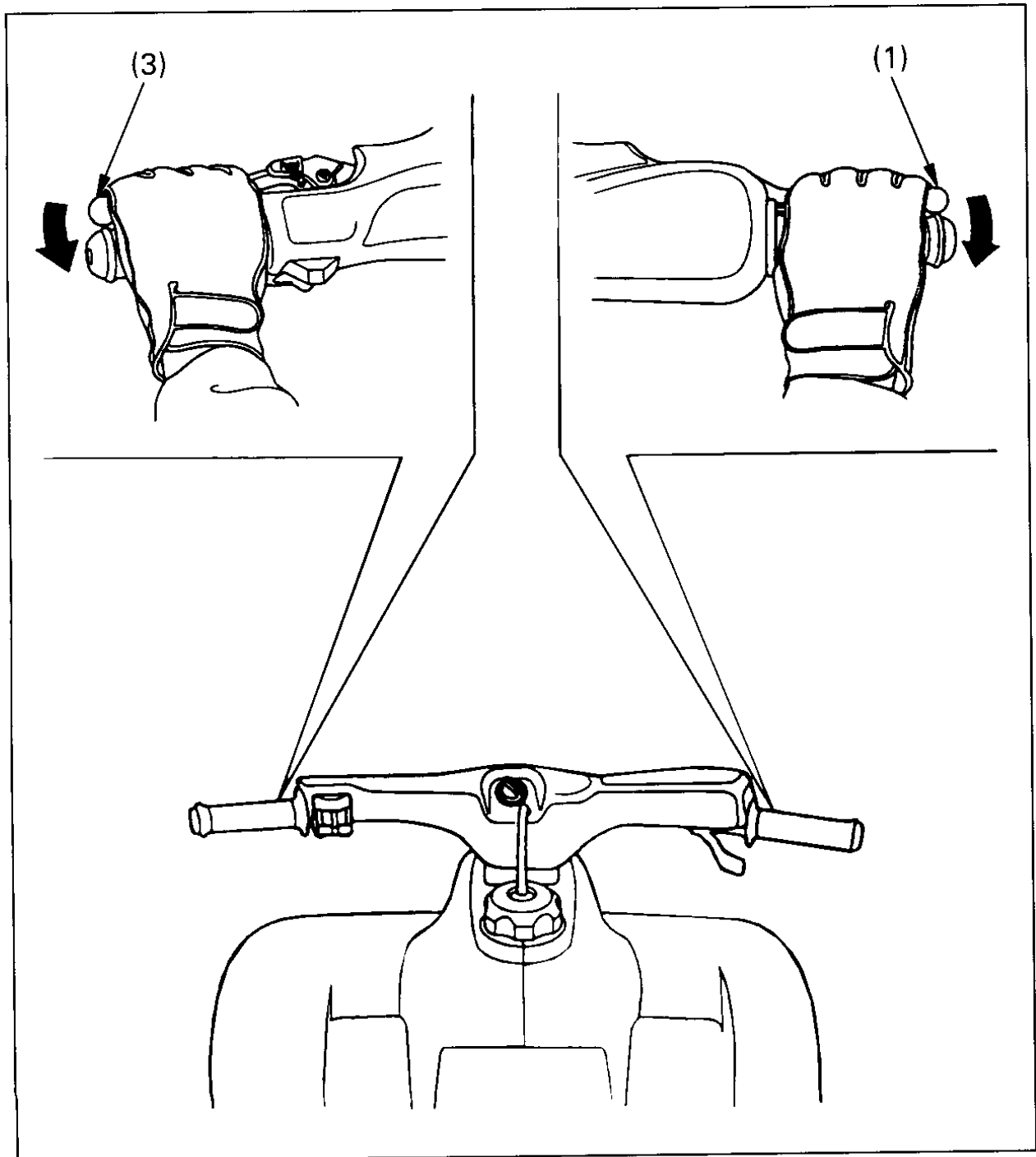


Fig. 2-12 (1) Front brake lever (3) Rear brake lever

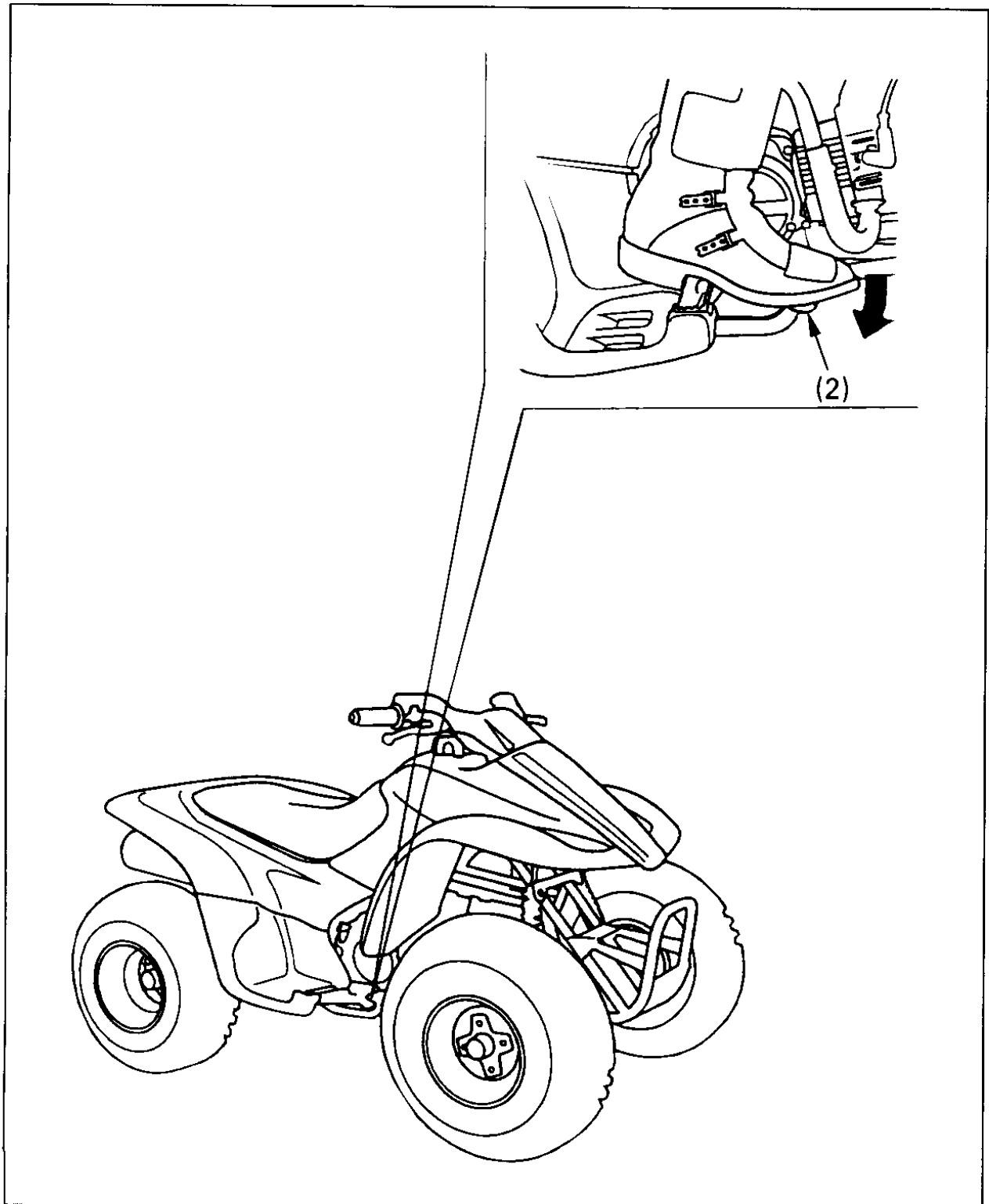


Fig. 2-13

(2) Rear brake pedal

Parking Brake

The rear brake lever has a lock which allows it to be used as a parking brake.

To set the parking brake, squeeze the rear brake lever (1) and lock it with the lock lever (2). Always set the parking brake when parking and before starting the engine.

To unlock the parking brake, squeeze the rear brake lever until the lock lever releases.

Using the parking brake in freezing weather may cause the brakes to freeze in the locked position.

To Use

1. Squeeze the rear brake lever (1).

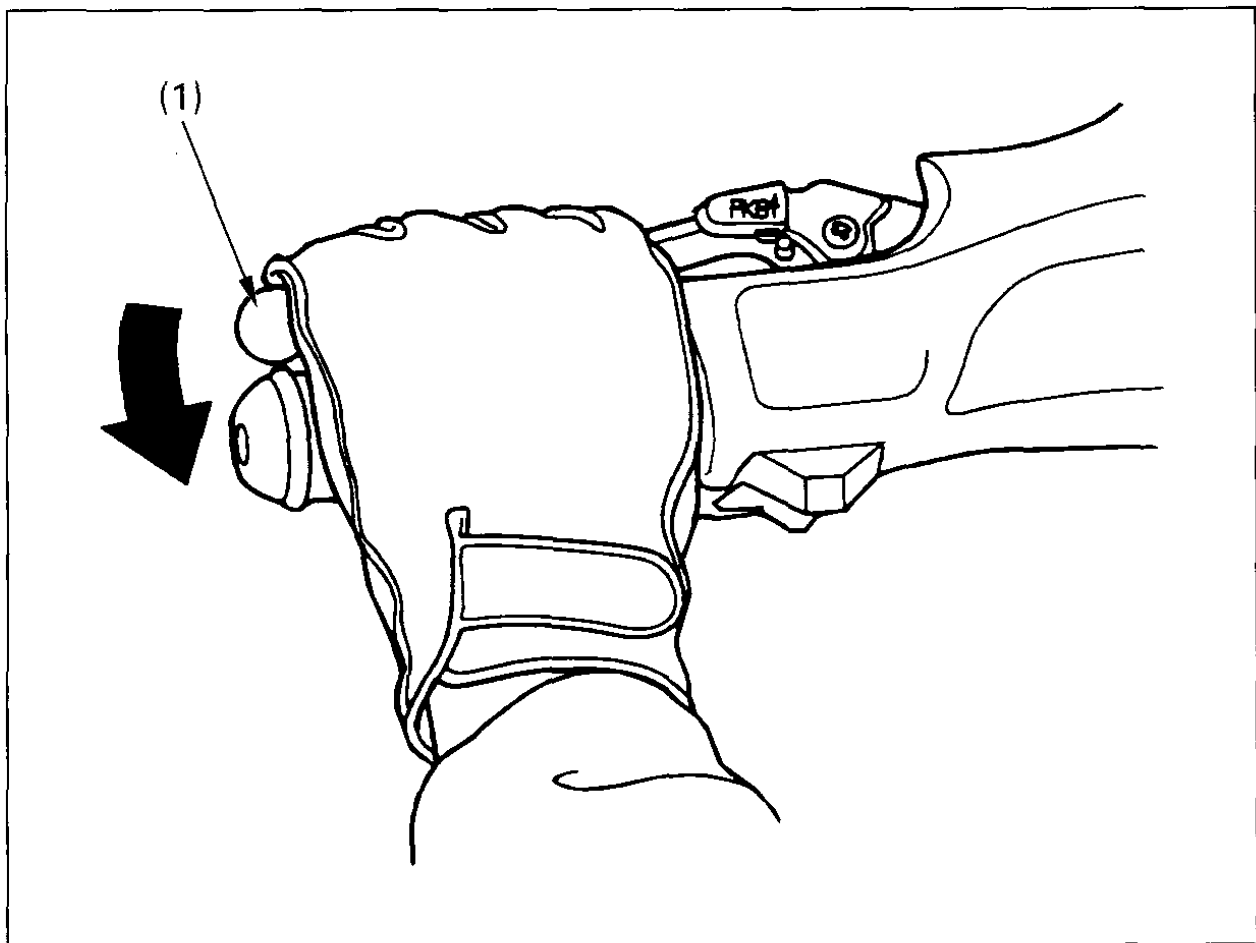


Fig. 2-14

(1) Rear brake lever

2. Lock it with the lock lever (2).

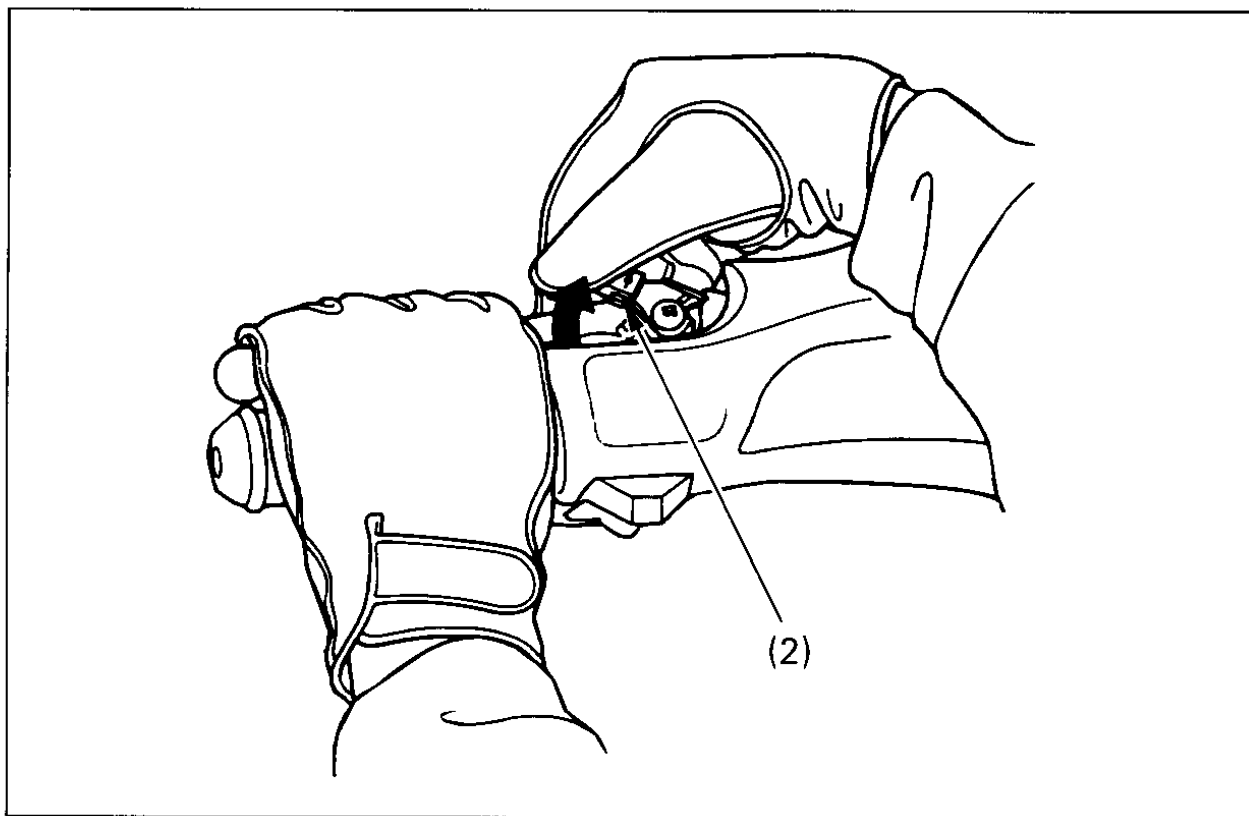


Fig. 2-15

(2) Lock lever

3. Unlock the parking brake by squeezing the rear brake lever until the lock lever releases.

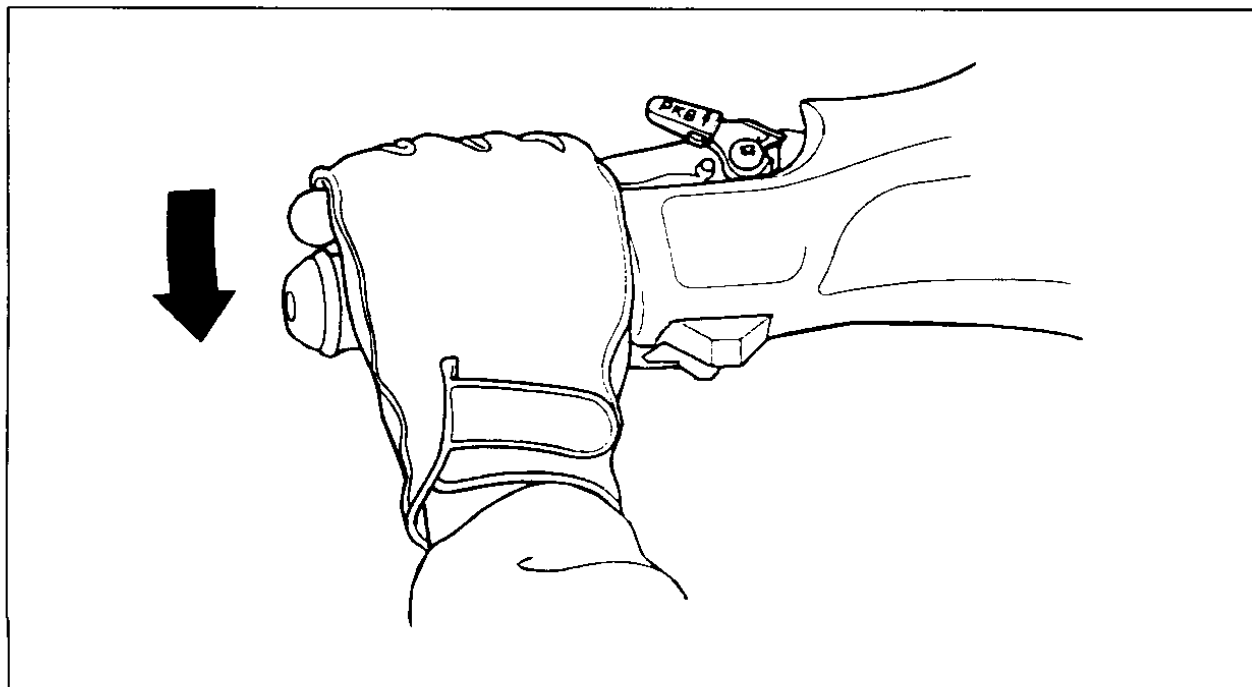


Fig. 2-16

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

FUEL TANK

Fuel Fill Cap

After refueling, be sure to tighten the fuel fill cap (Fig. 2-17) until it clicks.

Insert the breather tube (2) into the handlebar cover hole (3).

To refuel refer to page 116.

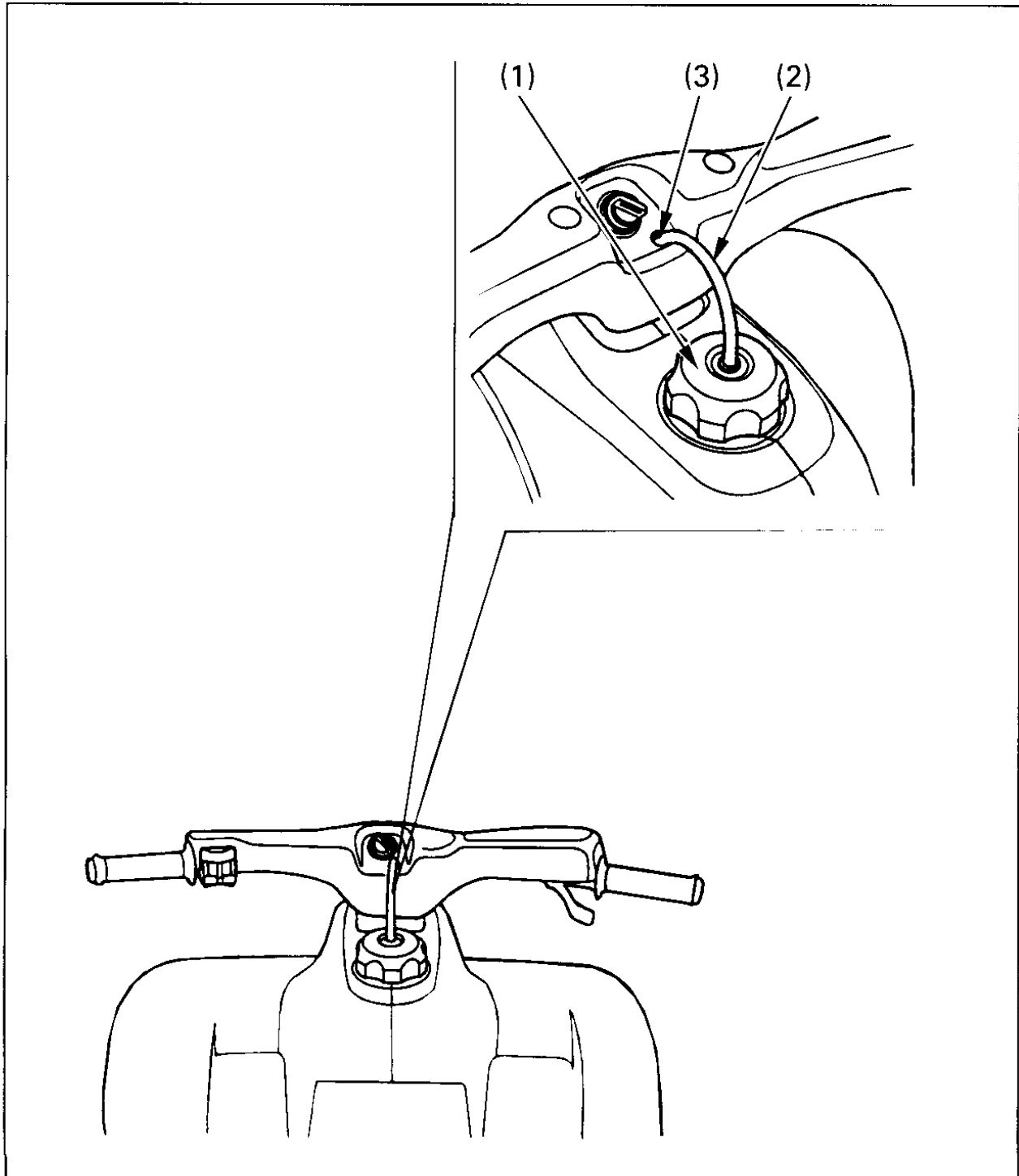


Fig. 2-17

(1) Fuel fill cap
(2) Breather tube

(3) Handlebar cover hole

Fuel Valve

The fuel valve (Fig. 2-18) is on the left side of the fuel tank, and it has three positions:

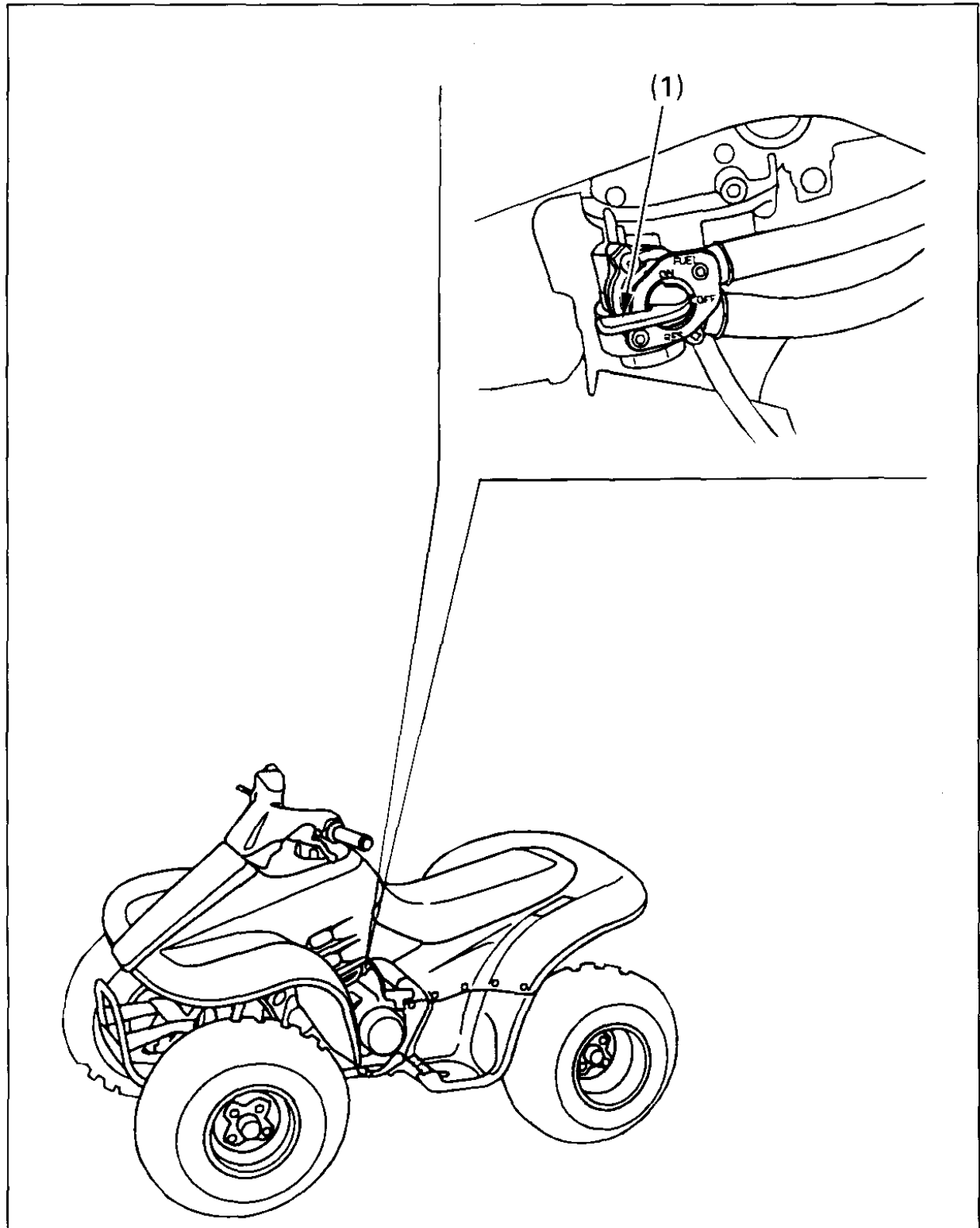
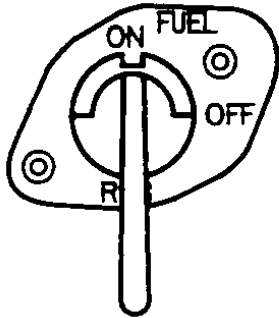


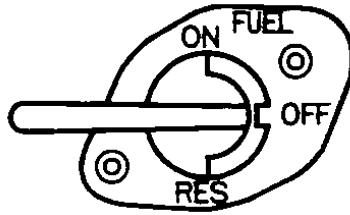
Fig. 2-18

(1) Fuel valve

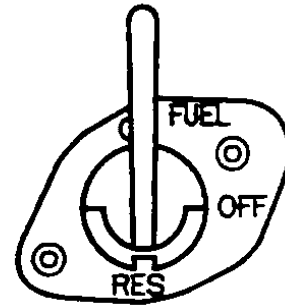
ON



OFF



RES



ON

When the fuel valve is in the ON position, fuel will flow from the main fuel supply to the carburetor.

OFF

When the fuel valve is in the OFF position, fuel cannot flow to the carburetor. Turn the valve OFF whenever the Sportrax is not in use.

RES

When the fuel valve is in the RES position, fuel will flow from the reserve fuel supply to the carburetor. Use the reserve fuel only when the main supply is gone.

Refill the tank as soon as possible after switching to RES. The reserve fuel supply is:

0.34 US gal (1.3 ℓ , 0.29 Imp gal)

NOTE:

After refueling, do not operate the Sportrax with the fuel valve in the RES position. If you run out of fuel, there will be no reserve supply.

For gasoline recommendations and refueling instructions, see pages 116 – 119.

ENGINE OIL

Oil Filler Cap/Dipstick

The oil filler cap/dipstick (Fig. 2-19), on the right crankcase cover, is used to measure the oil level. The oil should be checked each day before operating the Sportrax and maintained between the upper level mark (2) and the lower level mark (3).

For oil recommendations and instructions on checking, adding and changing oil, see pages 128 – 131.

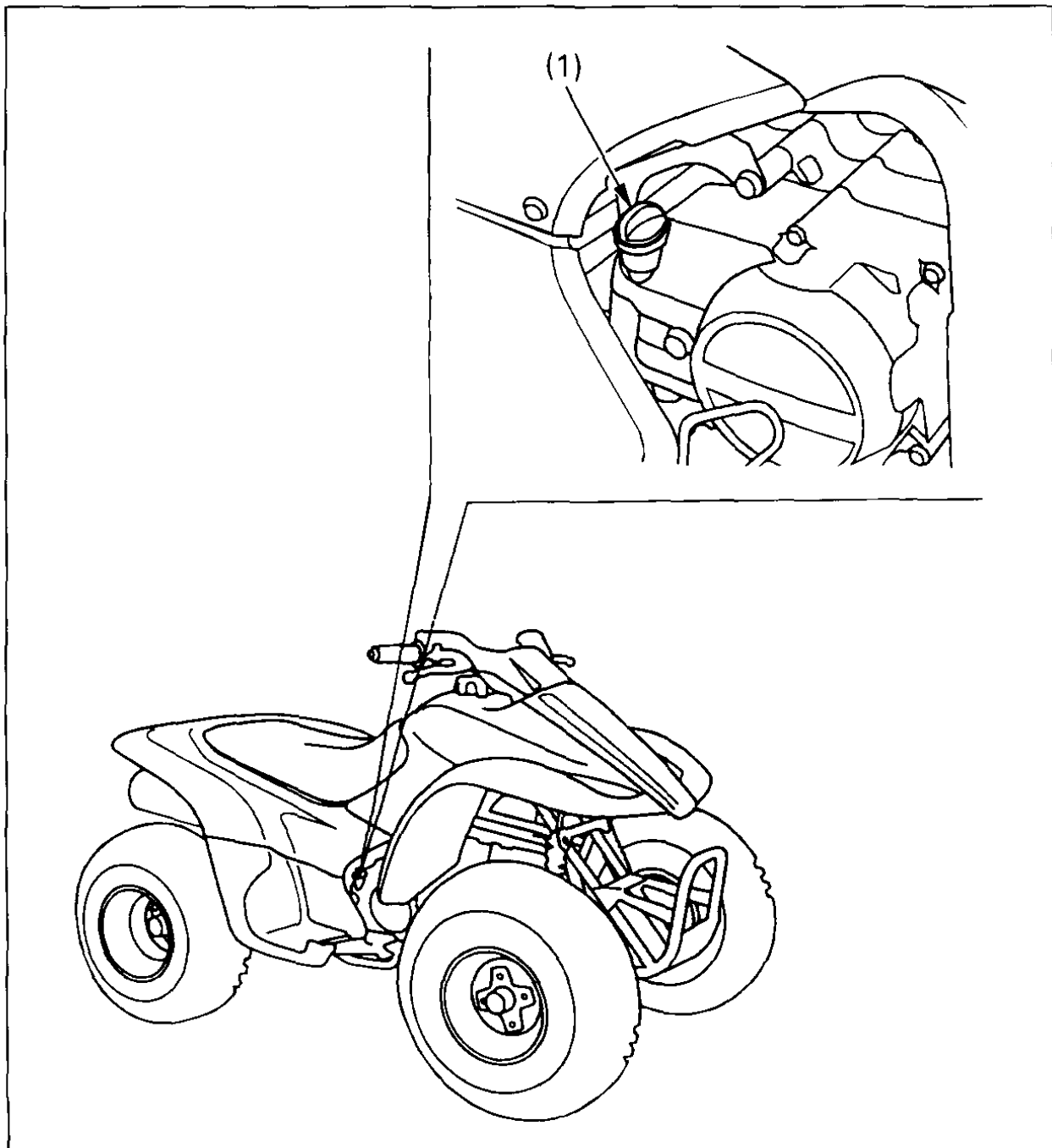


Fig. 2-19

(1) Oil filler cap/dipstick

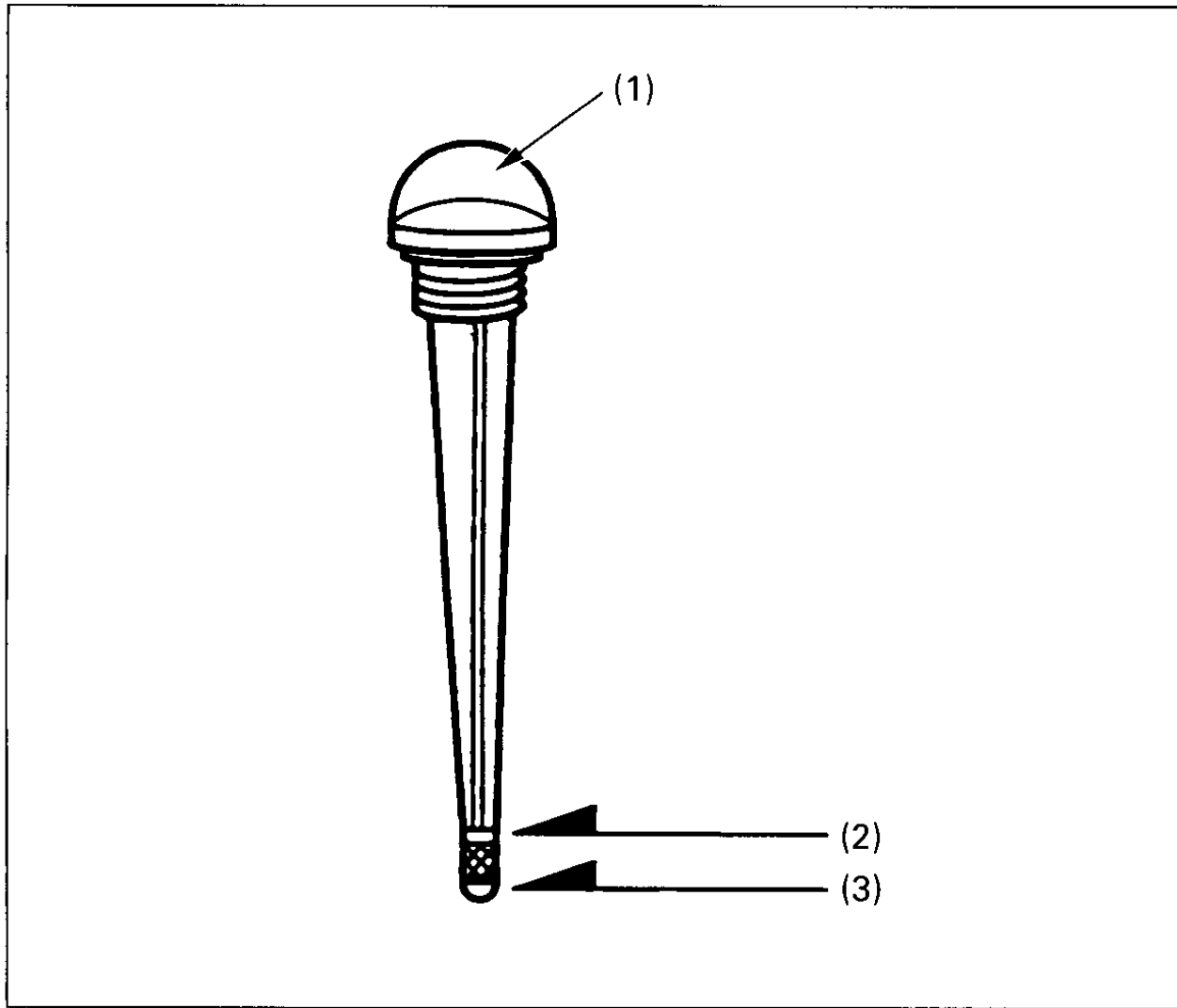


Fig. 2-20 (1) Oil filler cap/dipstick

(2) Upper level mark

(3) Lower level mark

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

Flag Pole Bracket

The flag pole bracket (Fig. 2-21) is on the grab rail. Flag poles are optional equipment available from your Honda dealer. To mount a pole in the bracket, follow the instructions that come with the flag pole kit.

NOTE:

Flag poles are required in some riding areas. Check local regulations before riding.

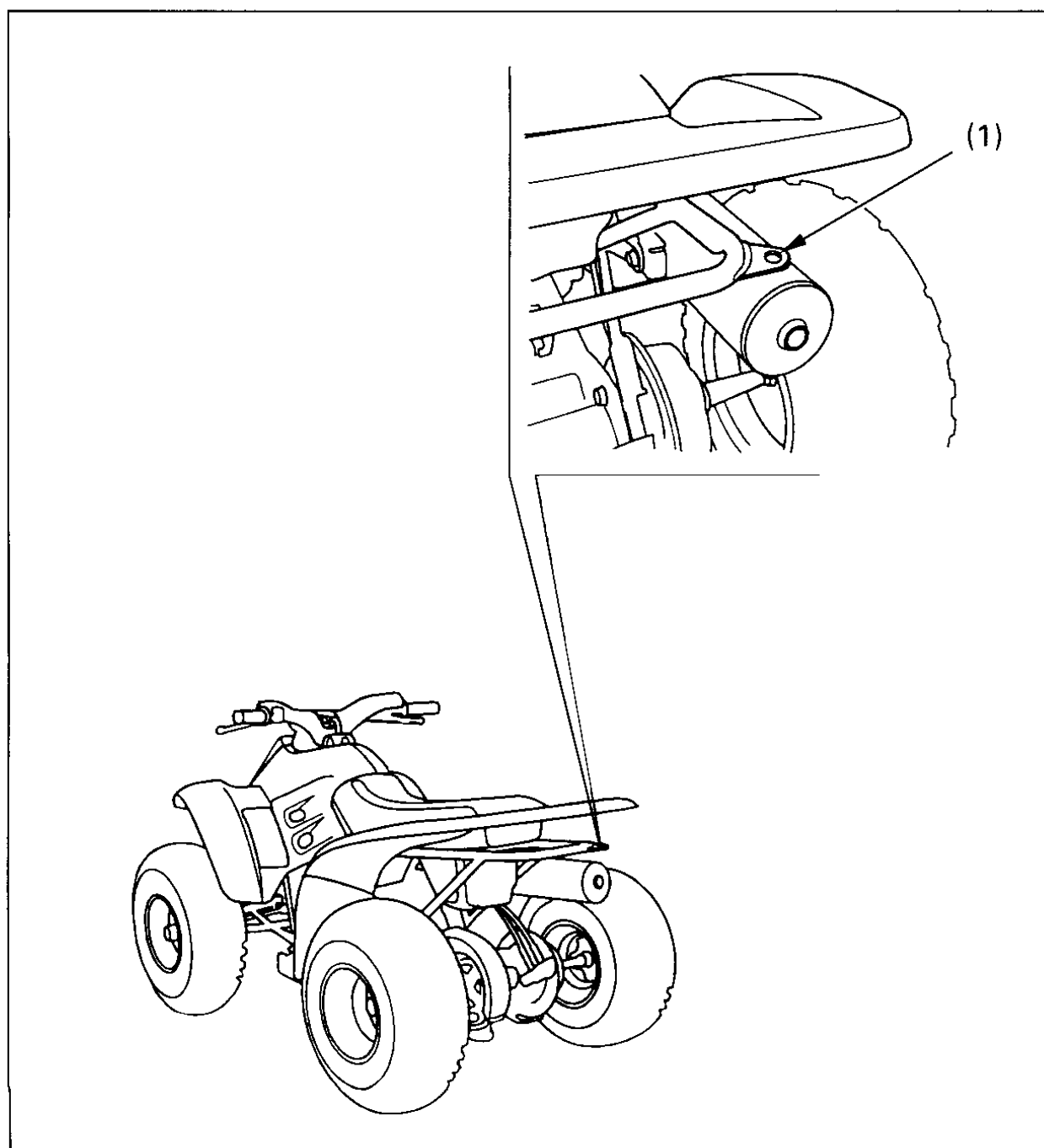


Fig. 2-21

(1) Flag pole bracket

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

Storage Compartment

The storage compartment (Fig. 2-22) can be reached by removing the seat (see page 147). Store the Owner's Manual and "Parents, Youngsters & ATVs" (2), tire pressure gauge (3) and tool kit (4) in the storage compartment.

Be careful not to flood this area when washing your Sportrax or riding through water.

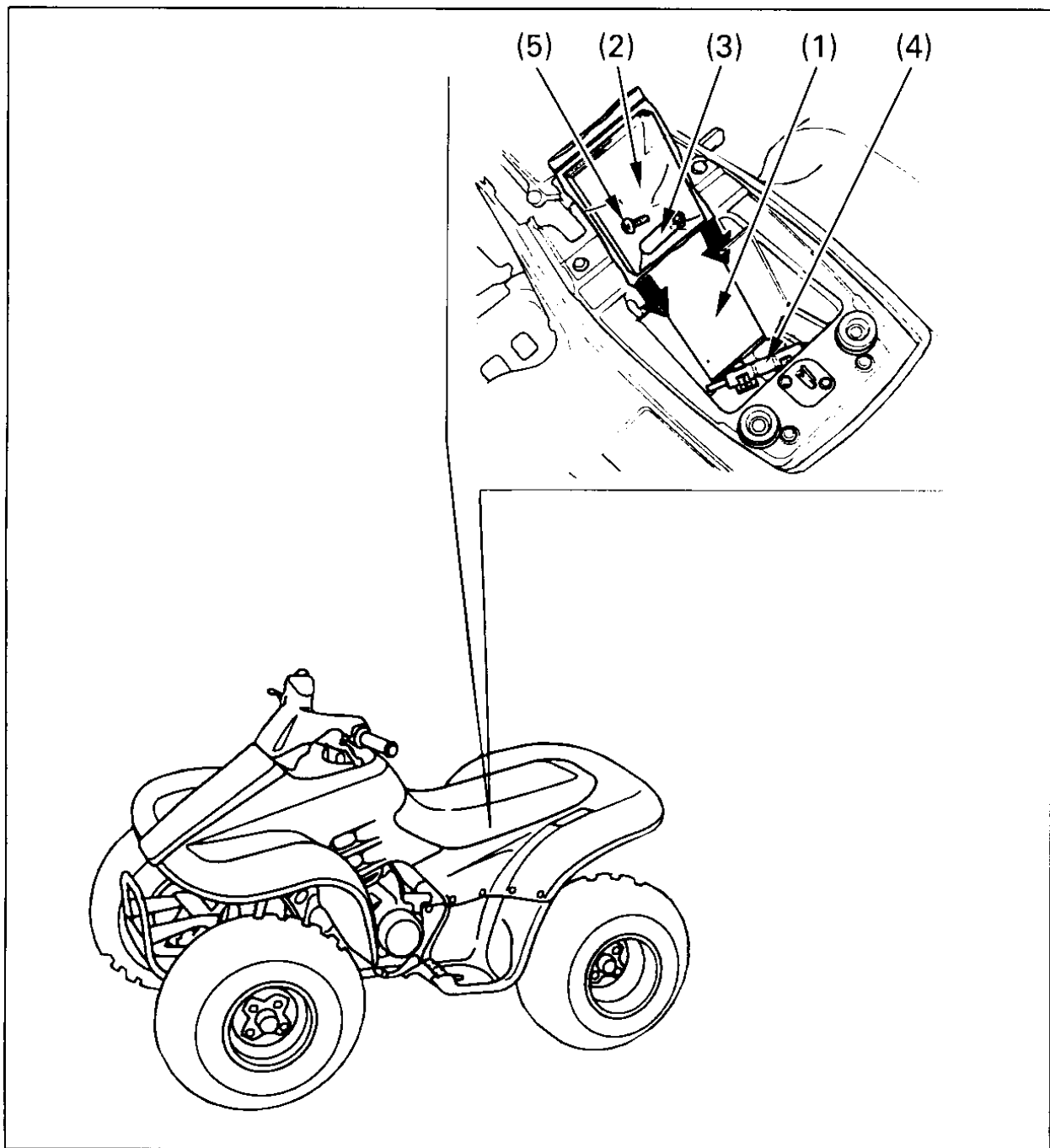


Fig. 2-22 (1) Storage compartment (3) Tire pressure gauge
 (2) Owner's manual (4) Tool kit
 Parents, Youngsters & (5) Standard screw
 ATVs

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

RIDING YOUR Sportrax

This part of the Owner's Manual discusses how to ride your Sportrax safely. Please review the special safety messages on pages 6–11. While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

BEFORE RIDING

You need to be prepared before riding. This includes getting proper instruction, making sure your Sportrax is in good operating condition, and learning some basic safe-riding rules.

Before allowing your youngster to ride the Sportrax, read "Important Message To Parents" (beginning on page 1) carefully and decide whether your youngster is ready to ride.

RIDER PREPARATION

Age Recommendation

The minimum recommended age for this Sportrax model is 12. For safety, never let children under 12 years old operate this vehicle. Children under 16 should be supervised by an adult.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

**Failure to follow the age recommendation for this ATV.
Failure to supervise children under 16 on ATV models intended for their use.**

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

If children use ATVs that are not recommended for their age, severe injury or death can result.

Even though a child may be within the age group for which an ATV is recommended, he or she may not have the skills, abilities, or judgment needed to operate the ATV safely and may be involved in a serious accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

**A child under 12 should never operate this ATV.
Never allow a child under 16 to operate an ATV without adult supervision and never allow continued use of the ATV by a child if he or she does not have the abilities to operate it safely.**

Rider Training

Beginning and inexperienced riders should get proper instruction on how to operate this Sportrax safely. A hands-on rider training course is available in your area. For information, contact your Honda dealer.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV without proper instruction.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

The risk of an accident is greatly increased if the operator does not know how to operate the ATV properly in different situations and on different types of terrain.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Beginning and inexperienced operators should complete the certified training course offered by Honda. They should then regularly practice the skills learned in the course and the operating techniques described in this Owner's Manual.

For more information about the training course, contact an authorized Honda dealer or call 1 – 800 – 887 – 2887 (USA only).

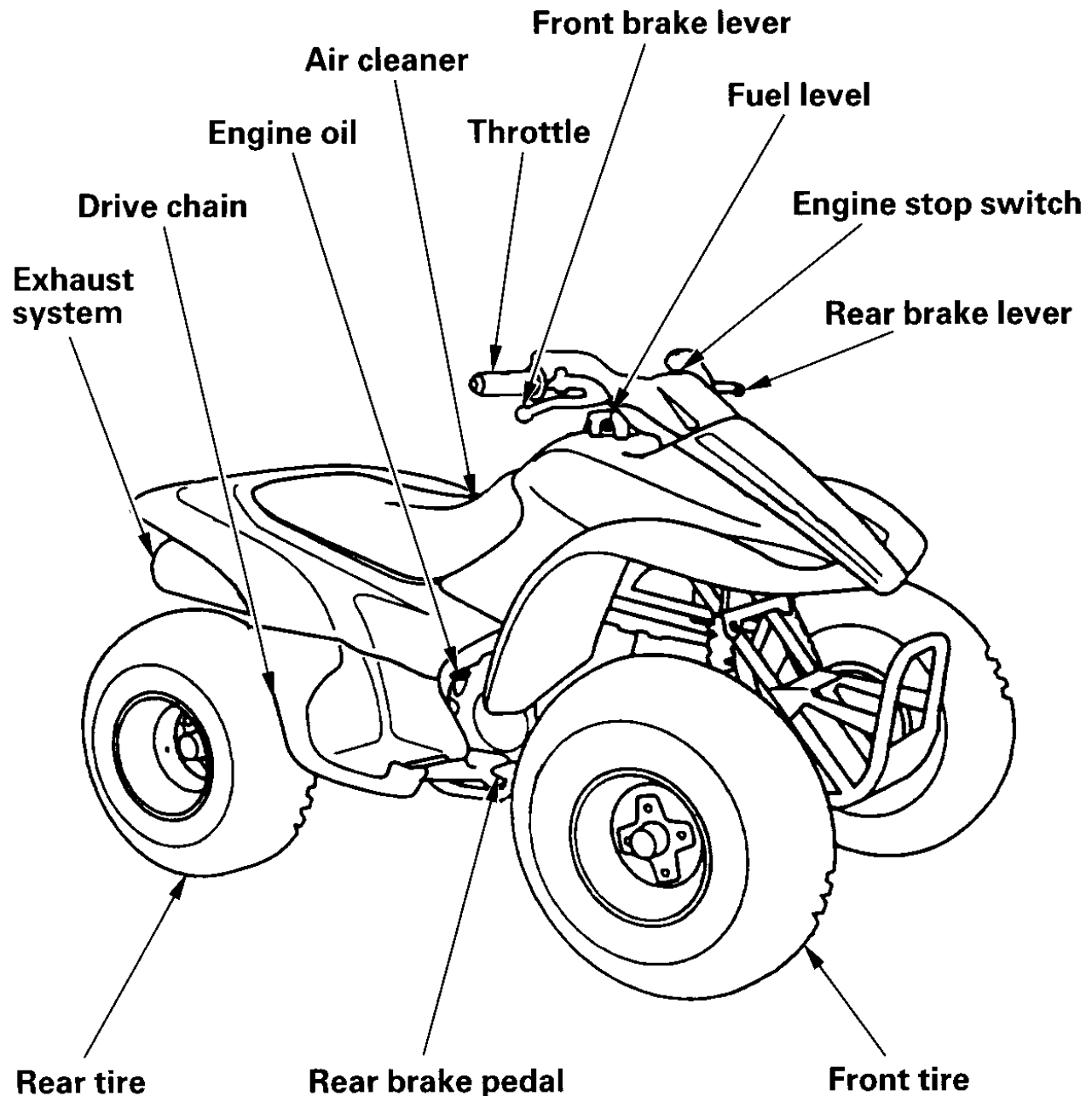
While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

VEHICLE PREPARATION

Pre-Ride Inspection

Inspect your Sportrax every day before you ride it. Checking the items below will take only a few minutes, and in the long run, they can save time, expense, and possibly your life.



PRE-RIDE INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Item	Check	Refer To Page
1. Engine oil	Level. Leaks.	53
2. Fuel	Level. Leaks.	54
3. Brakes	Adjustment. Lever and pedal free play.	55
4. Tires	Tire pressure. Condition. Tread depth.	56—57
5. Throttle	Free Play. Smooth opening and closing.	58
6. Engine Stop Switch	Proper function.	59
7. Nuts, bolts, fasteners	Secureness, especially the axle and wheel nuts.	60
8. Steering	Proper wheel turning.	60
9. Underbody and Exhaust System	Dirt and debris.	60
10. Drive Chain	Condition. Slack.	62
11. Air Cleaner Housing	Deposits.	63

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

**Failure to inspect the ATV before operating.
Failure to properly maintain the ATV.**

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Increases the possibility of an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always inspect your ATV each time you use it to make sure the ATV is in safe operating condition.

Always follow the inspection and maintenance procedures and schedules described in this Owner's Manual.

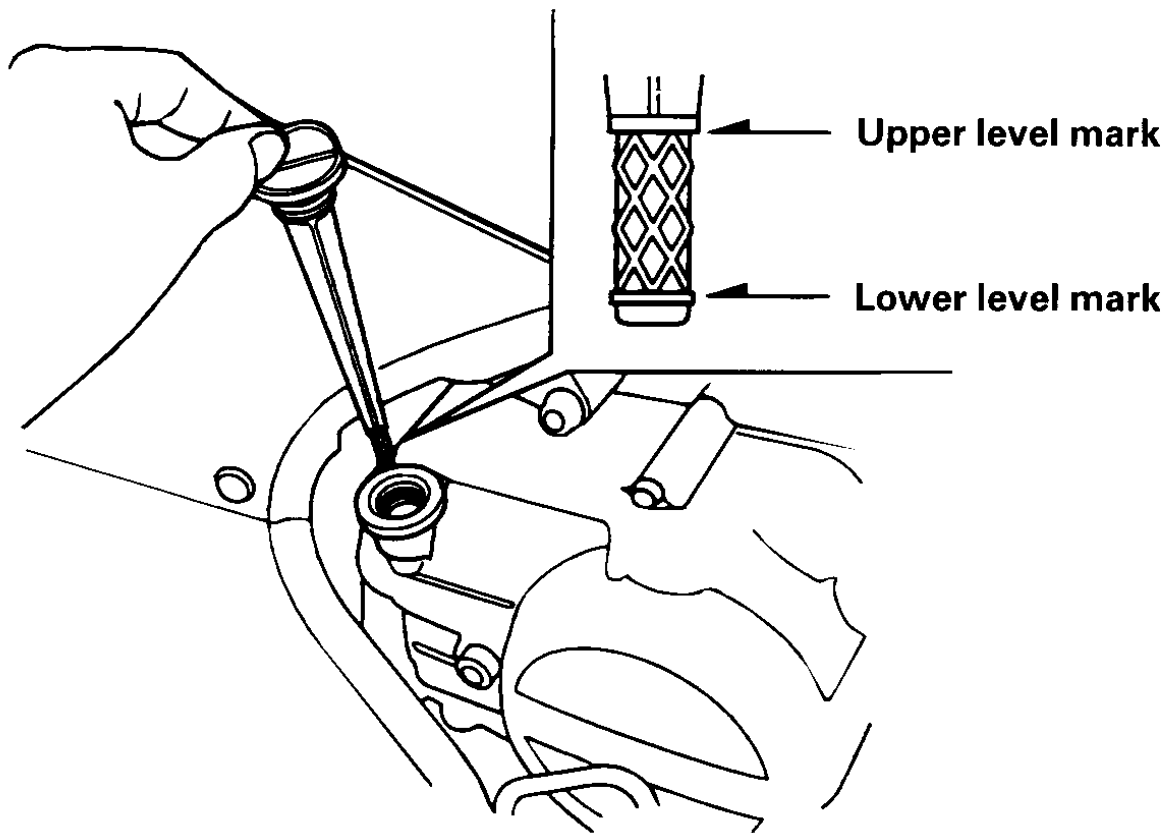
Correct any problem before you ride. If you can't correct a problem, contact your Honda dealer for assistance.

If your Sportrax has overturned or been involved in a collision, do not ride the vehicle until it has been inspected by an authorized Honda dealer. There may be damage or other problems you cannot see.

1. Engine oil.

Check the oil level and add oil if required (page 128).

Check for leaks.

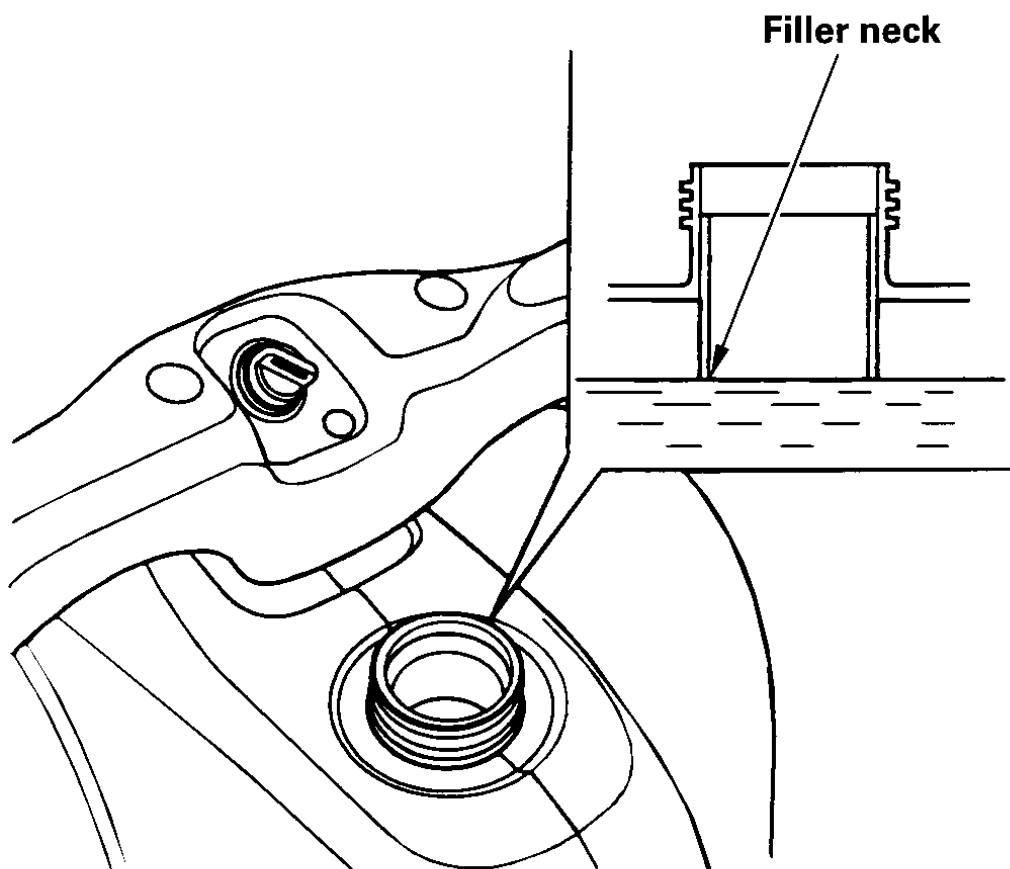


2. Fuel.

Fill the fuel tank when necessary (page 116).

Check for leaks.

Fuel level should be below the filler neck.

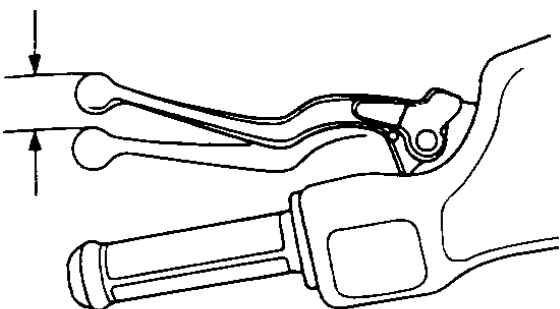


3. Brakes.

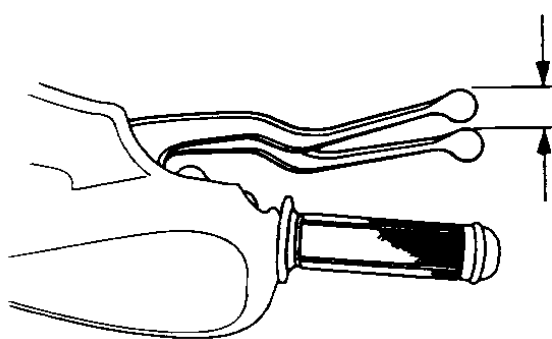
Check operation. If necessary, adjust free play. (pages 139–145).

FREE PLAY

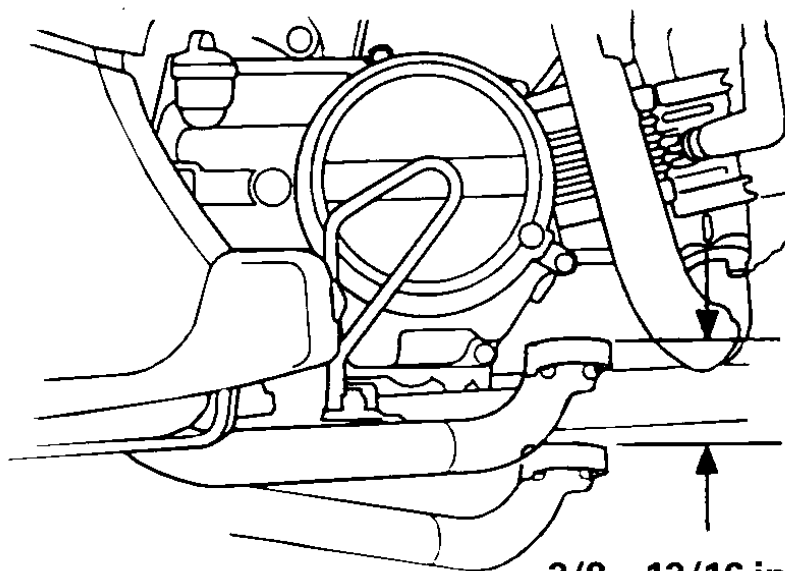
Rear brake lever
3/8 – 13/16 in (10 – 20 mm)



Front brake lever
3/8 – 13/16 in (10 – 20 mm)



Rear brake pedal



3/8 – 13/16 in (10 – 20 mm)

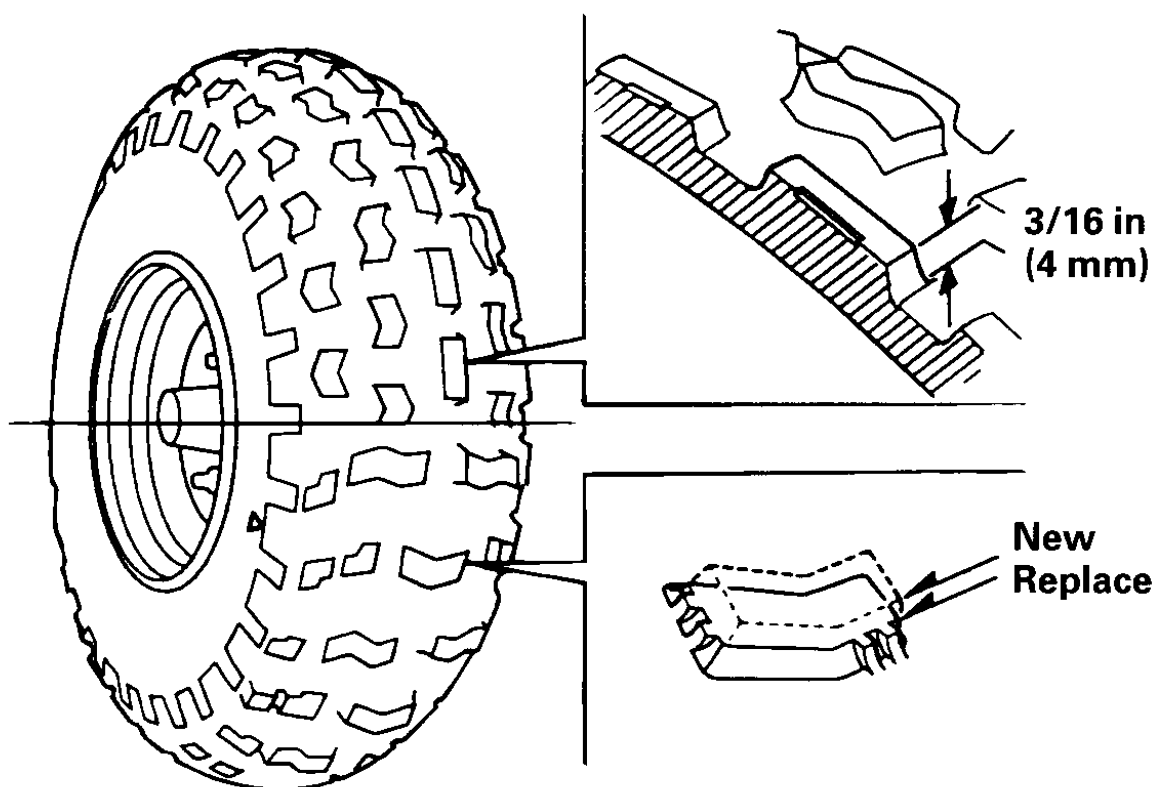
4. Tires.

Check condition, tread depth, and pressure (pages 149 – 152).

TIRE PRESSURE

	FRONT	REAR
RECOMMENDED PRESSURE	2.9 psi (20 kPa , 0.20 kgf/cm ²)	2.9 psi (20 kPa , 0.20 kgf/cm ²)

TREAD DEPTH



⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV with improper tires, or with improper or uneven tire pressure.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Use of improper tires on this ATV, or operation of this ATV with improper or uneven tire pressure, may cause loss of control, increasing your risk of an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always use the size and type tires specified in the Owner's Manual for this vehicle.

Always maintain proper tire pressure as described in this Owner's Manual.

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

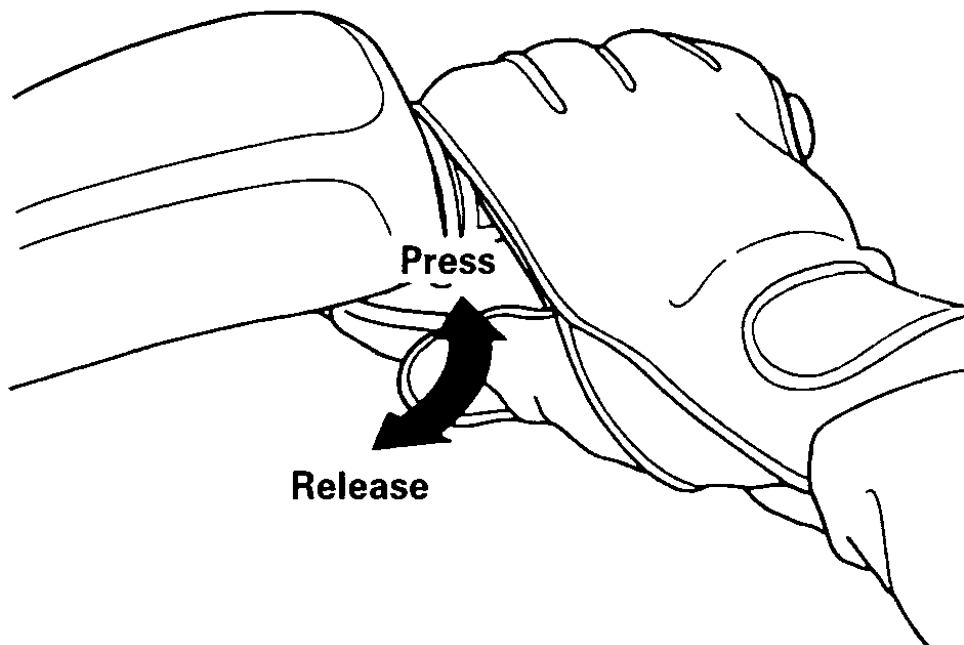
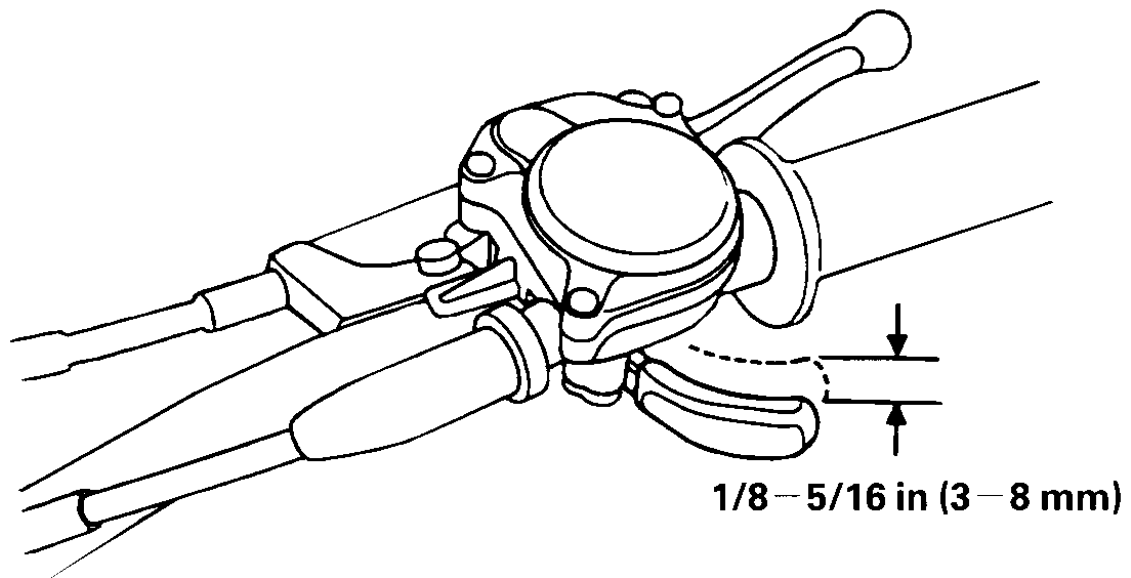
Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

5. Throttle.

Check the free play.

Check for smooth opening and closing in all steering positions.

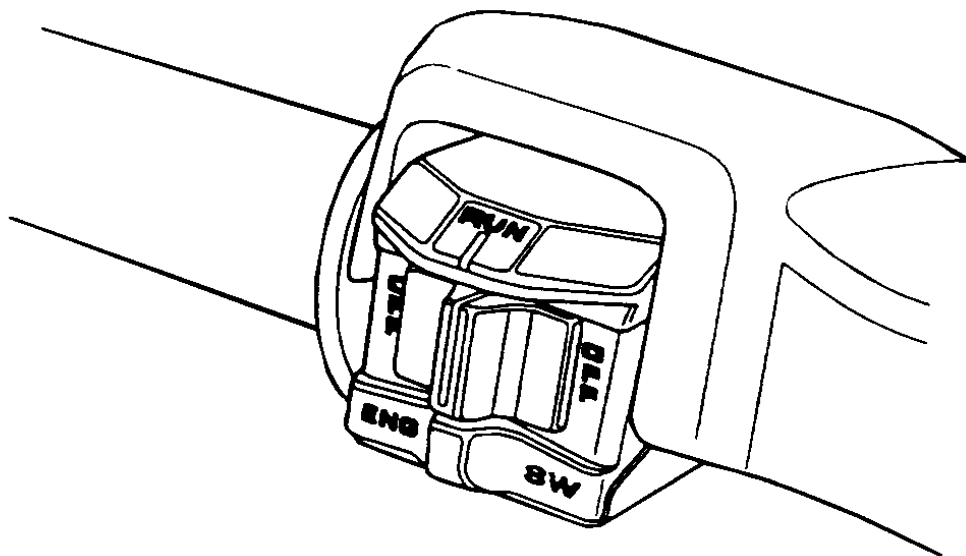
If the throttle needs adjustment, see page 120.



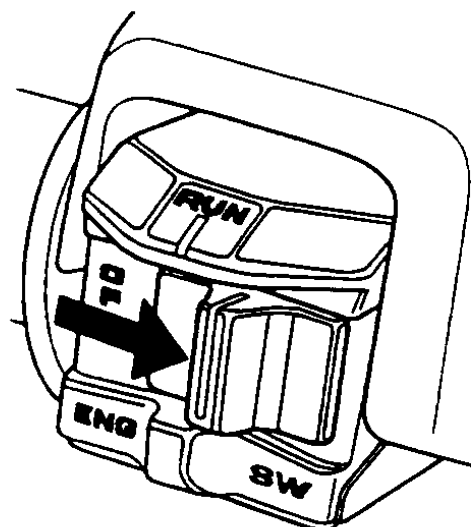
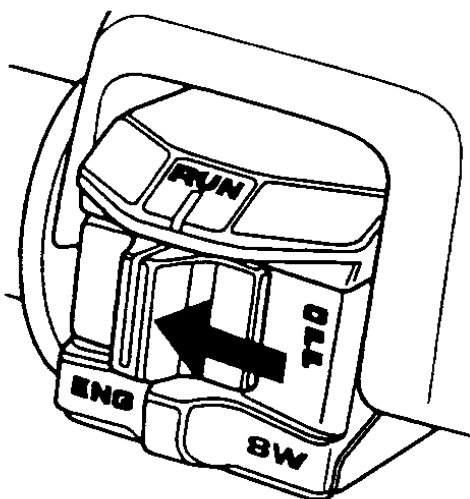
6. Engine stop switch.

Check for proper function (pages 22 – 23).

RUN



OFF



7. Nuts, bolts, fasteners.

Check the wheels to see that the axle and wheel nuts are tight.
Check that all other nuts, bolts and fasteners are secure.

8. Steering.

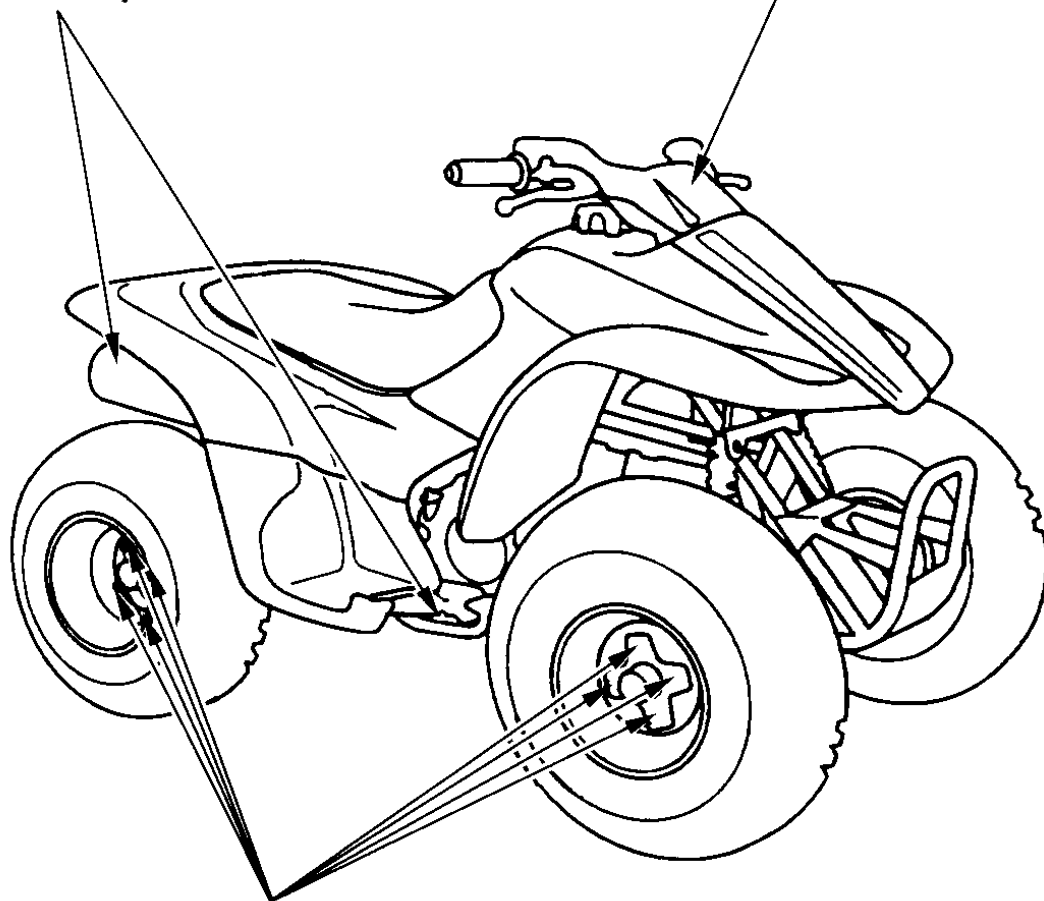
Check that the wheels turn properly as you steer the handlebars.

9. Underbody and exhaust system.

Check for, and remove, any dirt, vegetation or other debris that could be a fire hazard or interfere with the proper operation of the vehicle.

**Underbody and
exhaust system**

Handlebars



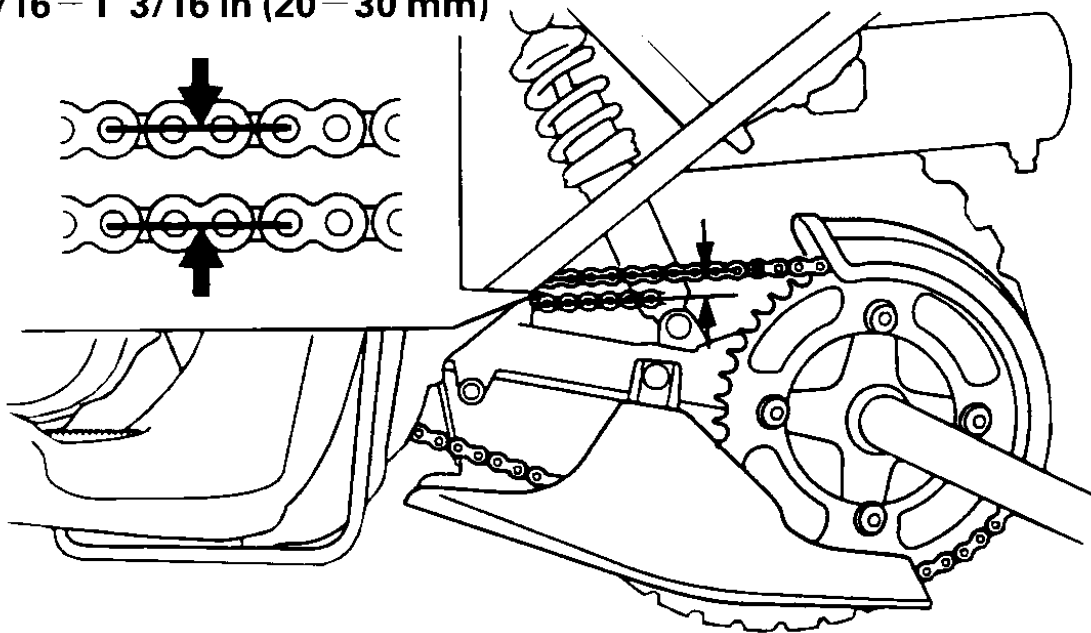
Wheel nuts

10. Drive chain.

Check condition and slack.

If necessary adjust and lubricate (pages 132 – 133).

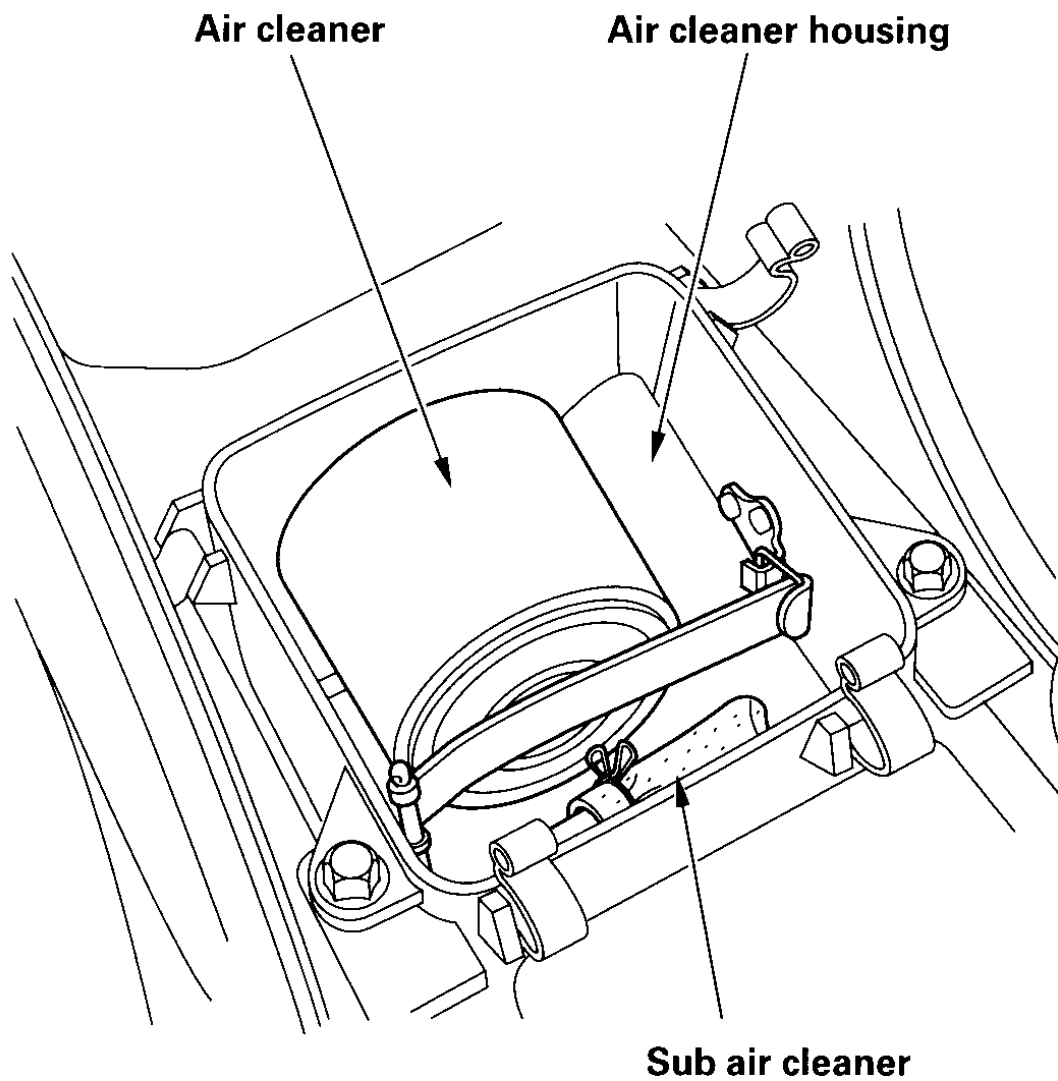
13/16 – 1 3/16 in (20 – 30 mm)



11. Air cleaner housing.

Check for deposits in the housing.

If necessary, clean the air cleaner, sub air cleaner and housing (pages 122 – 124).



Weight Limits

This Sportrax is not designed to carry cargo or tow a trailer. Do not add a cargo rack or a trailer hitch.

There are limits to how much weight can be carried on your Sportrax. The following weight limit applies to standard equipment only. Modifying your Sportrax, using non-standard equipment or riding on terrain that is not flat and smooth could further reduce these limits.

Maximum weight capacity 187 lbs (85 kg) maximum
(Combined weight of the rider and all accessories)

WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Overloading this ATV or carrying or towing cargo

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Could cause changes in vehicle handling, stability and braking which could lead to an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

**Never exceed the stated maximum weight capacity for this ATV.
Never carry cargo or tow a trailer.**

Accessories

Genuine Honda accessories have been specifically designed for and tested on this vehicle. Because Honda cannot test all other accessories, you are personally responsible for properly selecting, installing, and using non-Honda accessories. Always follow the loading instructions above, plus the following:

1. Carefully inspect the accessory to make sure it does not reduce ground clearance or limit suspension travel, steering travel, or other controls.
2. Make sure the accessory does not interfere with your ability to shift body position on the seat or operate hand and foot controls.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV with improper modifications.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Improper installation of accessories or modification of this vehicle may cause changes in handling which could lead to an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never modify this ATV through improper installation or use of accessories. All parts and accessories added to this vehicle should be genuine Honda or equivalent components designed for use on this ATV and should be installed and used according to instructions. If you have questions, consult an authorized Honda dealer.

No Modifications

Modifying this Sportrax or removing original equipment may render the vehicle unsafe or illegal. Spark arresters and mufflers are required in most areas. Don't modify your exhaust system or emission control system components. Remember, excessive noise bothers everyone and creates a bad image for off-road vehicles.

SAFE RIDING RULES

Please note that the safe Riding Rules apply to all Sportrax riders. Even if you are an experienced rider, or after you become one — continue to follow these guidelines for your own safety and enjoyment.

Protective Apparel

Always wear an approved motorcycle helmet when riding your Sportrax. You should also always wear goggles or a face shield, gloves, boots, a long-sleeved shirt or jacket, and long pants.

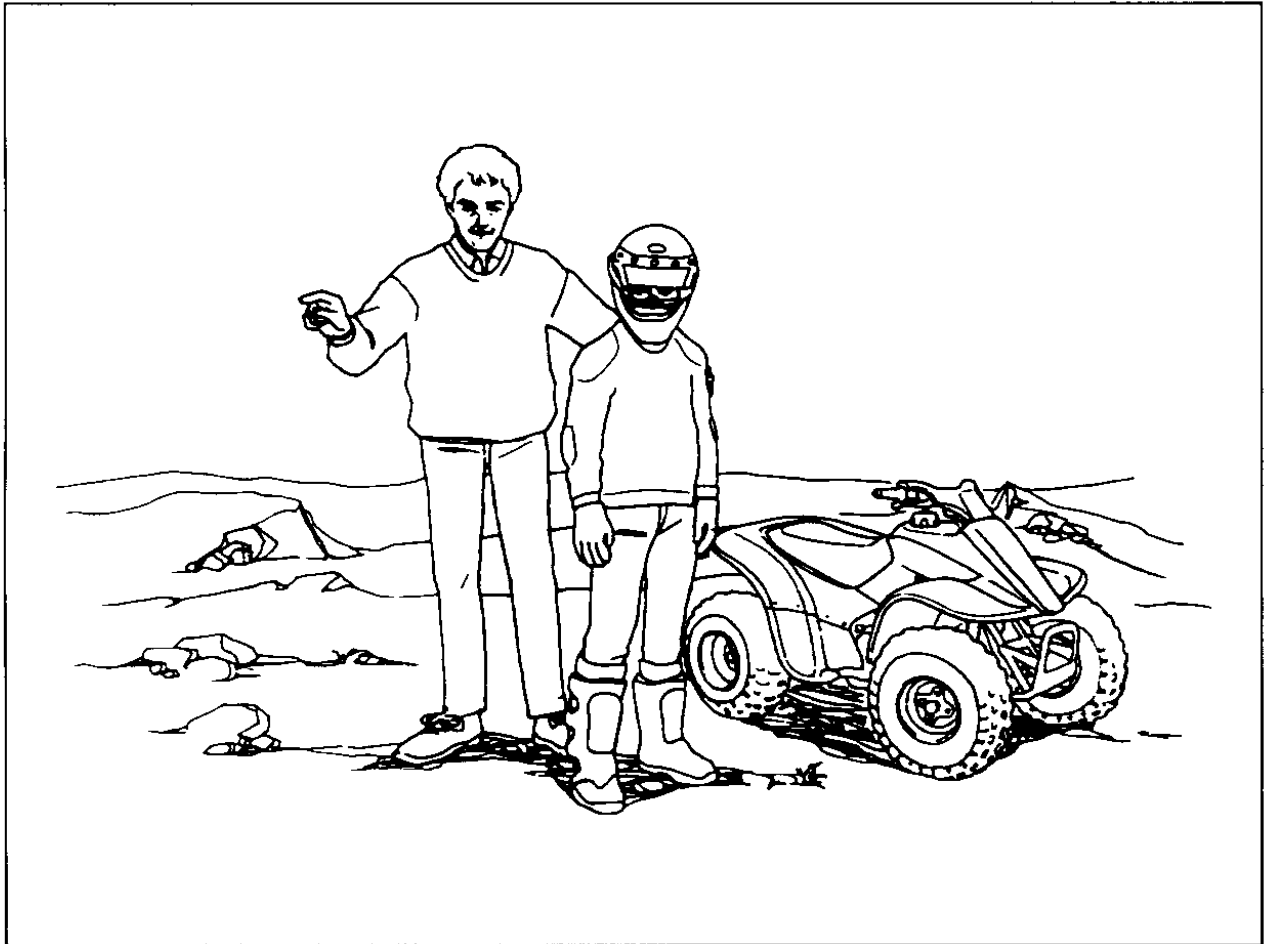


Fig. 3-1

An example of a properly dressed rider.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV without wearing an approved motorcycle helmet, eye protection and protective clothing.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Operating without an approved motorcycle helmet increases your chances of a severe head injury or death in the event of an accident.

Operating without eye protection can result in an accident and increases your chances of a severe injury in the event of an accident.

Operating without protective clothing increases your chances of severe injury in the event of an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always wear an approved motorcycle helmet that fits properly.

You should also wear: eye protection (goggles or face shield), gloves, boots, long-sleeved shirt or jacket and long pants.

No Passengers

This Sportrax is designed as an operator-only vehicle. The seat is designed to allow the rider to change body position, not for carrying a passenger. Never let a passenger ride on your Sportrax.

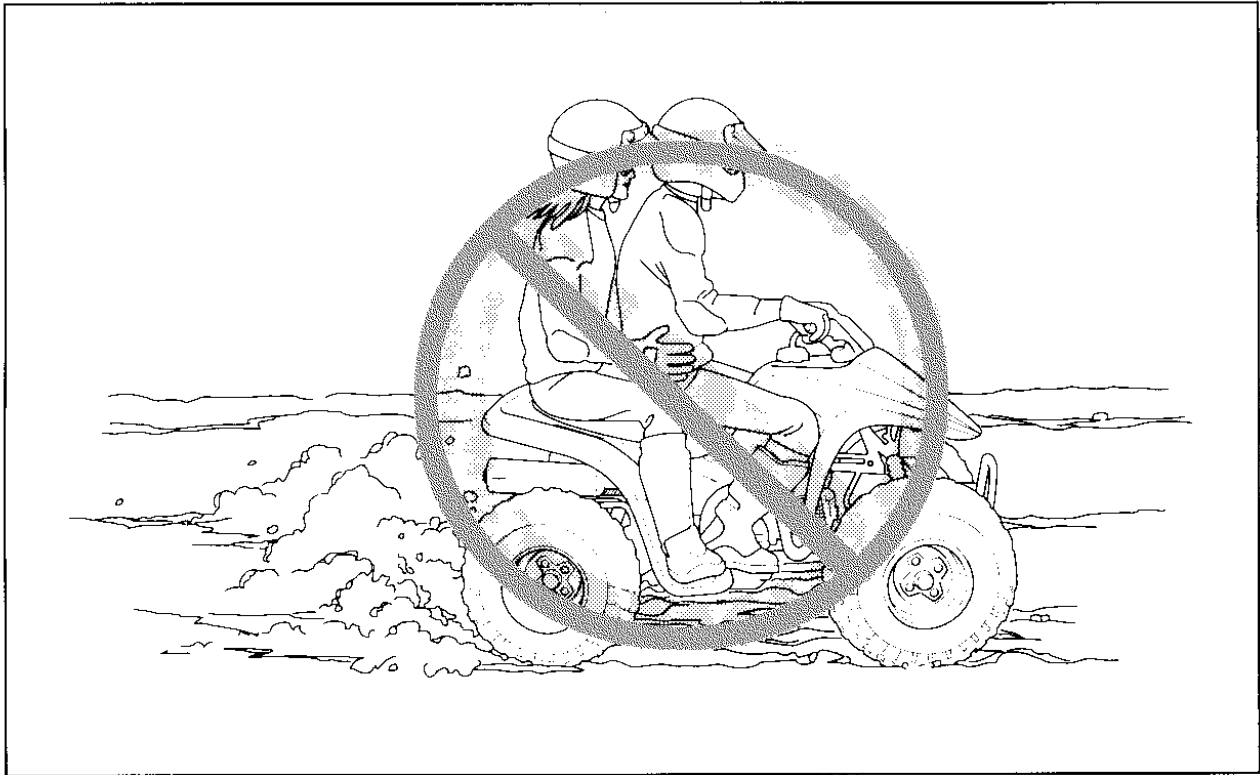


Fig. 3-2

Never carry a passenger on your Sportrax.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Carrying a passenger on this ATV.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Greatly reduces your ability to balance and control this ATV.

Could cause an accident, resulting in harm to you and/or your passenger.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never carry a passenger. The seat is to allow the operator to shift position as needed during operation. It is not for carrying passengers.

No Alcohol or Drugs

Alcohol, drugs and Sportrax's don't mix. Even a small amount of alcohol can impair your ability to operate a Sportrax safely. Likewise, drugs—even if prescribed by a physician—can be dangerous while operating a Sportrax. Consult your doctor to be sure it is safe to operate a vehicle after taking medication.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV after consuming alcohol or drugs.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

**Could seriously affect your judgment.
Could cause you to react more slowly.
Could affect your balance and perception.
Could result in an accident.**

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never consume alcohol or drugs before or while driving this ATV.

Off-Road Only

Your Sportrax is designed and manufactured for off-road use only, not for pavement. Riding on pavement can affect handling and control. You should not ride your Sportrax on pavement.

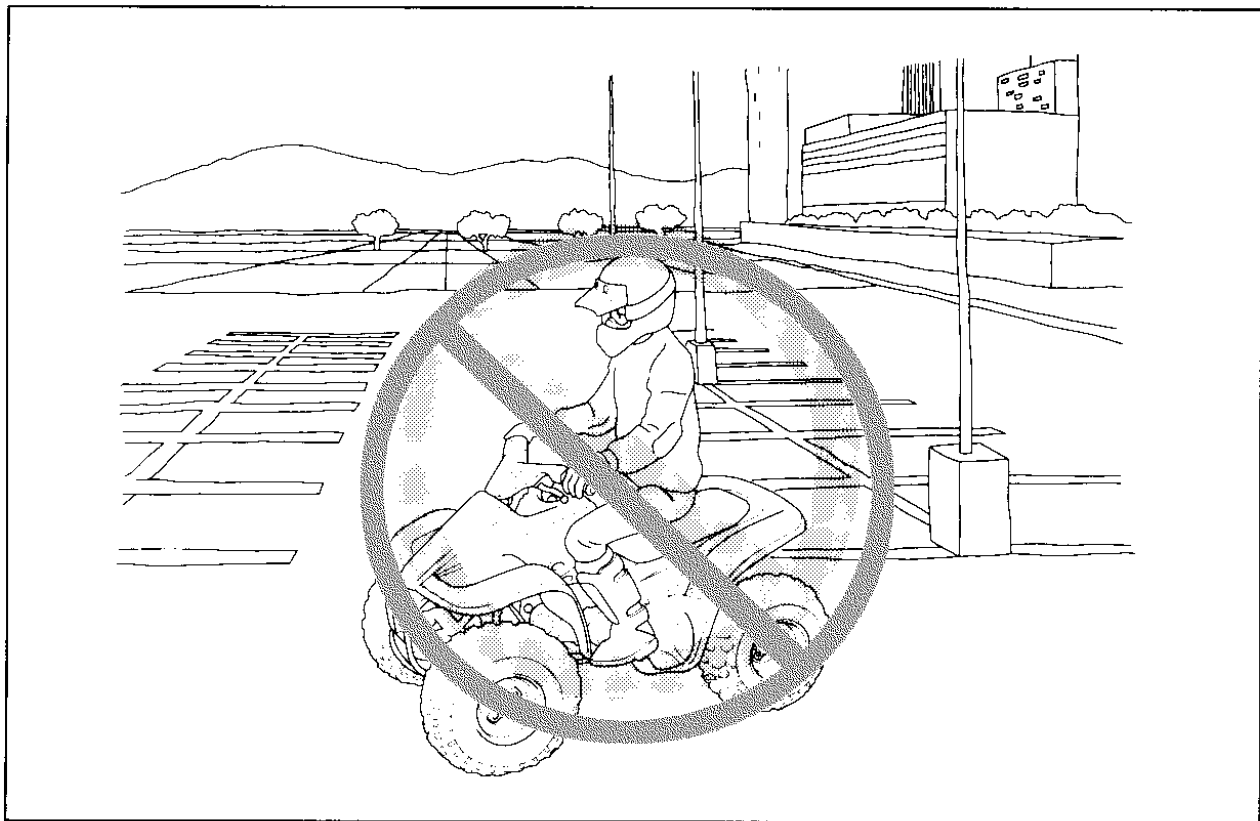


Fig. 3-3

Never ride on paved surfaces.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV on paved surfaces.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

The ATV and its tires are designed for off-road use only, not for use on pavement. Paved surfaces may seriously affect handling and control of the ATV, and may cause the vehicle to go out of control.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never operate the ATV on any paved surfaces, including sidewalks, driveways, parking lots and streets.

You should never ride your Sportrax on public streets, roads or highways, even if they are not paved. Drivers of street vehicles may have difficulty seeing and avoiding you, which could lead to a collision.

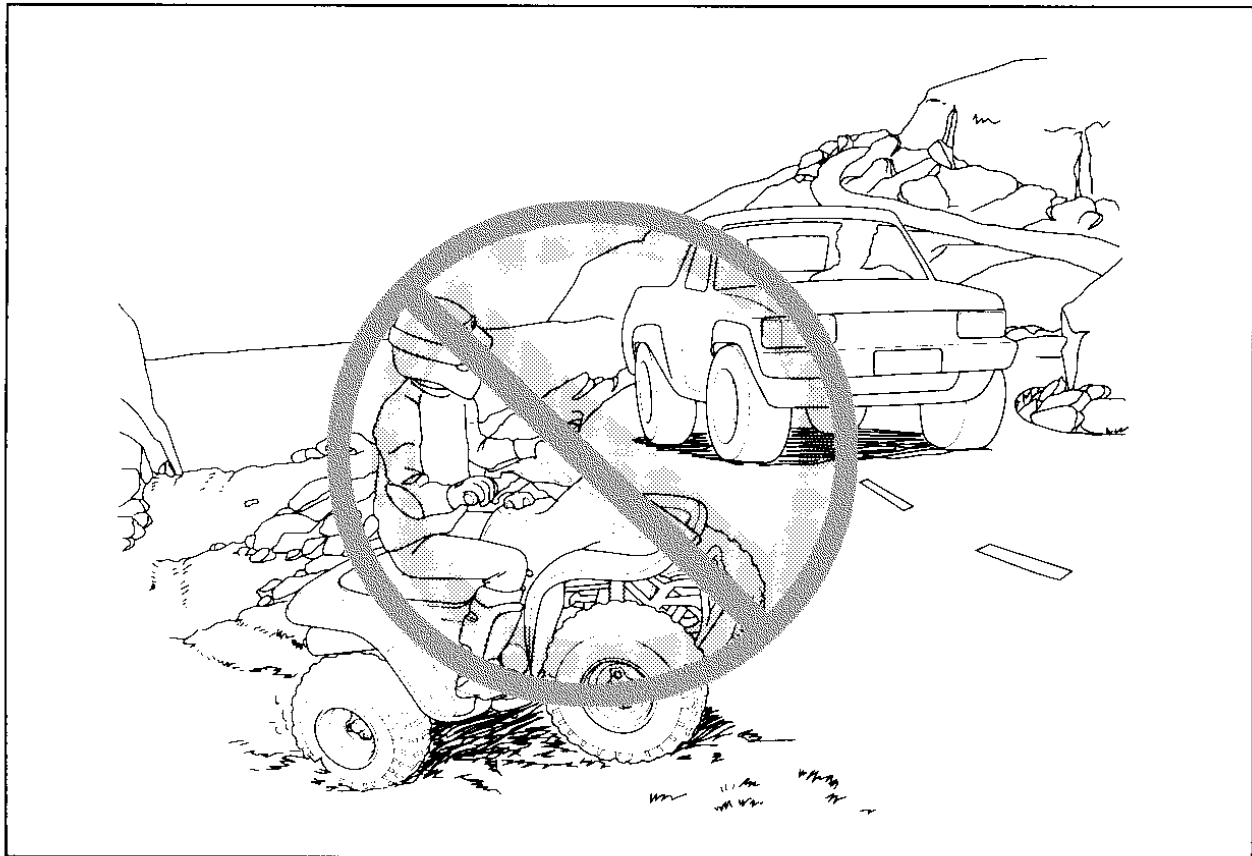


Fig. 3-4

Never ride on public roads or highways.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV on public streets, roads or highways.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

You can collide with another vehicle.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never operate this ATV on any public street, road or highway, even a dirt or gravel one.

In many states it is illegal to operate ATVs on public streets, roads and highways.

FOR OFF-ROAD USE ONLY

This vehicle is designed and manufactured for off-road use only.

USA only:

It conforms to US EPA Noise Emission regulations, but does not conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards or US EPA Exhaust Emission regulations, and operation on public streets, roads, or highways is illegal. The vehicle is equipped with a USDA qualified spark arrester. Obey local laws and regulations.

It conforms to California exhaust emission regulations for ATVs.

When riding off-road, also remember to always obey local off-road riding laws and regulations. Obtain permission to ride on private property. Avoid posted areas and obey "no trespassing" signs.

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

Keep Hands and Feet on Controls

Always keep both hands on the handlebars and both feet on the footpegs when riding your Sportrax. This is important to maintain your balance and to control the vehicle. If you put your feet on the ground while the Sportrax is moving, they could come in contact with the rear wheels, causing injury.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Removing hands from handlebars or feet from footpegs during operation.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Removing even one hand or foot can reduce your ability to control the ATV or could cause you to lose your balance and fall off of the ATV. If you remove a foot from the footpeg, your foot or leg may come into contact with the rear wheels, which could injure you or cause an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always keep both hands on the handlebars and both feet on the footpegs of your ATV during operation.

Control Speed

Riding at excessive speed increases the chance of an accident. In choosing a proper speed, you need to consider the capability of your vehicle, the terrain, visibility and other operating conditions, plus your own skills and experience.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV at excessive speeds.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Increases your chances of losing control of the ATV, which can result in an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always go at a speed that is proper for your vehicle, the terrain, visibility and other operating conditions, and your experience.

No Stunts

When riding, you should keep all four wheels of your Sportrax on the ground. Avoid "wheelies," jumps and other stunts, as they could cause loss of control.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Attempting wheelies, jumps, and other stunts.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Increases the chance of an accident, including an overturn.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

**Never attempt stunts, such as wheelies or jumps.
Don't try to show off.**

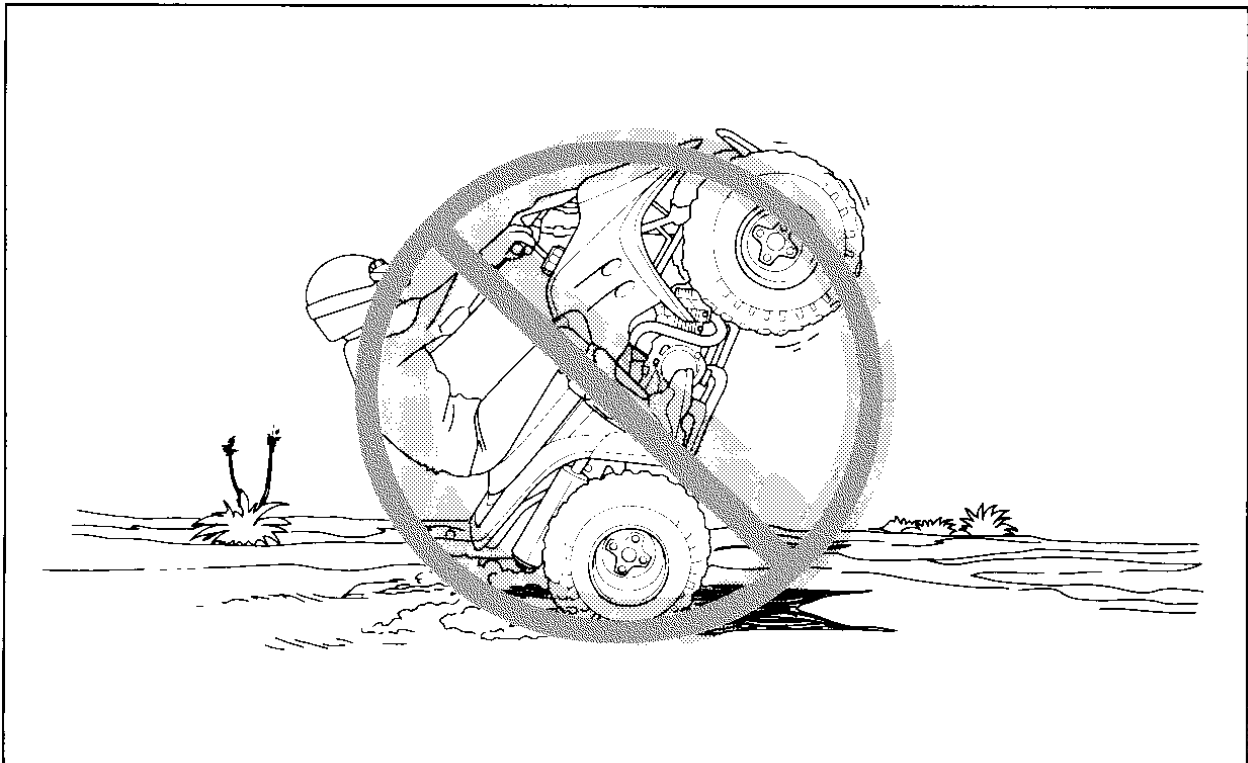


Fig. 3-5

Never attempt wheelies or other stunts.

Use Care on Unfamiliar Terrain

Before riding in a new area, always check the terrain thoroughly. Don't ride fast on unfamiliar terrain or when visibility is limited. (It's sometimes difficult to see obstructions.)



Fig. 3-6

Be alert for changes in the terrain.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Failure to use extra care when operating this ATV on unfamiliar terrain.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

You can come upon hidden rocks, bumps, or holes without enough time to react.

Could result in the ATV overturning or going out of control.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Go slowly and be extra careful when operating on unfamiliar terrain.

Always be alert to changing terrain conditions when operating the ATV.

Never ride past your limit of visibility. Maintain a safe distance between your Sportrax and other off-road vehicles. Always exercise caution, and use extra care on rough, slippery and loose terrain.



Fig. 3-7

Use extra care on rough terrain.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Failure to use extra care when operating on excessively rough, slippery or loose terrain.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Could cause loss of traction or vehicle control, which could result in an accident, including an overturn.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Do not operate on excessively rough, slippery or loose terrain until you have learned and practiced the skills necessary to control the ATV on such terrain.

Always be especially cautious on these kinds of terrain.

Ride Only When Visibility Is Good

Your Sportrax is not equipped with lights. It is intended to be used only during the daytime. You should ride only when visibility is good. Plan to stop riding well before it gets dark. Operation at night without lights may be illegal in some states.

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

RIDING

For your initial riding practice, select a safe area free of obstacles with a level surface of dirt or sand.

WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Running the engine in an enclosed area.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Engine exhaust contains carbon monoxide gas that can cause loss of consciousness and may lead to death.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never operate the ATV engine in an enclosed area, such as a garage.

Practice with the throttle limiter adjusted as delivered until you are confident in shifting gears, braking, and making turns.

Speed Restrictors For New Riders

To limit top speed to about one half of normal in every gear, your Sportrax has an adjustable throttle limiter and air intake restrictor.

The screw and locknut in the lower throttle housing can be adjusted to limit throttle lever movement. The air intake restrictor is used to restrict air flow to the engine which reduces engine power.

To adjust the throttle limiter:

1. Loosen the lock nut (1).
2. Turn the throttle limiter screw (2) clockwise to reduce throttle lever movement or counterclockwise to increase throttle lever movement.
3. Hold the screw in place and tighten the lock nut.

For higher top speed, removing the air intake restrictor is required. Adjusting for increased throttle lever movement without removing the air intake restrictor will cause the engine to run roughly at higher speeds.

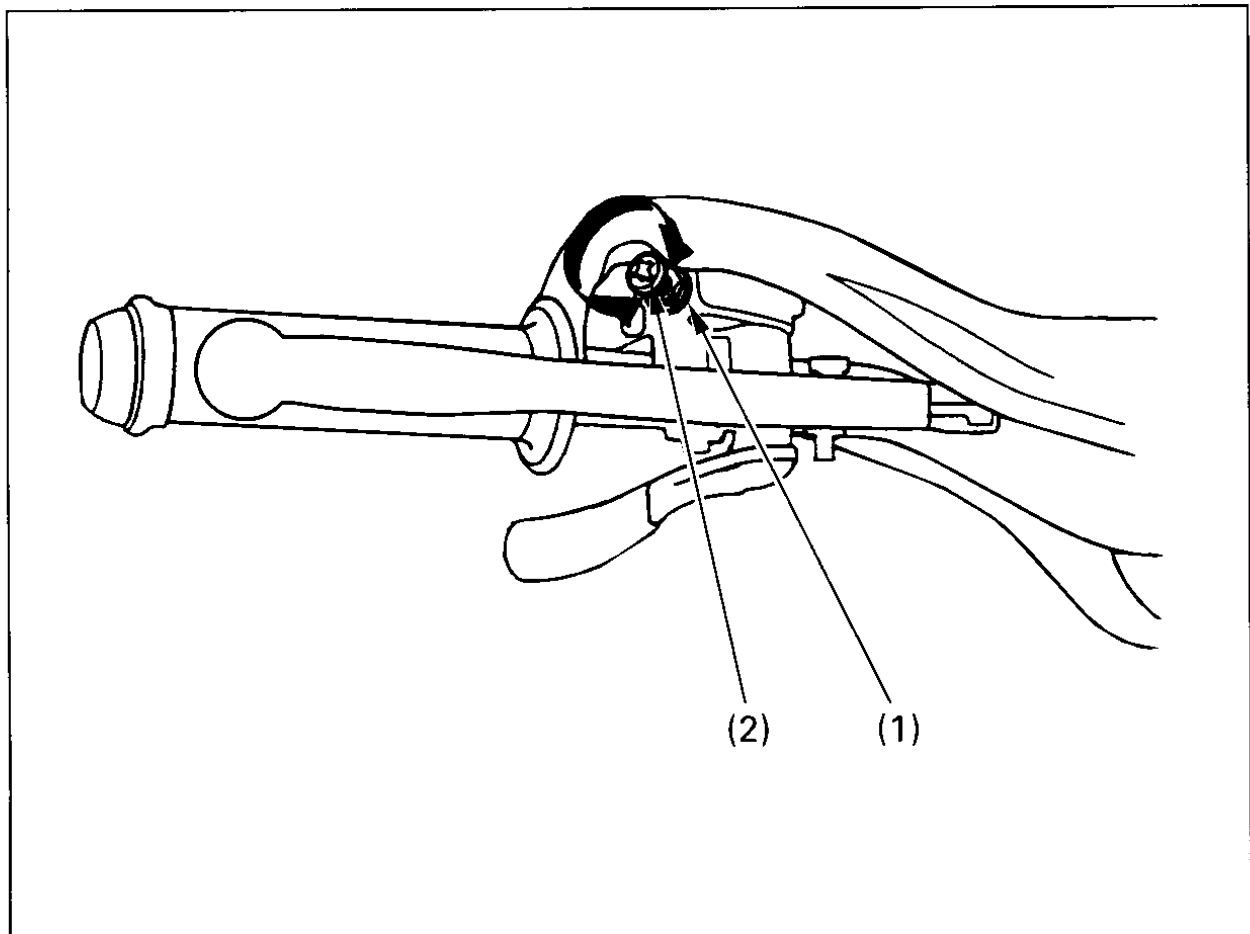


Fig. 3-8

(1) Lock nut
(2) Throttle limiter screw

To obtain full throttle operation:

1. Remove the air intake restrictor (5). (see page 84.)
2. Loosen the lock nut (1) and remove the throttle limiter screw (2).
3. Install the standard screw supplied with your Sportrax to prevent moisture or debris (dirt, sand, pebbles, sticks, etc.) from entering the throttle housing.

Moisture and debris may interfere with proper throttle operation.

Store the throttle limiter screw and air intake restrictor in the Owner's Manual bag so you can install them whenever you want to reduce the top speed.

To remove the air intake restrictor:

1. Remove the seat (page 147).
 2. Unlatch the four retainer clips (3) and remove the air cleaner housing lid (4).
 3. Remove the air intake restrictor (5).
- Reinstall in the reverse order of removal.

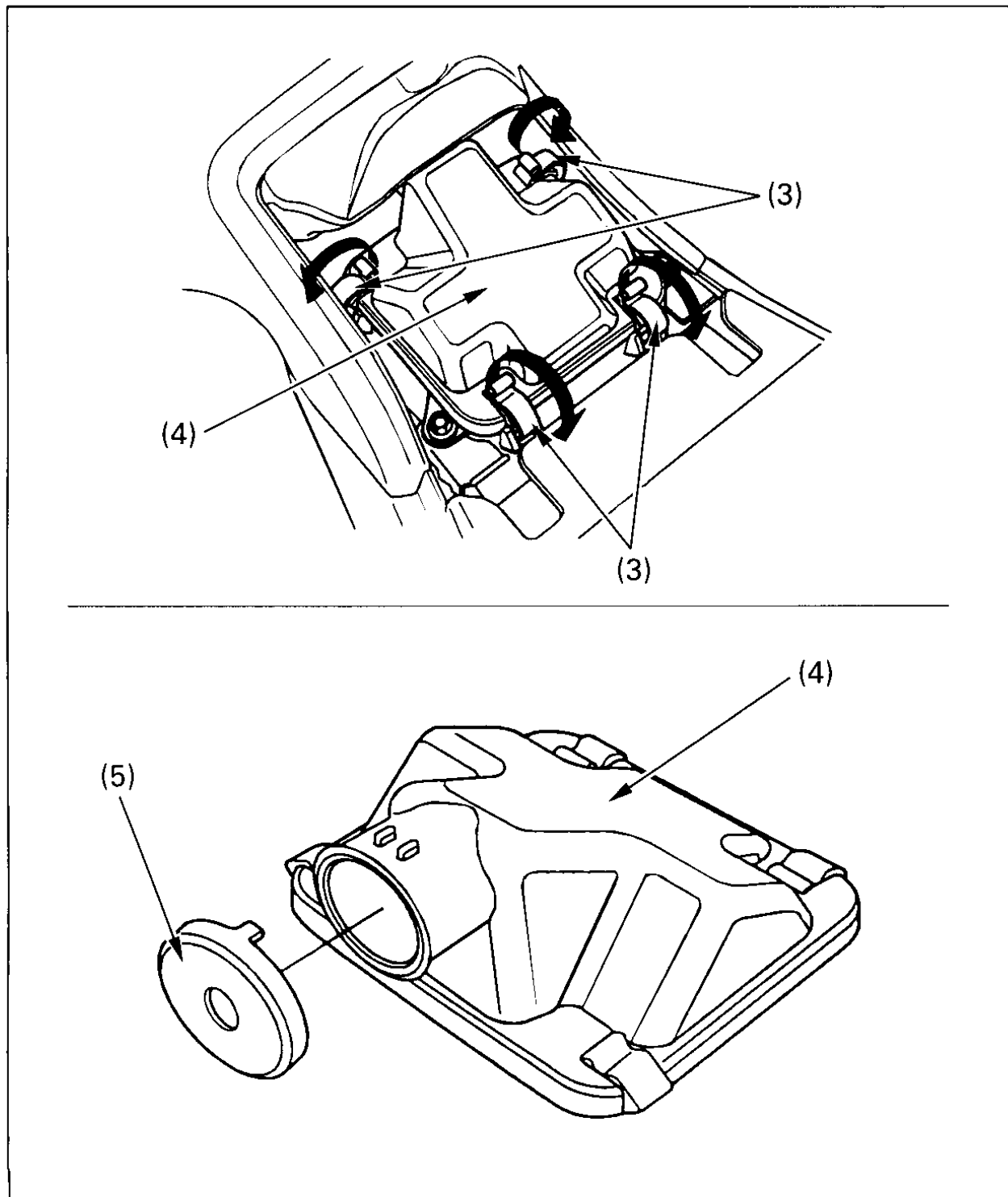


Fig. 3-9 (3) Retainer clips (5) Air intake restrictor
(4) Air cleaner housing lid

STARTING THE ENGINE

Preparation

1. Select a level surface and lock the parking brake (page 34) before starting the engine.
2. Turn the fuel valve (1) and ignition switch (2) to ON.
3. Make sure the engine stop switch (3) is at RUN.
4. Make sure that the transmission is in neutral by depressing the gear shift pedal and checking that the neutral indicator (4) is at "N".

The neutral indicator is located a few inches above the left footpeg.

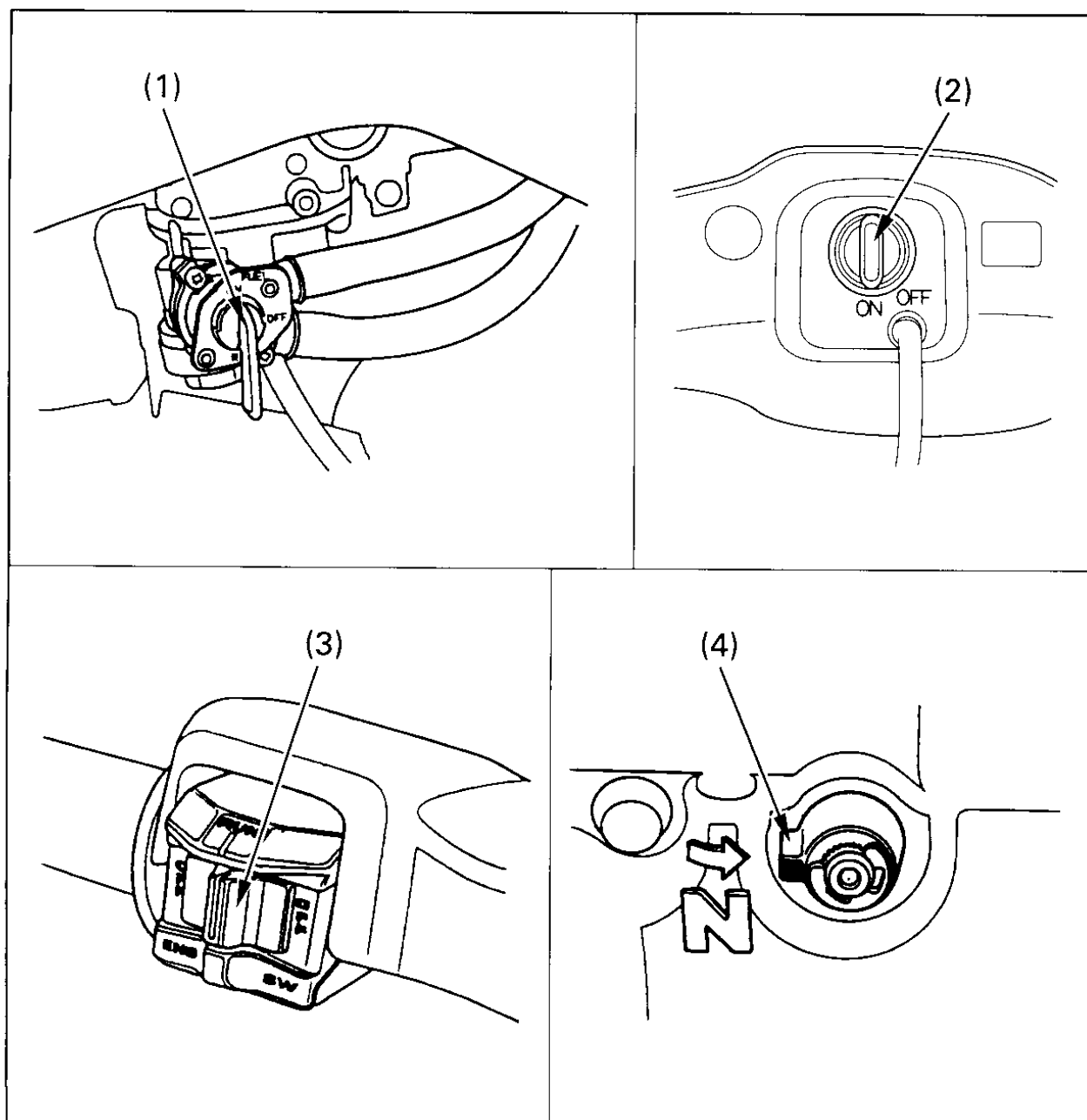


Fig. 3-10 (1) Fuel valve
(2) Ignition switch

(3) Engine stop switch
(4) Neutral indicator

Starting Procedure (After Preparation)

To restart a warm engine, follow the procedure for High Air Temperature.

Normal Air Temperature

10°–35 °C (50°–95 °F)

1. Pull the choke lever up all the way to fully ON (A).
2. Open the throttle slightly (1/8–1/4).
(If the throttle limiter is adjusted as delivered, open the throttle fully.)

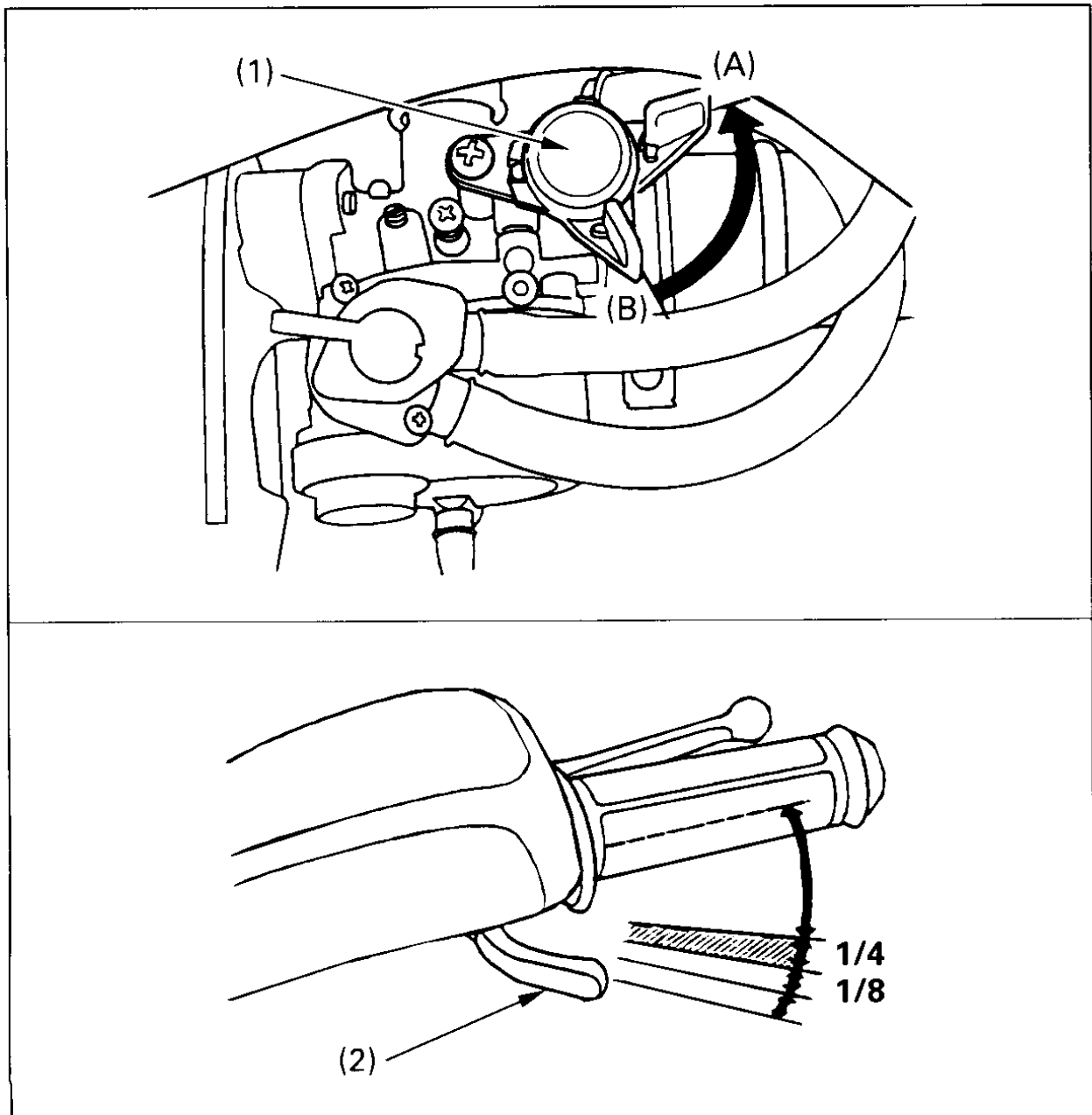


Fig. 3-11

(1) Choke lever
(2) Throttle lever

(A) ON position
(B) OFF position

3. Grasp the starter grip and slowly pull it out about four inches (100 mm). Then pull the starter grip briskly to start the engine (Fig. 3-12).
After the engine starts, slowly return the starter grip.
4. Warm up the engine by opening and closing the throttle slightly.
5. About a half minute after the engine starts, push the choke lever down all the way to fully OFF (B).
6. If idling is unstable, open the throttle slightly.

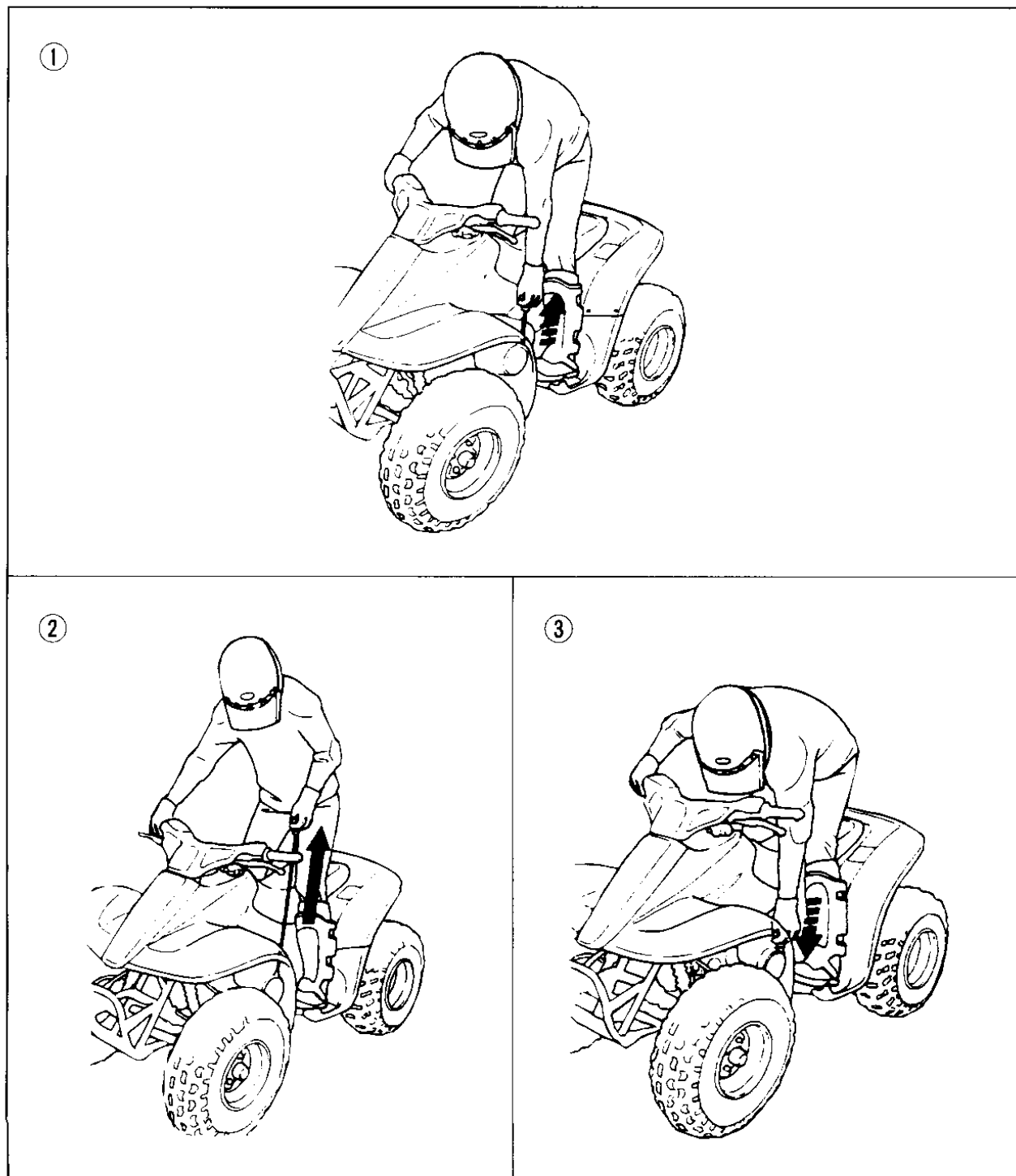


Fig. 3-12

Flooded Engine

If the engine does not start after operating the recoil starter several times, it may have become flooded with excess fuel. To clear the engine:

1. Turn the engine stop switch OFF.
2. Move the choke lever to the fully OFF position.
3. Hold the throttle fully open and operate the recoil starter several times.
4. Turn the engine stop switch to RUN and repeat the normal starting procedure, but don't use the choke.

High Air Temperature

35 °C (95 °F) or above

1. Do not use the choke.
2. Start the engine (follow steps 2–4 under Normal Air Temperature).

Low Air Temperature

10 °C (50 °F) or below

1. Follow steps 1– 2 under “Normal Air Temperature.”
2. Warm up the engine by opening and closing the throttle slightly.
3. Continue warming up the engine until it runs smoothly and responds to the throttle when the choke lever is fully OFF.

SHIFTING GEARS

After starting the engine and letting it warm up, follow these procedures:

1. With the transmission in neutral, release the parking brake, but continue squeezing the rear brake lever.
2. With the throttle closed, raise the gearshift pedal one full stroke to shift into 1st (first) gear.
3. Release the rear brake lever and increase engine speed by gradually opening the throttle.
4. When speed increases, release the throttle and shift to 2nd gear by raising the gearshift pedal one full stroke.
5. Repeat this sequence to progressively upshift to 3rd and 4th (top) gear.
6. To downshift, reverse this sequence. Remember to close the throttle each time you shift to the next lower gear.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Shifting gears without releasing the throttle.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Could cause loss of control or cause the ATV to overturn.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always release the throttle when shifting gears.

BRAKING

Practice starting and stopping at slow speeds. Gradually work up to faster starts and stops.

1. Steer straight ahead. Close the throttle completely, remove your thumb from the throttle lever.

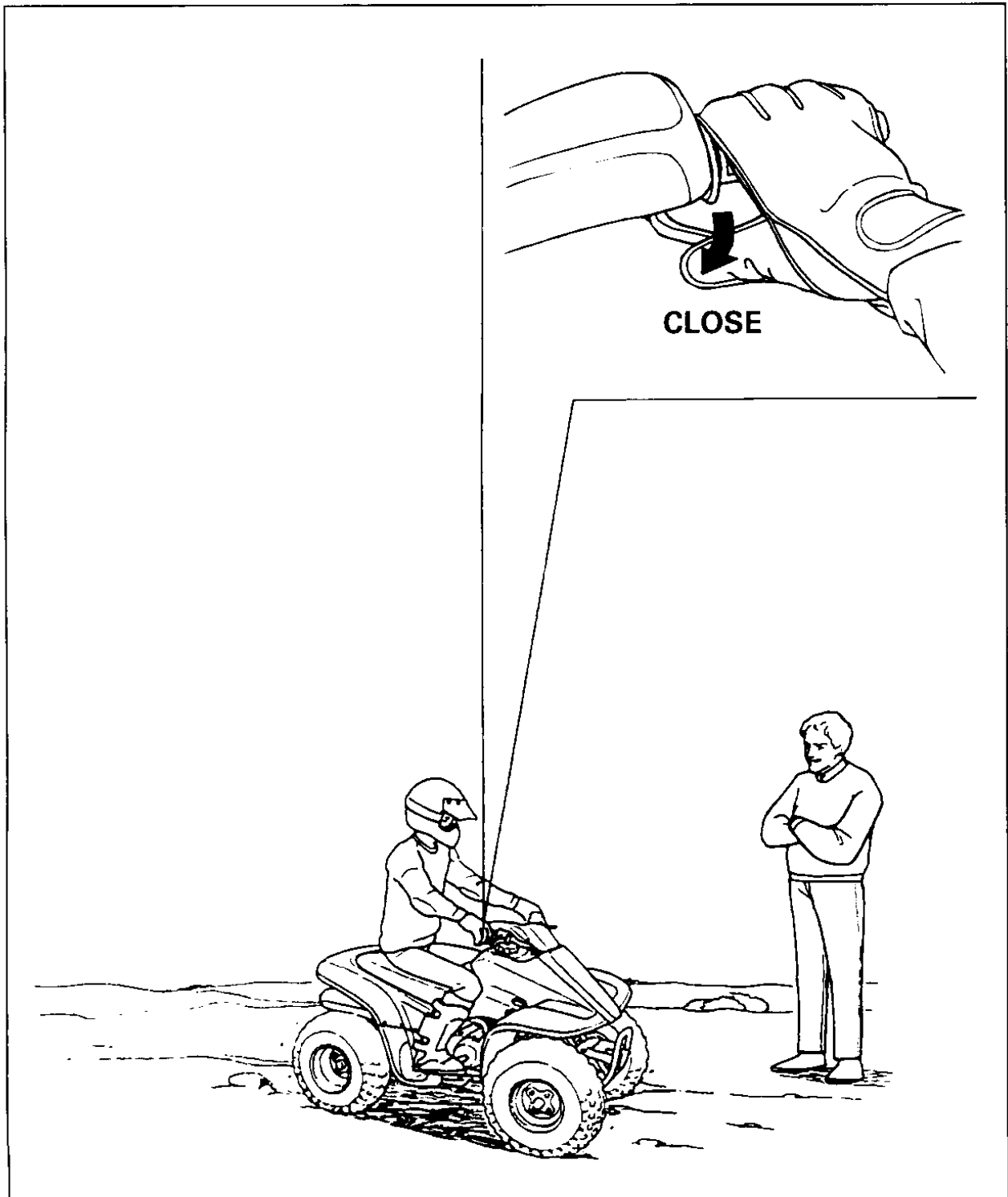


Fig. 3-13

2. Gently apply the brakes. There are three different ways to apply the brakes: (1) pull both hand levers, (2) pull both hand levers and depress the rear brake pedal, or (3) pull the right hand (front brake) lever and depress the rear brake pedal.

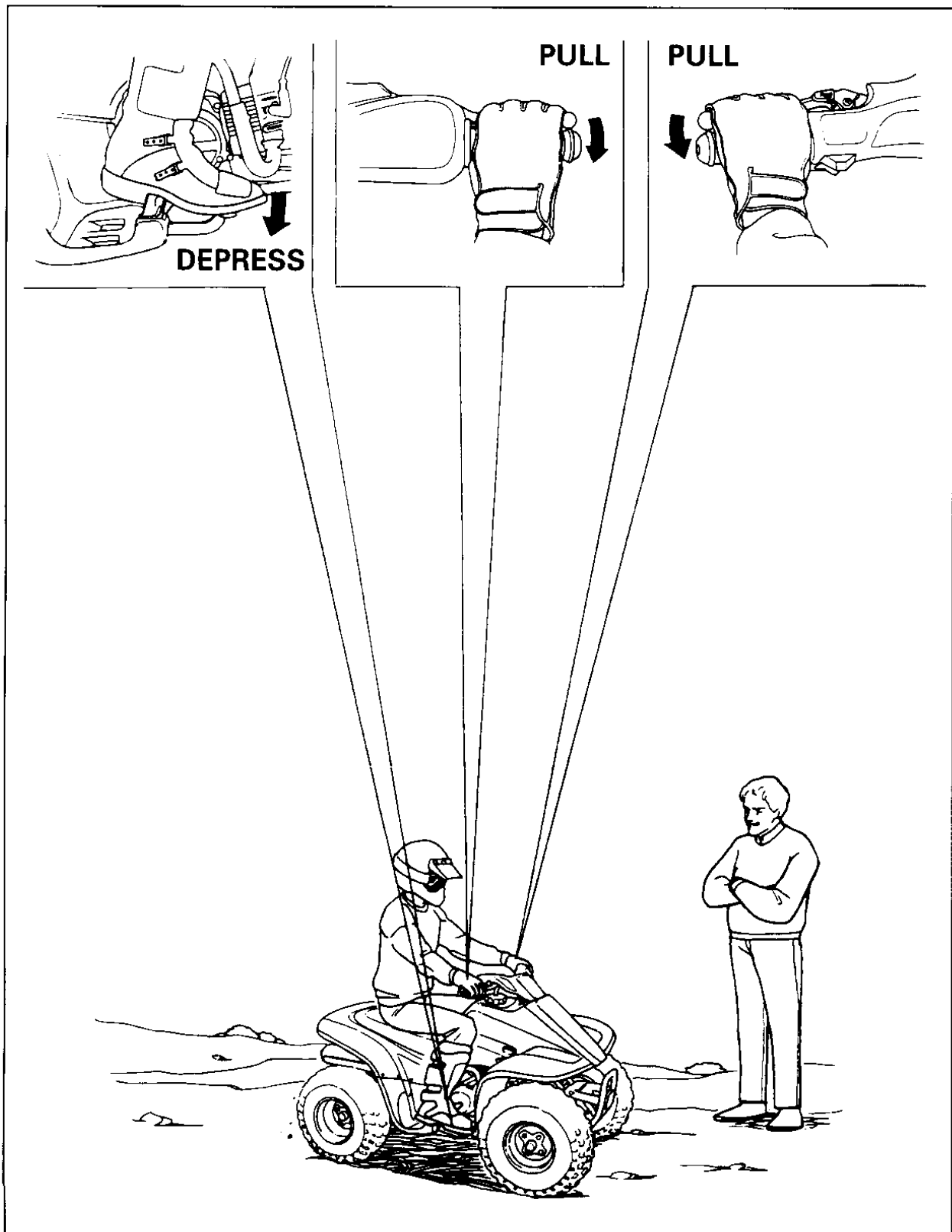


Fig. 3-14

Gradually increase the lever and/or pedal pressure as you feel the brakes slowing your speed. The pressure used depends on your speed and the condition of the terrain you're riding. Slick, slippery or muddy ground requires gentler braking.

Pulling one or both brake levers or depressing the brake pedal too hard may cause the front and/or rear wheels to skid or slide out of control. If this happens, release all pressure on the lever(s) and/or pedal immediately. Steer straight ahead to regain control. Then gently reapply the brakes.

Independent use of only the front or rear brakes reduces stopping performance. Extreme braking may cause the wheels to lock, reducing control of the Sportrax.

When possible, reduce speed or brake before entering a turn. Closing the throttle or braking in mid-turn may cause wheel slippage which will reduce control of your Sportrax.

MAKING TURNS

To make a turn on level ground, steer the handlebars and lean your body toward the inside of the turn. (Fig 3-15) Leaning helps balance the vehicle, and it feels more comfortable. Leaning into a turn is an important technique to master in riding a Sportrax.

To make a sharp turn at low speed, it helps to shift your body slightly forward on the seat (Fig 3-15), and lean inside, as you steer the handlebars. Shifting weight forward allows the rear wheels to turn easier, and it also improves front-wheel steering. Remember to shift your body forward to make sharp low-speed turns and whenever you turn while accelerating from a full stop.

Apply the throttle slowly and gradually when you turn and start up at the same time. During other turns, use the throttle to maintain the desired speed throughout the turn. Practice these techniques on level ground until you are confident in making turns.

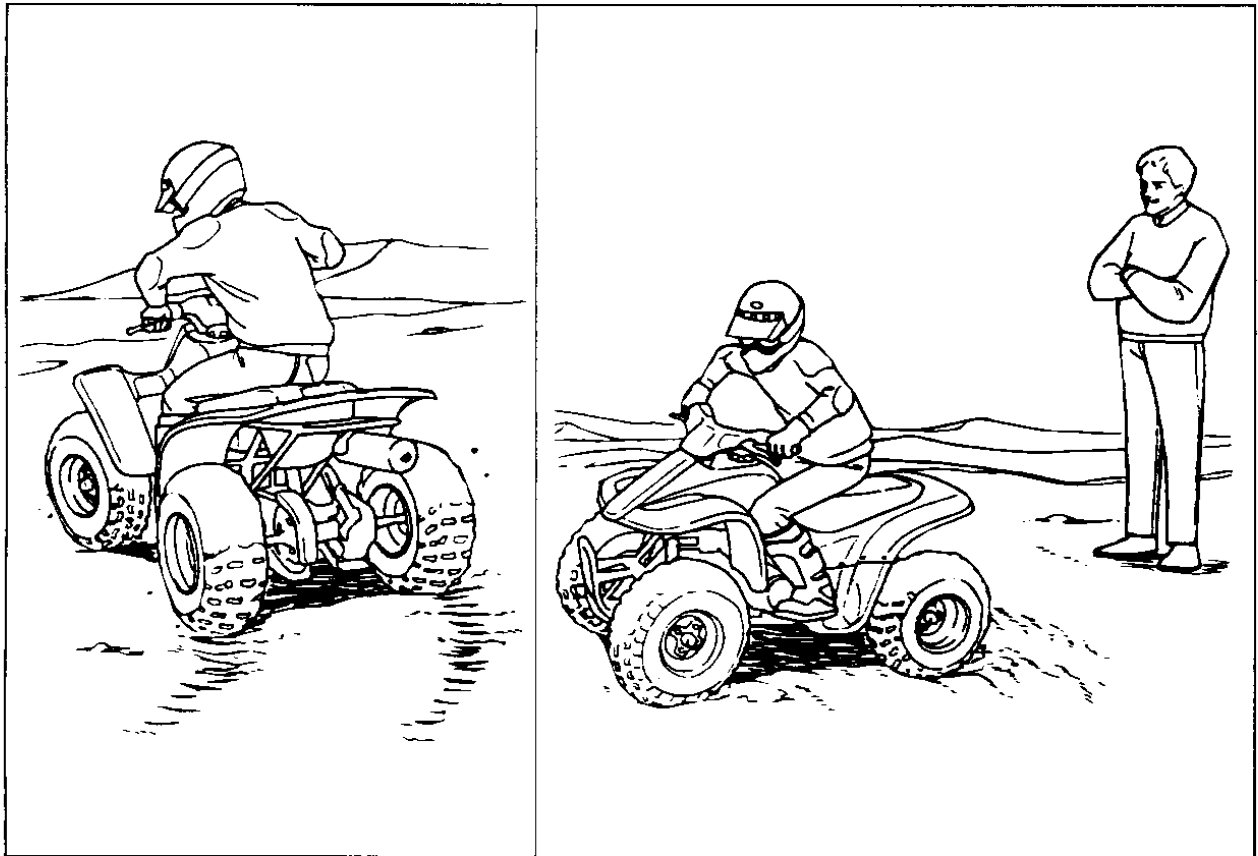


Fig. 3-15 Lean your body to the inside of a turn and forward.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Turning improperly.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

The ATV can go out of control, causing a collision or overturn.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always follow proper procedures for turning as described in this Owner's Manual.

Practice turning at low speeds before attempting to turn at faster speeds.

Do not turn at excessive speeds.

The terrain surface can be a major factor affecting turns. Skidding during a turn is more likely to occur on slippery surfaces, such as snow, ice, mud and loose gravel. If you skid on ice, you may lose all directional control. To avoid skidding on slippery terrain, keep your speed low and ride with caution.

If your Sportrax skids sideways during a turn, steer in the direction of the skid. Avoid hard braking or accelerating until you have regained directional control.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Skidding or sliding improperly.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

You may lose control of this ATV.

You may also regain traction unexpectedly, which may cause the ATV to overturn.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Learn to safely control skidding by practicing at low speeds and on level, smooth terrain.

On extremely slippery surfaces, such as ice, go slowly and be very cautious in order to reduce the chance of skidding or sliding out of control.

RIDING UP HILLS

The Sportrax's ability to safely climb hills largely depends on the rider's skill and judgment. Begin by practicing on smooth, gentle slopes. As you gain experience, you'll learn the hazards and your own limitations. You may then proceed to ride on more difficult terrain. However, you must be able to decide which hills or hazards might cause the Sportrax to overturn. Avoid excessively steep hills.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating on excessively steep hills.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

The vehicle can overturn more easily on extremely steep hills than on level surfaces or small hills.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never operate the ATV on hills too steep for the ATV or for your abilities.

Practice on smaller hills before attempting larger hills.

When climbing hills, you must shift weight toward the front wheels to help keep them on the ground. To do this, shift your body slightly forward on the seat and lean forward. For greater weight shift, move your body farther forward and lean forward.

To climb a hill, take a running start in an appropriate gear and speed for the conditions. Maintain a steady speed as you ascend the hill.

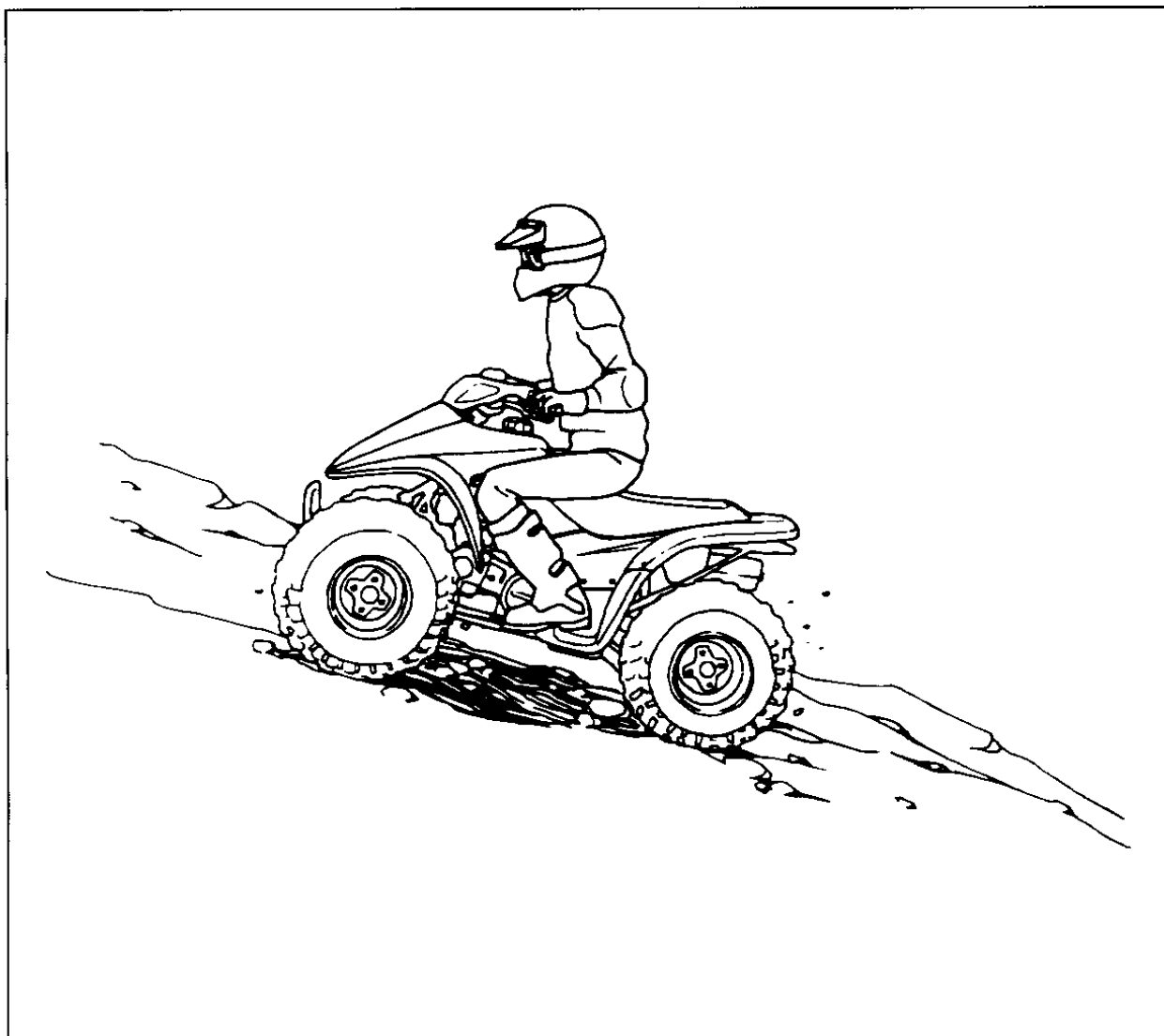


Fig. 3-16

Shift weight forward when climbing hills.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Climbing hills improperly.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Could cause loss of control or cause the ATV to overturn.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always follow proper procedures for climbing hills as described in this Owner's Manual.

Always check the terrain carefully before you start up any hill.

Never climb hills with excessively slippery or loose surfaces.

Shift your weight forward.

Never open the throttle suddenly or make sudden gear changes. The ATV could flip over backward.

Never go over the top of any hill at high speed. An obstacle, a sharp drop, or another vehicle or person could be on the other side of the hill.

If you incorrectly estimate climbing capability or terrain conditions, the Sportrax may not have enough power or traction to continue uphill.

If you are about to lose all forward speed:

1. Using the front and rear brakes together, bring the Sportrax to a stop with the vehicle pointed straight uphill.

2. Get off the Sportrax while you continue holding the brakes.
3. Shift into neutral, set the parking brake and turn the engine off.
4. Then assess the situation.

If the Sportrax starts rolling backwards before you begin braking, keep your weight uphill, apply the front brakes first, then carefully apply the rear brake as well. Do not apply the rear brake only or abruptly if you are rolling backwards, or the vehicle may overturn.

If the Sportrax continues sliding backwards after you've applied the brakes, get off and away from the vehicle.

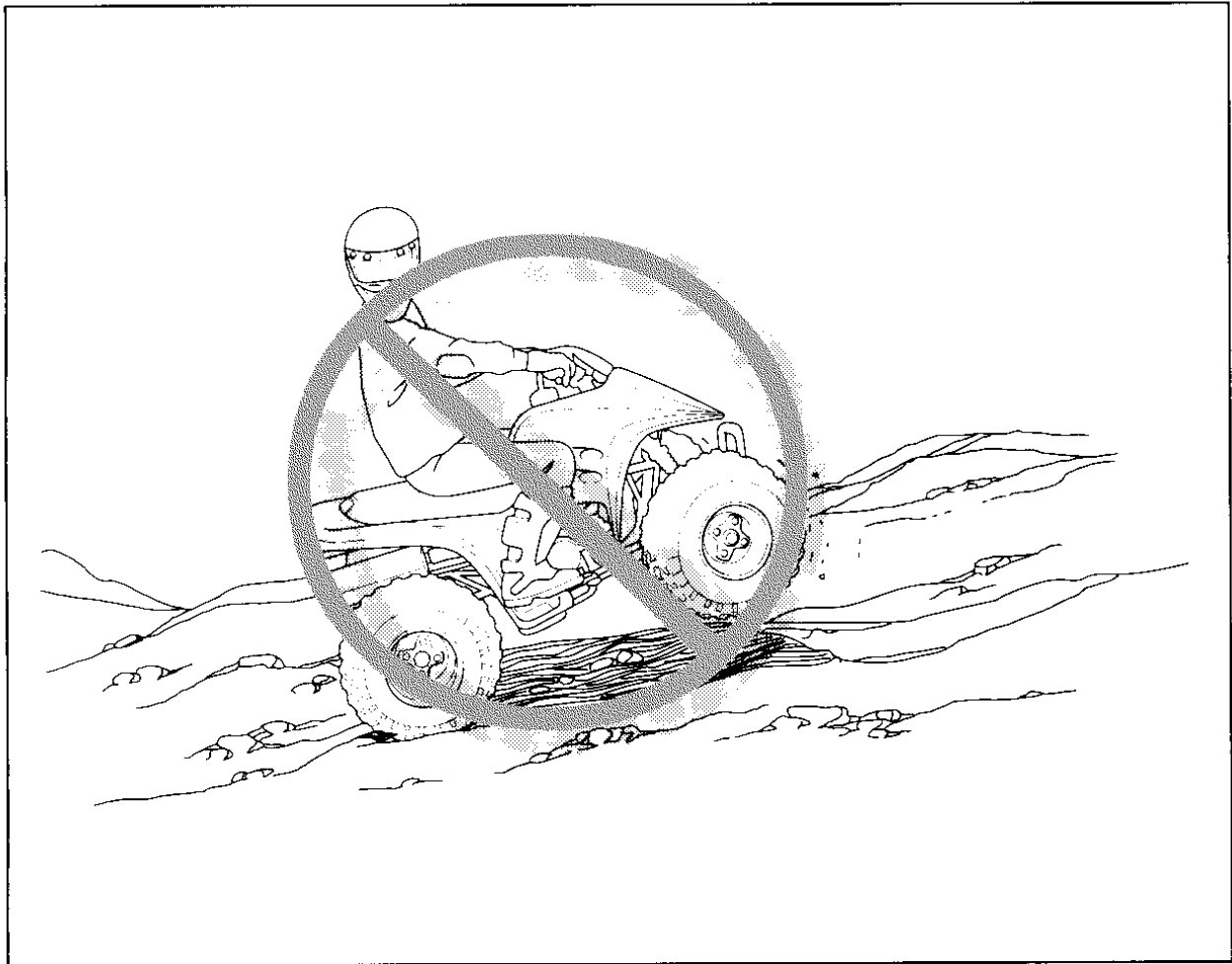


Fig. 3-17 If you roll backwards down a hill, don't apply the rear brake abruptly.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Stalling, rolling backwards or improperly dismounting while climbing a hill.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Could result in ATV overturning.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Use proper gear and maintain steady speed when climbing a hill.

If you lose all forward speed:

Keep weight uphill.

Apply the brakes.

Lock parking brake, after you are stopped.

If you begin rolling backwards:

Keep weight uphill.

Never apply the rear brake abruptly while rolling backwards.

Apply the front brake.

When fully stopped, apply rear brake as well, and then lock parking brake.

Dismount on the uphill side if the vehicle is not pointed straight uphill.

Back the vehicle down the hill, following the instructions in this Owner's Manual.

If the hill is not too steep and you have good footing, you may be able to walk the Sportrax back down the hill. Make sure your intended path is clear in case you lose control of the Sportrax.

If you decide you can walk the Sportrax safely:

1. Stand with your body facing downhill, beside the vehicle so you can reach the rear brake lever with your right hand (see Figure 3-18).
2. Be sure your legs are clear of the wheels.
3. Check your footing.
4. Then slowly and carefully back the Sportrax down the hill using the rear brake lever to control speed.
5. If you lose control of the Sportrax, for your safety, get away from the vehicle.

If the hill is too steep or too slippery, or if you have any doubt whether you can safely walk the Sportrax back down the hill, leave the vehicle where it is and get help. If possible, block the wheels so the vehicle won't roll backwards.

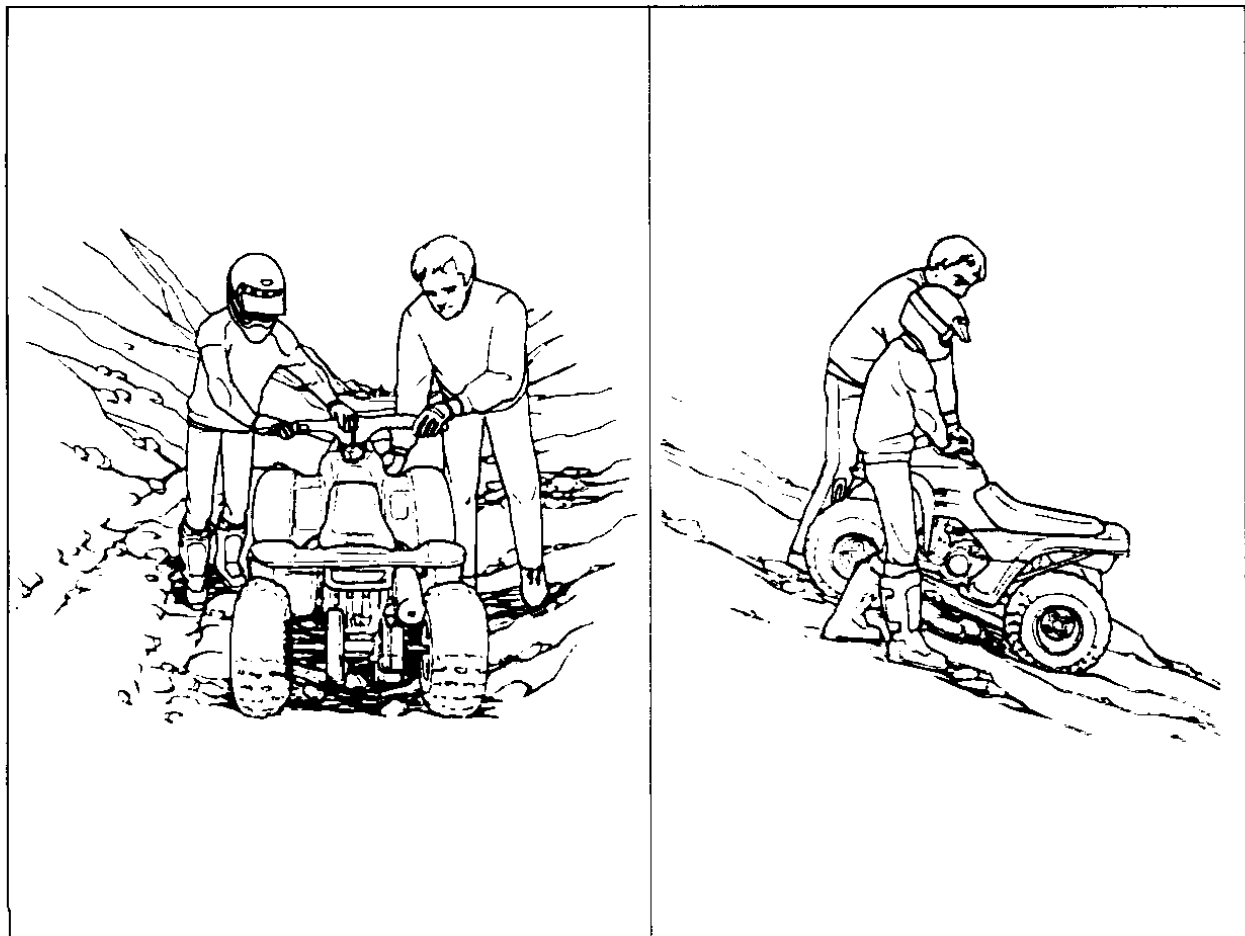


Fig. 3-18

Be sure your legs are clear of the wheels.

Body position for backing down a hill.

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

RIDING DOWN HILLS

It's usually advisable to descend hills with the Sportrax pointed straight downhill. Avoid angles that would cause the vehicle to lean sharply to one side.

As you approach a downhill, stop and survey the terrain below. Never ride past the limit of your visibility.

When you've selected a safe downhill path, shift into a lower gear, shift your weight back with your arms extended and braced against the handlebars, then go down slowly with the throttle closed.

Use mainly the rear brake to control speed. Avoid using the front brake hard or abruptly when riding down hills.

Remember, braking effectiveness is reduced on any hill with a loose surface.



Fig. 3-19

On downhills, shift your weight back.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Going down a hill improperly.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Could cause loss of control or cause ATV to overturn.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always follow proper procedures for going down hills as described in this Owner's Manual.

Note: a special technique is required when braking as you go down a hill.

Always check the terrain carefully before you start down any hill.

Shift your weight backward.

Never go down a hill at high speed.

Avoid going down a hill at an angle that would cause the vehicle to lean sharply to one side. Go straight down the hill where possible.

CROSSING SLOPES

To maintain balance and stability when riding across a slope, you need to shift weight toward the uphill side of the vehicle. To do this, move your body off the center of the seat and lean toward the uphill side. On a slippery or loose surface, you may also need to steer slightly uphill to maintain a straight course across the slope. Avoid crossing hills that are excessively steep, slippery or rough.

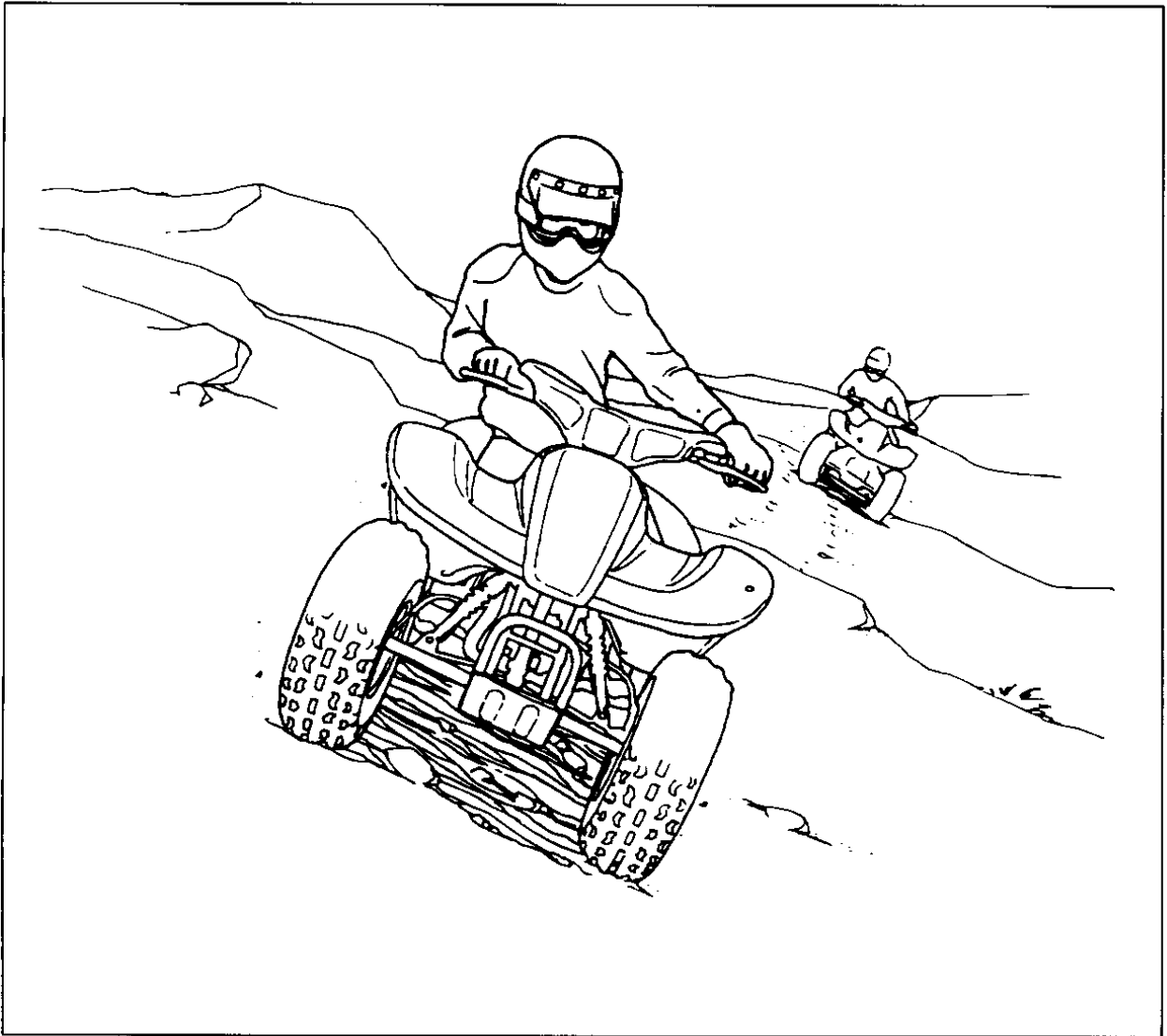


Fig. 3-20

Shift weight uphill when crossing slopes.

MAKING TURNS ON SLOPES

Compared to riding on level ground, you may need to shift more weight and lean more when making turns on slopes. Do not make turns on any slopes until you have first mastered the techniques for making turns on level terrain.

Begin by practicing turning on gentle, smooth slopes before attempting turns on steeper or more difficult terrain. Avoid making turns on very steep, rough or slippery hills.

WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Improperly crossing hills or turning on hills.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Could cause loss of control or cause ATV to overturn.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never attempt to turn the ATV around on any hill until you have mastered the turning technique as described in this Owner's Manual on level ground.

Be very careful when turning on any hill.

Avoid crossing the side of a steep hill if possible.

When crossing the side of a hill:

Always follow proper procedures as described in this Owner's Manual.

Avoid hills with excessively slippery or loose surfaces.

Shift your weight to the uphill side of the ATV.

RIDING OVER OBSTACLES

Watch out for bumps, rain ruts, potholes and other obstacles in the terrain. When you approach any obstacle, reduce your speed and be prepared to stop.

Never try to ride over large obstacles, such as large rocks or fallen logs.

WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Improperly operating over obstacles.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Could cause loss of control or a collision. Could cause the ATV to overturn.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Before operating in a new area, check for obstacles.

Never attempt to ride over large obstacles, such as large rocks or fallen trees.

When you go over obstacles, always follow proper procedures as described in this Owner's Manual.

RIDING THROUGH WATER

Your Sportrax is designed to travel through water up to approximately 8 inches deep. Before crossing a stream, make sure the water is not too deep or flowing too fast.

Choose a path where both banks have gradual slopes, then proceed through the water at a slow, steady speed. Watch out for submerged obstacles and slippery rocks. Avoid getting the spark plug or air cleaner wet, as this would cause the engine to stop.

Riding through water can make the brakes less effective than normal. After leaving water, always test both the front and rear brakes. If necessary, apply the brakes repeatedly until they dry out and operate normally. If the brakes don't regain effectiveness, stop your Sportrax and follow the procedures on page 146.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV through deep or fast flowing water.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Tires may float, causing loss of traction and loss of control, which could lead to an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Never operate this ATV in fast flowing water or in water deeper than that specified in this Owner's Manual.

Remember that wet brakes may have reduced stopping ability. Test your brakes after leaving water. If necessary, apply them several times to let friction dry out the linings.

PARKING

Always choose a level place to park. After bringing your Sportrax to a stop, hold the brakes while you shift into neutral. Then set the parking brake and turn the ignition switch OFF. If you're through riding for the day, also turn the fuel valve OFF.

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS

EMISSION REQUIREMENTS (USA only)

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) requires that your Sportrax comply with applicable exhaust emissions standards during its useful life, when operated and maintained according to the instructions provided.

The Vehicle Emission Control Information Label (1) is attached on the right side of the frame.

The Vacuum Hose Routing Diagram Label (2) is attached on the front of the rear fender under the seat.

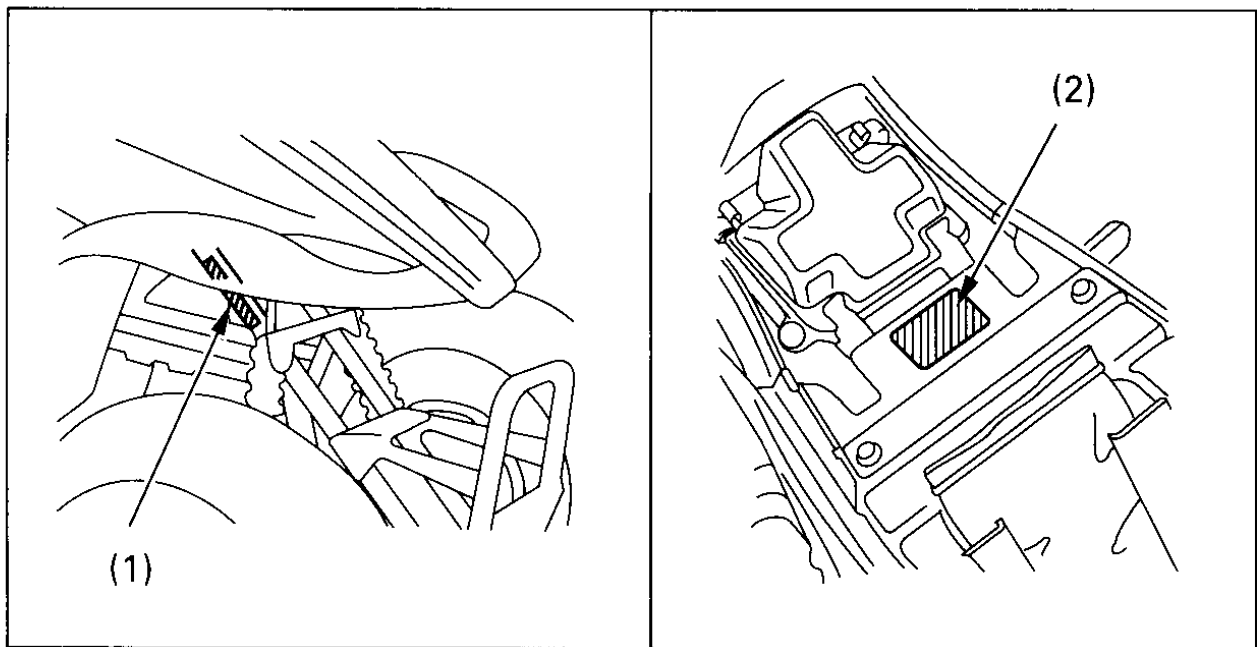


Fig. 3-21

(1) Vehicle Emission Control Information Label

(2) Vacuum Hose Routing Diagram Label

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

		FREQUENCY ITEMS	Whichever comes first		INITIAL	REGULAR		Refer to page	
			⇒		MAINTENANCE	MAINTENANCE INTERVAL			
					mi	100	600		1200
					km	150	1000		2000
			NOTE	HOURS	20	100	200		
EMISSION RELATED ITEMS	*	FUEL LINE					I	—	
	*	THROTTLE OPERATION					I	120,121	
		AIR CLEANER	(NOTE 1)				C	C	122—124
		SPARK PLUG					I	I	136,137
	*	VALVE CLEARANCE				I	I	I	137
		ENGINE OIL				R	R	R	40,41 128—131
	**	ENGINE OIL STRAINER SCREEN						C	—
	**	ENGINE OIL CENTRIFUGAL FILTER						C	—
	*	ENGINE IDLE SPEED				I	I	I	126
	*	SECONDARY AIR SUPPLY SYSTEM						I	—

I: Inspect and Clean, Adjust,
Lubricate or Replace if necessary.

C: Clean R: Replace

A: Adjust L: Lubricate

		FREQUENCY ITEMS	Whichever comes first ⇒	INITIAL	REGULAR		Refer to page	
				MAINTENANCE	MAINTENANCE INTERVAL			
				mi	100	600		1200
			km	150	1000	2000		
		NOTE	HOURS	20	100	200		
NON EMISSION RELATED ITEMS		DRIVE CHAIN	(NOTE1,2)		I,L	I,L: EVERY300mi (500 Km) or 50 operating hours		132 – 134
		DRIVE CHAIN SLIDER				I	I	135
	*	BRAKE SHOE WEAR	(NOTE1)				I	141,145
		BRAKE SYSTEM			I	I	I	32 – 35 139 – 146
		SKID PLATES				I	I	153
	*	CLUTCH SYSTEM			I	I	I	138
	*	SUSPENSION				I	I	—
	*	SPARK ARRESTER				C	C	154,155
	*	NUTS, BOLTS, FASTENERS			I		I	—
	**	WHEELS/TIRES			I	I	I	148 – 152
	**	STEERING SHAFT HOLDER BEARINGS					I	—
	**	STEERING SYSTEM					I	—

* Should be serviced by your authorized Honda dealer, unless the owner has proper tools and service data and is mechanically qualified. Refer to the official Honda service manual.

** In the interest of safety, we recommend these items be serviced only by your authorized Honda dealer.

NOTES: 1. Service more frequently if the ATV is ridden in dusty areas, sand or snow.
2. Service more frequently if the ATV is ridden in very wet or muddy conditions.

MAINTENANCE PRECAUTIONS

Before beginning any maintenance or repairs, read the appropriate instructions and warnings and make sure you have all the tools and materials you will need.

Choose a clean area that is level and has good ventilation and good light. Make sure the engine is off unless otherwise instructed. If you need to replace any parts, remember to use only new genuine Honda parts or their equivalents.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Failure to properly maintain the ATV.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Increases the possibility of an accident or equipment damage.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always follow the inspection and maintenance procedures and schedules described in this Owner's Manual.

Use only genuine Honda replacement parts or parts of equivalent quality.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Performing maintenance operations with the engine running.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Increases the chances of injury from moving parts or hot surfaces.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Unless otherwise stated, always turn the engine off before performing any maintenance operations.

TOOL KIT

A tool kit (Fig.4-1) is provided with your Sportrax and stored in the storage compartment below the seat.

The tool kit includes the following items:

- * Spark plug wrench and wrench handle
- * Tire pressure gauge
- * Standard screw

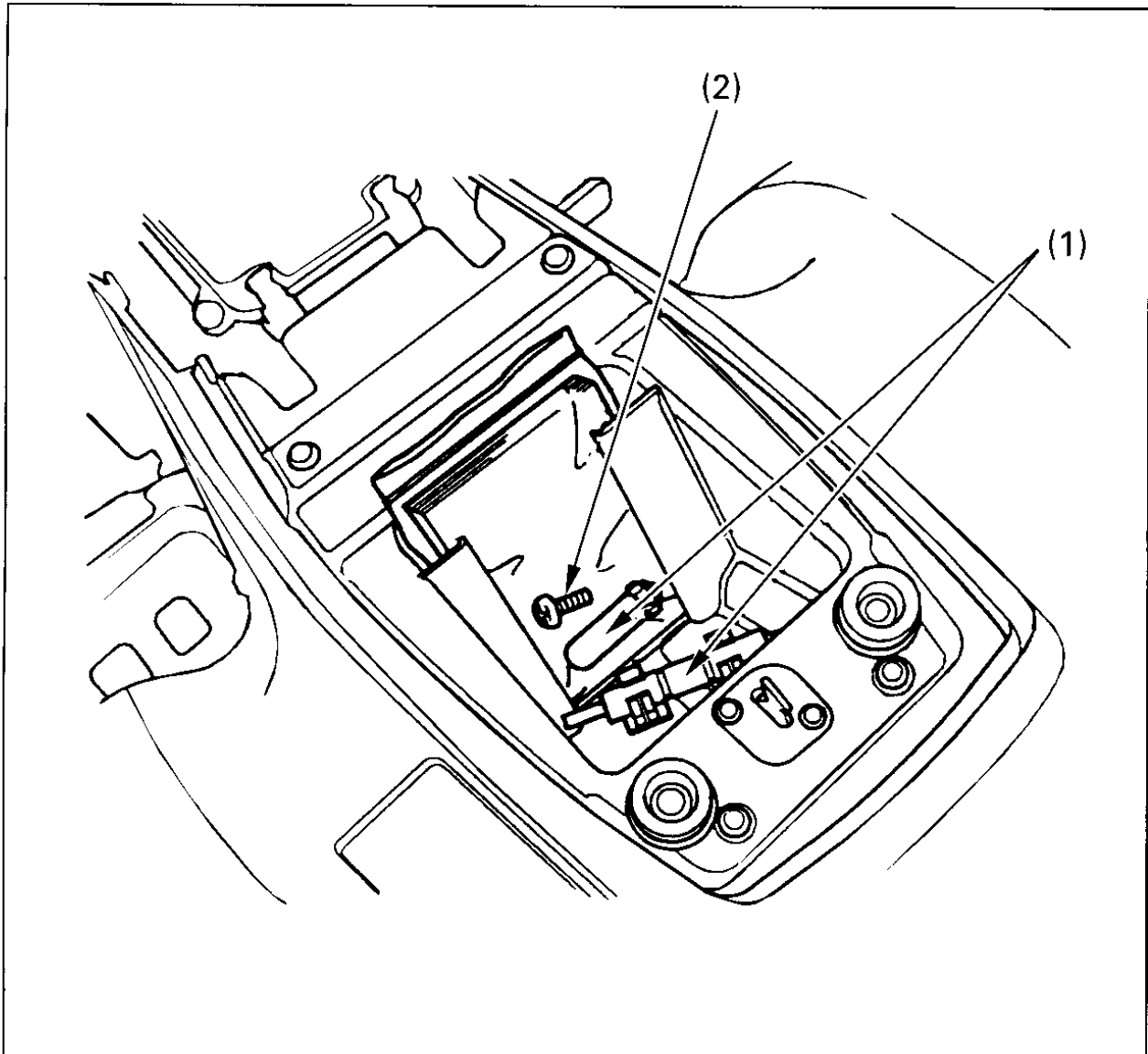


Fig. 4-1 (1) Tools

(2) Standard screw

FUEL SYSTEM

FUEL

Refueling

The fuel tank capacity, including reserve, is:

1.59 US gal (6.0 ℓ , 1.32 Imp gal)

The reserve fuel supply is:

0.34 US gal (1.3 ℓ , 0.29 Imp gal)

To open the fuel fill cap (1), pull out the breather tube (2) from the handle cover hole (3). Then turn the fuel fill cap counterclockwise.

Do not overfill (make sure there is no fuel in the filler neck (4)).

After refueling, be sure to tighten the fuel fill cap firmly by turning it clockwise until it clicks.

Insert the breather tube into the handle cover hole.

NOTE TO PARENTS

We recommend that you supervise refueling of your Sportrax by your youngster, or do the refueling yourself.

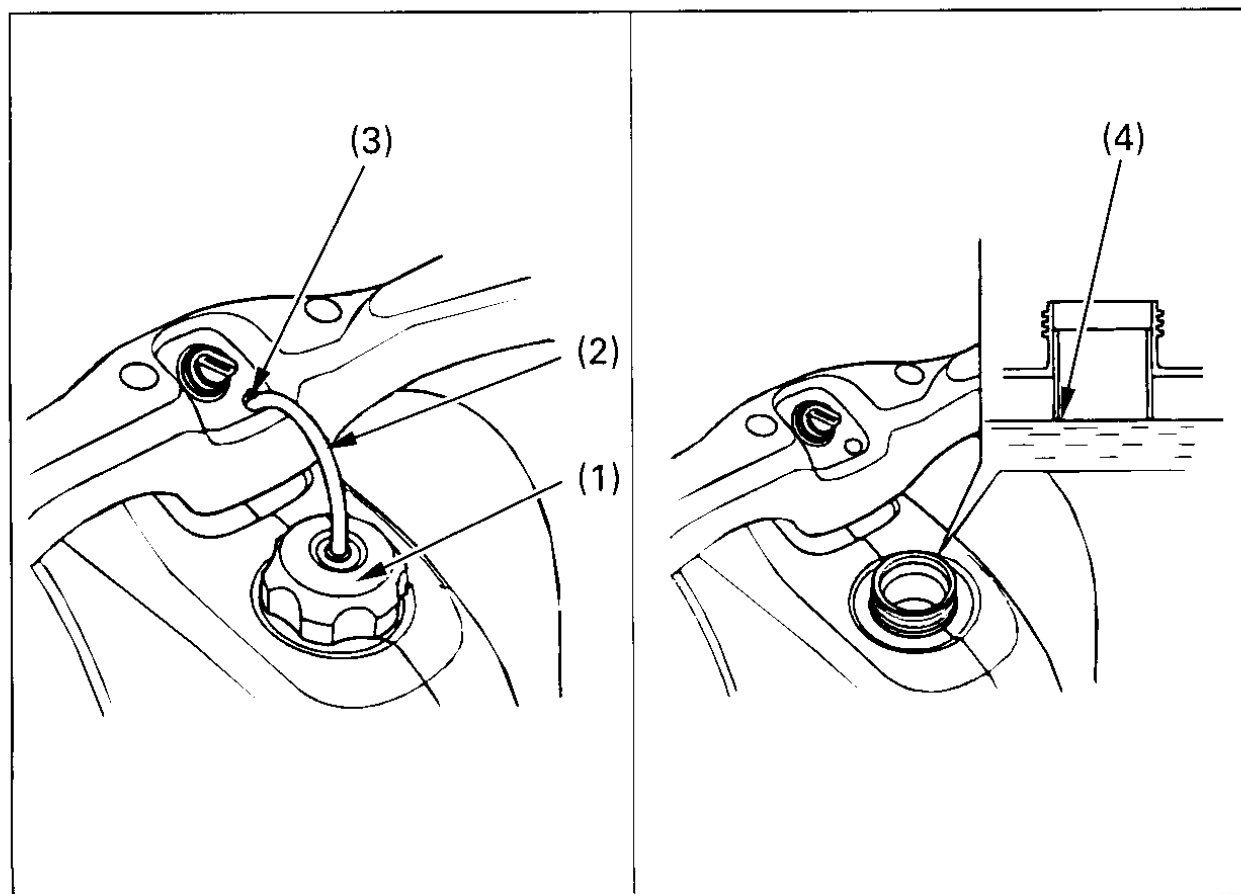


Fig. 4-2

(1) Fuel fill cap
(2) Breather tube

(3) Handlebar cover hole
(4) Filler neck

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Refueling this ATV or handling fuel improperly.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

The fuel could explode or ignite.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always refuel this ATV and handle fuel in a well-ventilated area with the engine off. Do not smoke or allow flames or sparks in the area where fuel is handled.

Do not overfill the tank. Be careful not to spill fuel when refueling. After refueling, make sure the fuel fill cap is closed properly and securely.

If any fuel is spilled, make sure the area is dry before starting the engine.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

**Prolonged contact of fuel with the skin.
Breathing fuel vapor.**

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

**The fuel can cause skin irritation.
Fuel vapor could cause lung damage.**

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Avoid repeated or prolonged contact of fuel with the skin or breathing of fuel vapor.

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

Fuel Recommendations

Your engine is designed to use any gasoline that has a pump octane number of 86 or higher. (Gasoline pumps at service stations normally display the pump octane number.)

We recommend unleaded fuel because it produces fewer engine and spark plug deposits and extends the life of the exhaust system. Never use stale or contaminated gasoline or an oil/gasoline mixture. Avoid getting dirt, dust or water in the fuel tank.

Using a lower octane than recommended can cause persistent “pinging” or heavy “spark knock” (a metallic rapping noise). If severe, these can lead to engine damage.

CAUTION:

If “spark knock” or “pinging” occurs at a steady engine speed under normal load, change brands of gasoline. If spark knock or pinging persists, consult your authorized Honda dealer. Failure to do so is considered misuse, and damage caused by misuse is not covered by Honda’s Limited Warranty.

Oxygenated Fuels

Some conventional gasolines are being blended with alcohol or an ether compound. These gasolines are collectively referred to as oxygenated fuels. To meet clean air standards, some areas of the United States and Canada use oxygenated fuels to help reduce emissions.

If you use an oxygenated fuel, be sure it is unleaded and meets the minimum octane rating requirement.

Before using an oxygenated fuel, try to confirm the fuel's contents. Some states/provinces require this information to be posted on the pump.

The following are the EPA approved percentages of oxygenates:

ETHANOL (ethyl or grain alcohol) 10 % by Volume

You may use gasoline containing up to 10 % ethanol by volume. Gasoline containing ethanol may be marketed under the name "Gasohol".

MTBE (Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether) 15 % by Volume

You may use gasoline containing up to 15 % MTBE by volume.

METHANOL (methyl or wood alcohol) 5 % by Volume

You may use gasoline containing up to 5 % methanol by volume as long as it also contains cosolvents and corrosion inhibitors to protect the fuel system. Gasoline containing more than 5 % methanol by volume may cause starting and/or performance problems. It may also damage metal, rubber, and plastic parts of your fuel system.

If you notice any undesirable operating symptoms, try another service station or switch to another brand of gasoline.

Fuel system damage or performance problems resulting from the use of an oxygenated fuel containing more than the percentages of oxygenates mentioned above are not covered under warranty.

THROTTLE

Throttle Cable and Lever

Check the condition of the throttle cable and the operation of the throttle lever. Make sure the cable does not bind or interfere with smooth operation of the throttle in any steering position. If the cable is worn or kinked, have it replaced by your Honda dealer.

Throttle Free Play

Throttle free play, measured at the tip of the throttle lever (Fig. 4-4), should be:

1/8–5/16 in (3–8 mm)

To adjust throttle free play:

1. Remove the fuel fill cap breather tube (1) from the handlebar cover.
2. Remove the two dust caps (2), the two screws (3) and the handlebar cover.

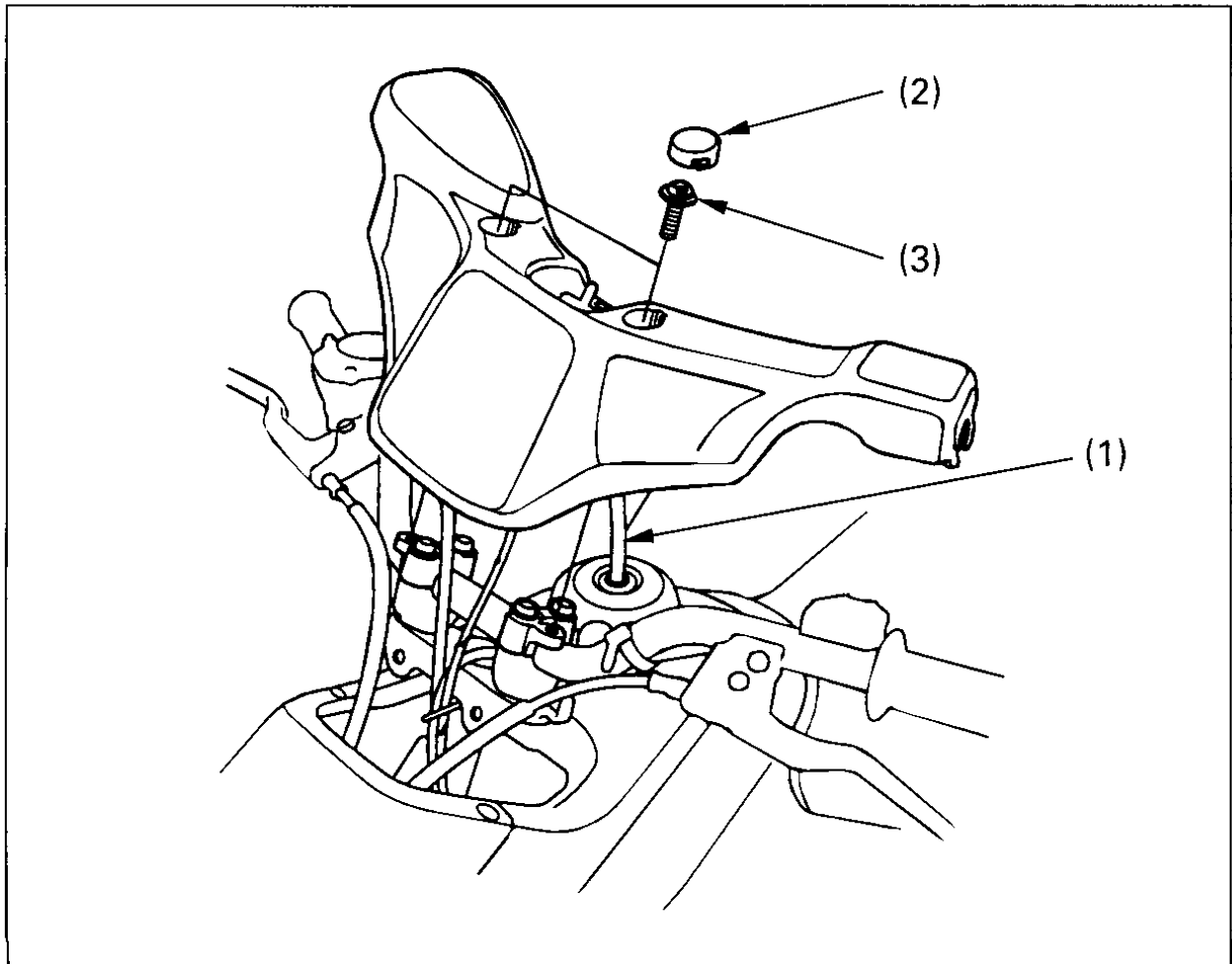


Fig. 4-3

(1) Fuel fill cap breather tube

(2) Dust caps
(3) Screws

3. Slide the rubber sleeve (5) back to expose the throttle cable adjuster (6).
4. Loosen the lock nut (7), then turn the adjuster to obtain the correct free play.
5. Tighten the lock nut and reinstall the sleeve.
6. Install the handlebar cover securely. (Insert the fuel tank cap breather tube in the hole in the handlebar cover securely).

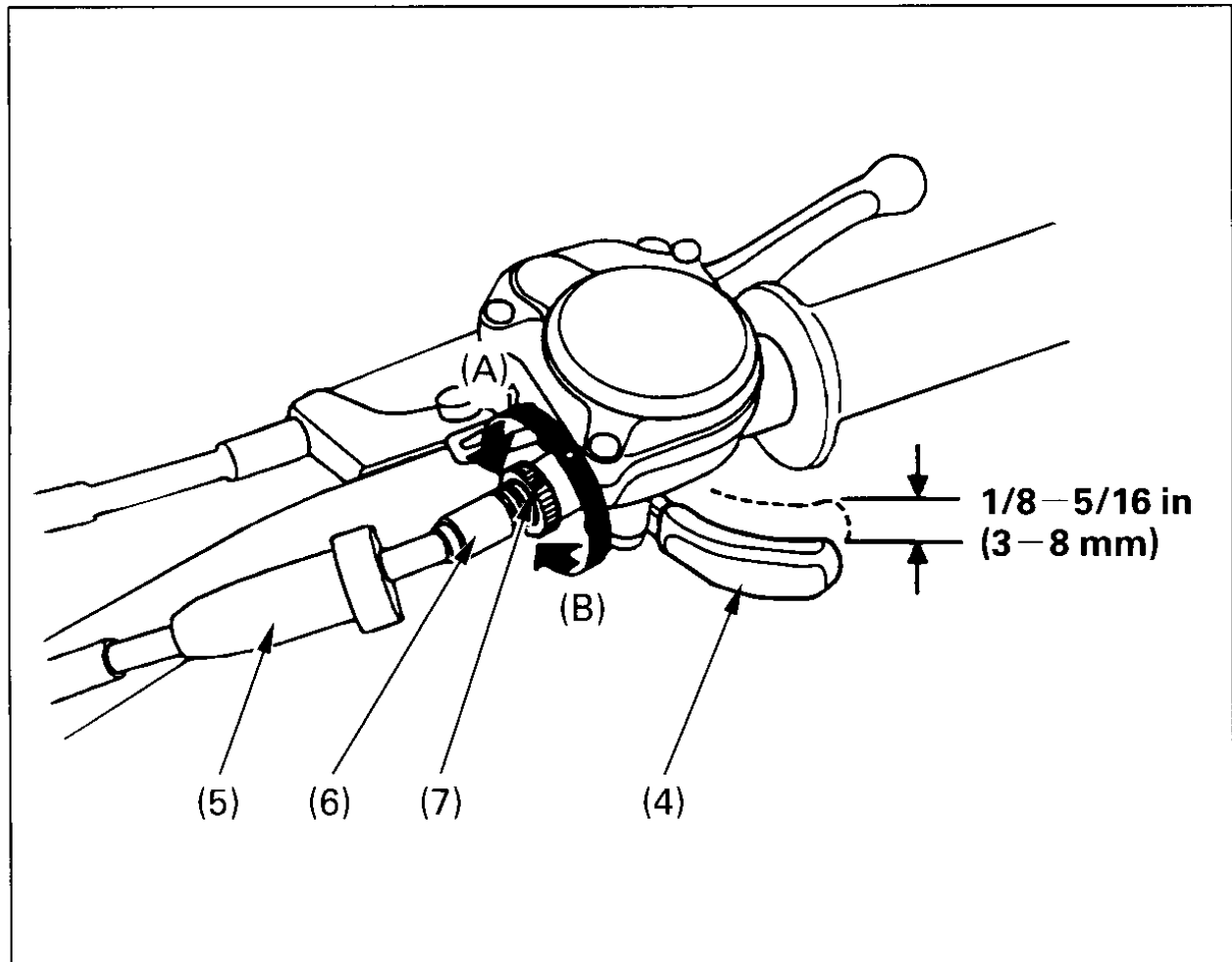


Fig. 4-4

(4) Throttle lever	(7) Lock nut
(5) Rubber sleeve	(A) To decrease free play
(6) Cable adjuster	(B) To increase free play

AIR CLEANER

Air Cleaner Filter

The air cleaner accumulates dust and must be cleaned periodically. If the Sportrax is ridden in dusty areas, the air cleaner must be cleaned at more frequent intervals than specified in the Maintenance Schedule.

To clean the air cleaner:

1. Remove the seat by pulling up the seat lock lever (1) (Fig. 4-5).
2. Unlatch the four retainer clips (2) and remove the air cleaner housing cover (3).

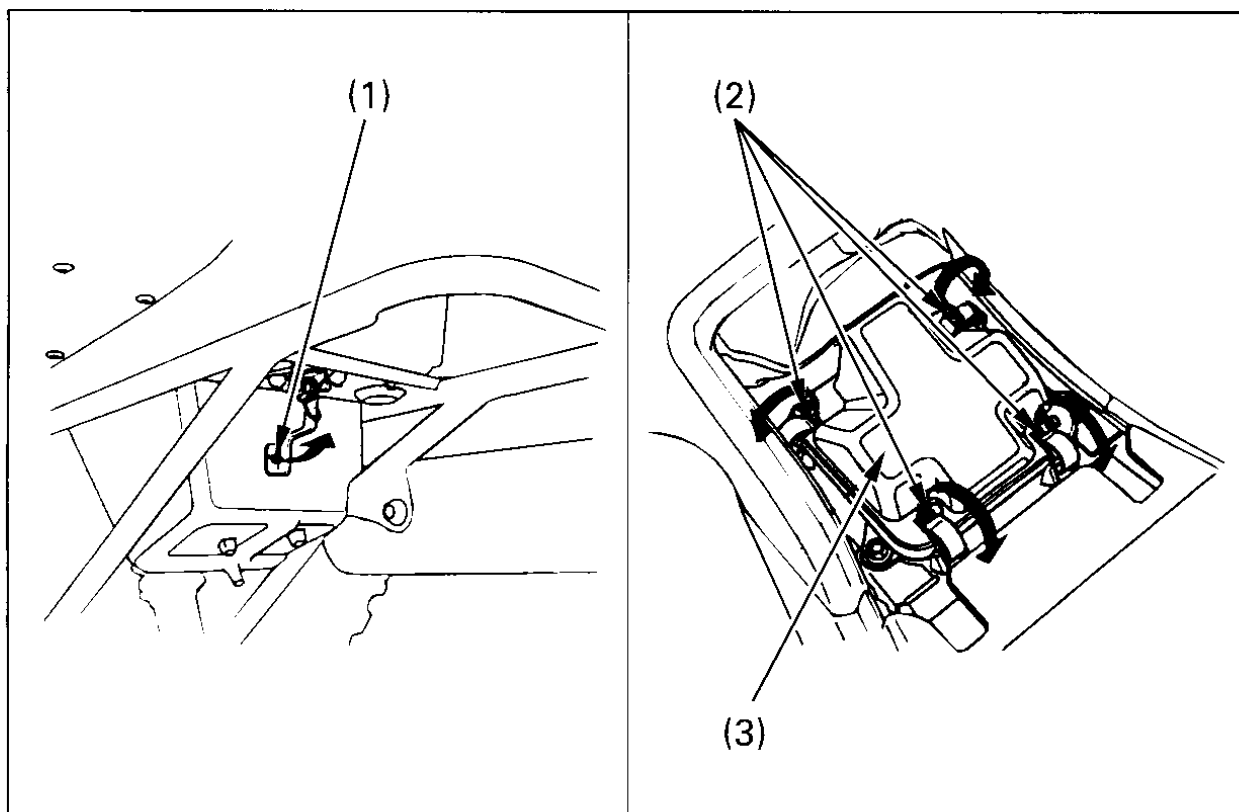


Fig. 4-5

(1) Seat lock lever

(2) Retainer clips
(3) Air cleaner housing
cover

3. Remove the set plate (4) and remove the air cleaner assembly (5) from the case.
4. Remove the air cleaner (6) from the air cleaner body (7).
5. Remove the sub air cleaner (8) from the air cleaner joint (9).

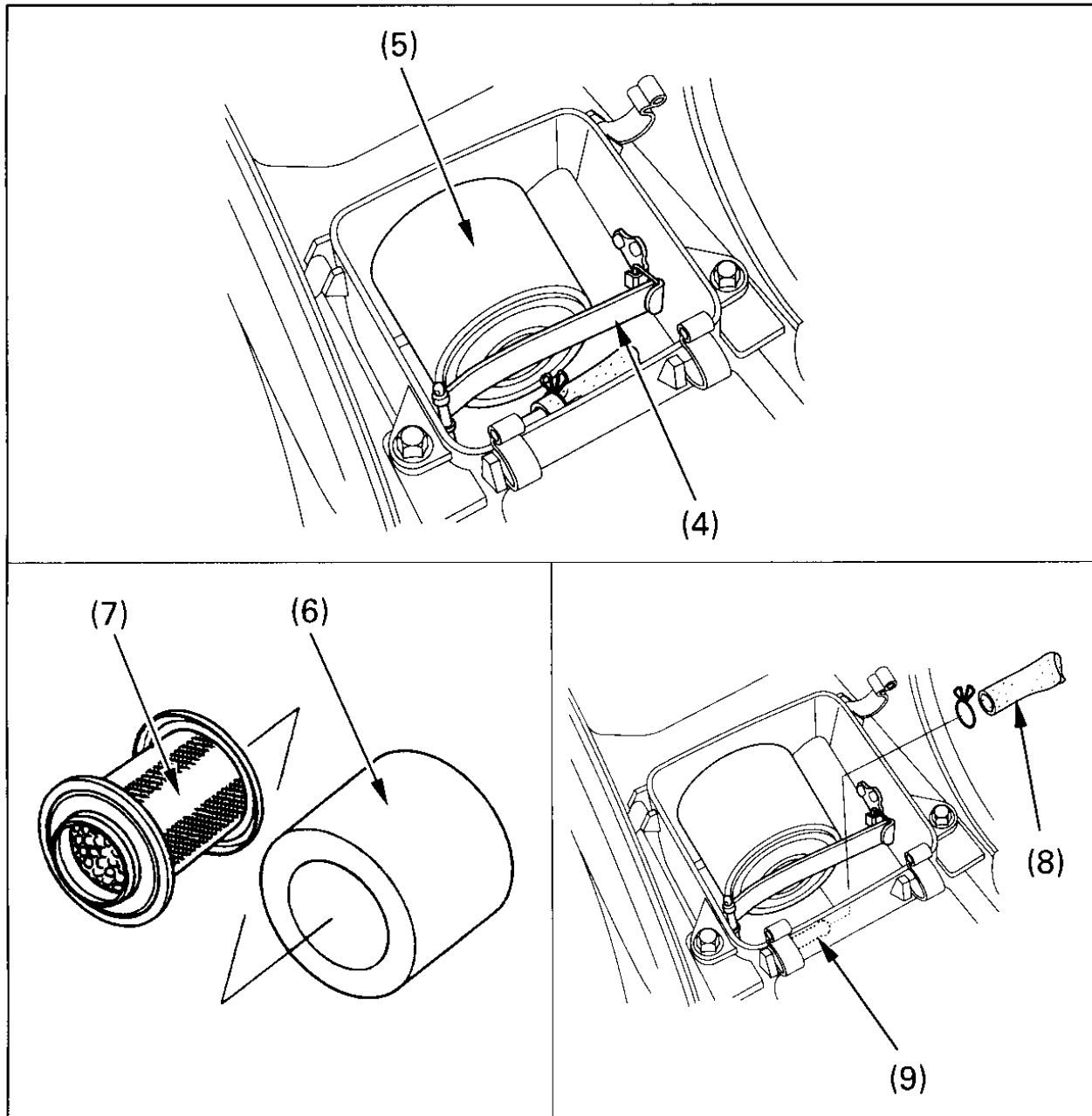


Fig. 4-6 (4) Set plate
(5) Air cleaner assembly
(6) Air cleaner

(7) Air cleaner body
(8) Sub air cleaner
(9) Air cleaner joint

6. Gently wash the air cleaner and sub air clener in clean, non-flammable (high flash point) solvent such as kerosene—not gasoline.
Allow the air clener to dry thoroughly before applying oil. A wet air cleaner will not fully absorb the oil.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Using gasoline or low flash point solvents for cleaning ATV parts.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

A fire or explosion could result.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Use only a nonflammable or high flash point solvent to clean ATV parts.

7. Soak the air cleaner in Pro Honda Foam Filter Oil or an equivalent until saturated, then squeeze out the excess oil.

CAUTION:

Twisting the air cleaner when squeezing out excess oil could damage the air cleaner.

8. Reassemble by reversing the disassembly sequence.

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

CARBURETOR

Adjusting Idle Speed

NOTE:

Do not try to compensate for faults in other systems by adjusting the carburetor.

To adjust the idle speed:

1. Warm up the engine. The engine must be warm for accurate idle adjustment. Ten minutes of stop-and-go riding is sufficient.
2. Adjust idle speed by attaching a tachometer and using a screwdriver to turn the screwdriver by turning the throttle stop screw (Fig. 4-7).

Idle Speed:

$1,600 \pm 100$ rpm

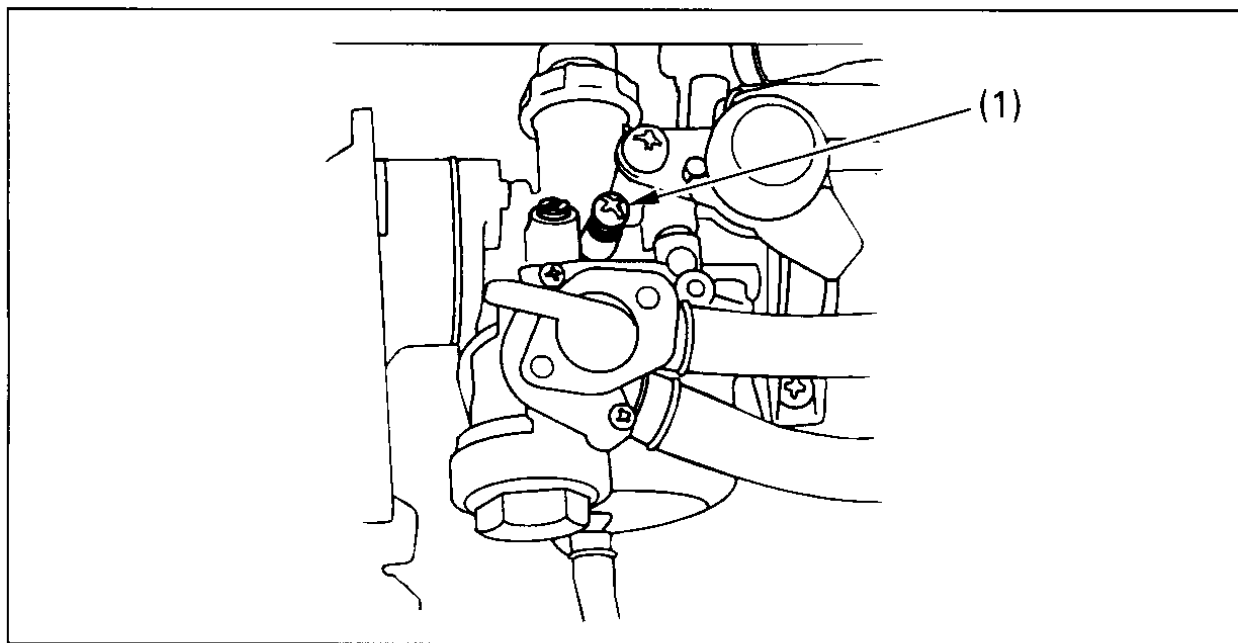


Fig. 4-7 (1) Throttle stop screw

High Altitude Adjustment

When operating this Sportrax at altitudes ranging above 3,000 feet (1,000 m), the air-fuel mixture becomes overly rich. This may result in poor engine performance and increased fuel consumption.

A high altitude jet is available to compensate for high altitude richness. For those who are mechanically proficient and have the necessary tools, installation and adjustment procedures are given in the official Honda Service Manual available from your Honda dealer. All others should have this carburetor modification performed by an authorized Honda dealer.

CAUTION:

Sustained operation with the high altitude jet at altitudes below 5,000 feet (1,500 m) may cause engine overheating and damage.

LUBRICATION

ENGINE OIL

Checking Engine Oil Level and Adding Oil

Check the engine oil level each day before operating your Sportrax and add oil if needed.

To check the oil level:

1. Make sure the vehicle is on level ground.
2. Start the engine in a well-ventilated area and let it idle for a few minutes.
3. Stop the engine.
4. After a few minutes, remove the oil filler cap/dipstick (1) (Fig. 4-8) from the right crankcase cover and wipe it clean.
5. Insert the dipstick without screwing it in, then remove the dipstick and check the oil level. The oil level should be between the upper level mark (2) and the lower level mark (3) on the dipstick.
6. If required, add the specified oil into the filler cap hole, up to the upper level mark on the dipstick. Do not overfill.
7. Reinstall the oil filler cap/dipstick.

CAUTION:

Running the engine with improper oil level can cause serious engine damage.

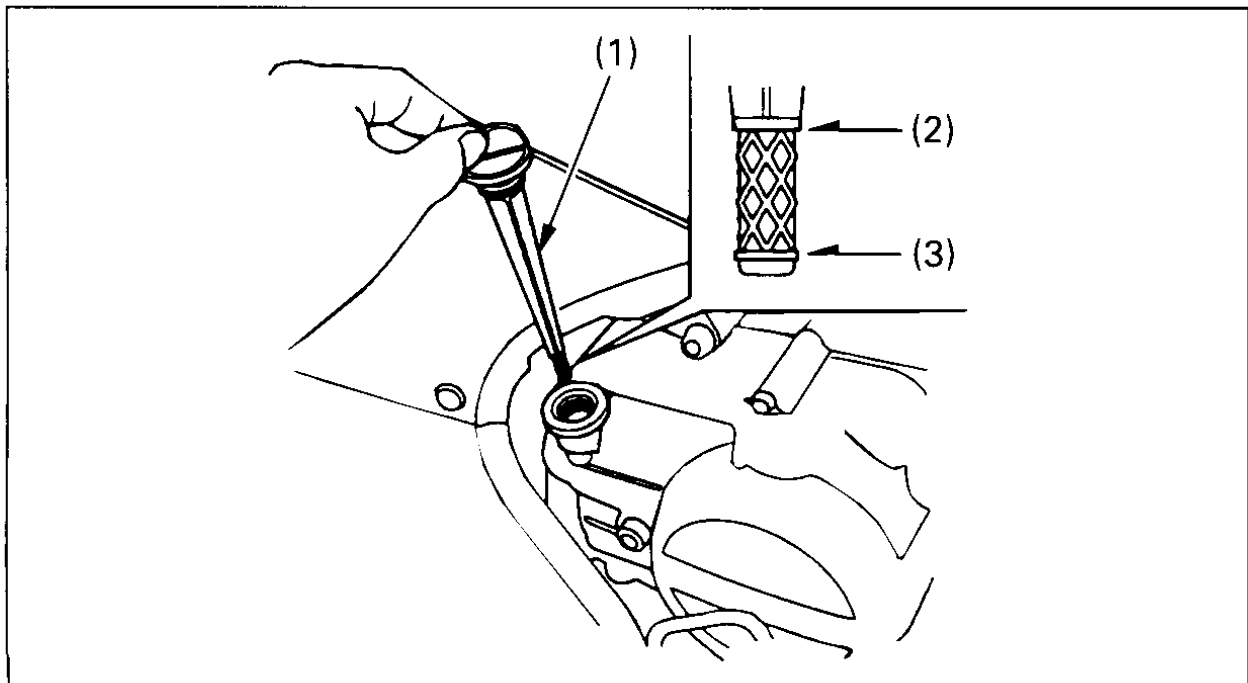


Fig. 4-8

(1) Oil filler cap/dipstick

(2) Upper level mark

(3) Lower level mark

Engine Oil Recommendations

Recommended Oil Viscosity: SAE 10W-40. Other viscosities shown in Fig. 4-9 may be used when the average temperature in your riding area is within the indicated range.

USE PRO HONDA GN4 4-STROKE OIL OR AN EQUIVALENT.

Do not use oils with graphite or molybdenum additives. They may adversely affect clutch operation.

Use only high detergent, premium quality motor oil certified to meet API Service Classification SF or SG. Motor oils intended for Service SF or SG will show this designation on the container. The use of special oil additives is unnecessary and will only increase operating expenses. Engine oil is a major factor affecting the performance and service life of the engine. Nondetergent, vegetable, or castor based racing oils are not recommended.

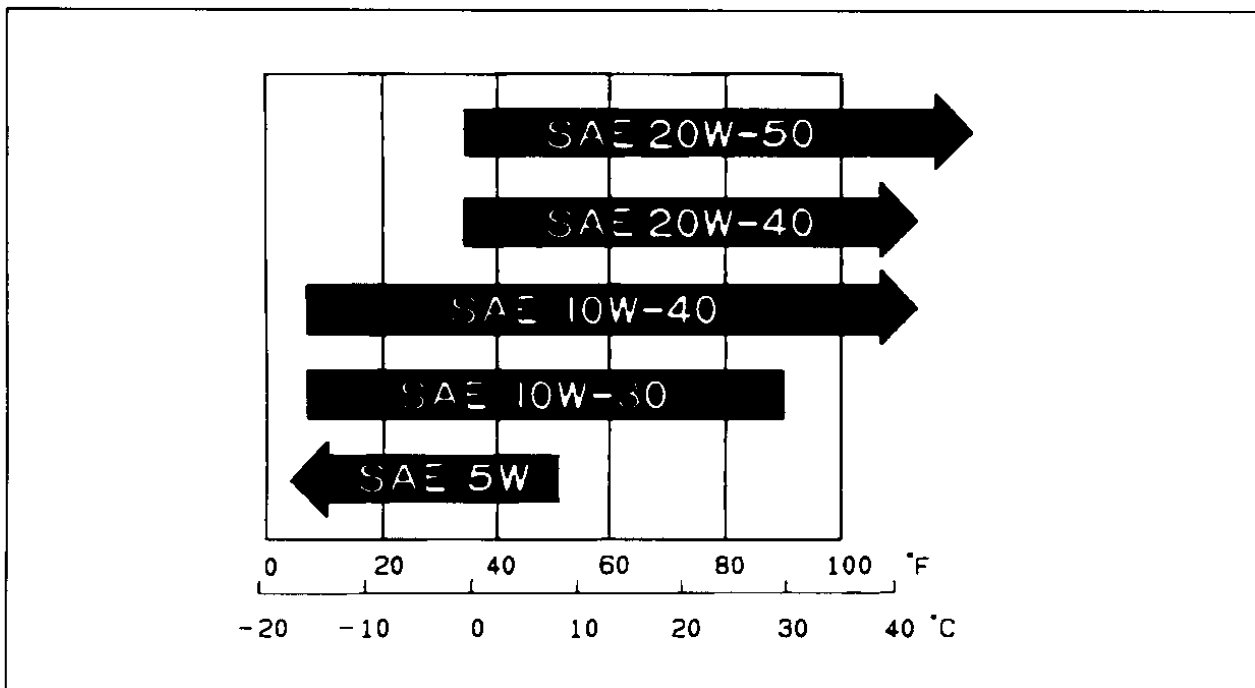


Fig. 4-9

Recommended oil viscosities

Changing the Engine Oil

Engine oil should be changed in accordance with the Maintenance Schedule. Use motor oils of the grade and viscosity recommended.

When changing oil, drain the oil from the crankcase while the engine is still warm. This will ensure complete and rapid draining.

To change the oil:

1. With the Sportrax on level ground, remove the oil filler cap/dipstick from the right crankcase cover (Fig. 4-8).
2. Place an oil drain pan under the crankcase and remove the oil drain plug (Fig. 4-10).

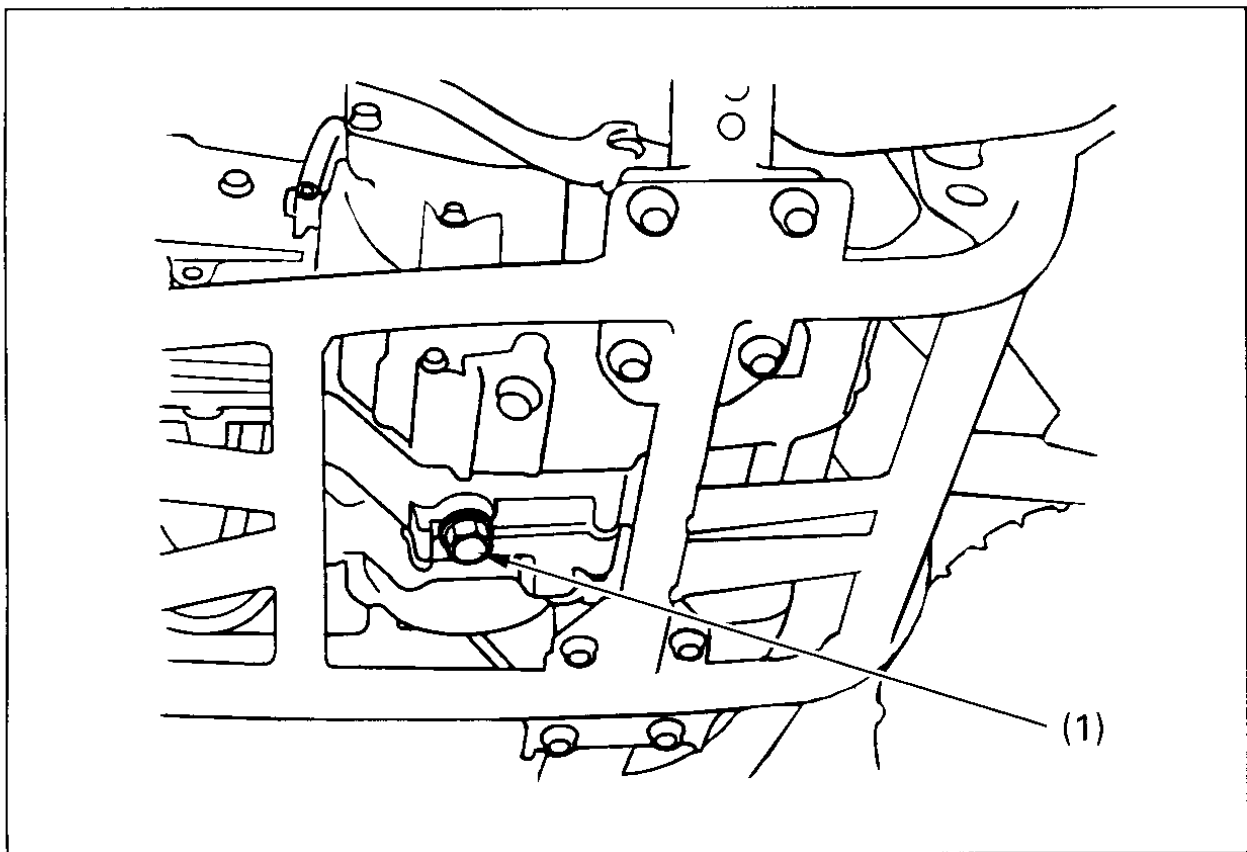


Fig. 4-10

(1) Oil drain plug

3. Check that the drain plug sealing washer is in good condition, then reinstall the oil drain plug securely. If necessary, replace the sealing washer.
Oil drain plug torque:
17 lbf·ft (24 N·m , 2.4 kgf·m)
4. Fill the crankcase with the recommended oil approximately:
0.7 US qt (0.7 ℓ , 0.6 Imp qt)
5. Reinstall the oil filler cap/dipstick.
6. Start the engine and let it idle for a few minutes.
7. Stop the engine and check the oil level. Make sure the oil is between the upper and lower level marks on the dipstick.
If necessary, add more oil but do not overfill.

CAUTION:

Running the engine with improper oil level can cause serious engine damage.

NOTE:

- * To protect the environment, please dispose of used engine oil properly. We suggest you place used oil in a sealed container and take it to your local service station for reclamation. Do not put it in the trash or pour it on the ground.
- * If a torque wrench was not used for installation, see your authorized Honda dealer before operating the vehicle to verify proper assembly.

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

DRIVE CHAIN

The drive chain (1) will wear with use and requires periodic adjustment in accordance with the maintenance schedule. Check, adjust or lubricate the chain with the engine off.

Chain slack should be checked by measuring the amount of chain slack midway between the sprockets. The amount of slack should be:
 $13/16 - 1 \frac{3}{16}$ in (20 – 30 mm)

NOTE:

Excessive chain slack may allow the drive chain to damage the engine cases.

To adjust slack, loosen the rear axle holder fixing bolts (2), (Fig. 4-12). Turn the adjusting nuts (3), (Fig. 4-12) to decrease or increase chain slack. Retighten the rear axle holder fixing bolts and adjusting nuts. Rear axle holder fixing bolts torque:
65 lbf·ft (88 N·m , 9.0 kgf·m)

NOTE:

If a torque wrench was not used for installation, see your authorized Honda dealer before operating the vehicle to verify proper assembly.

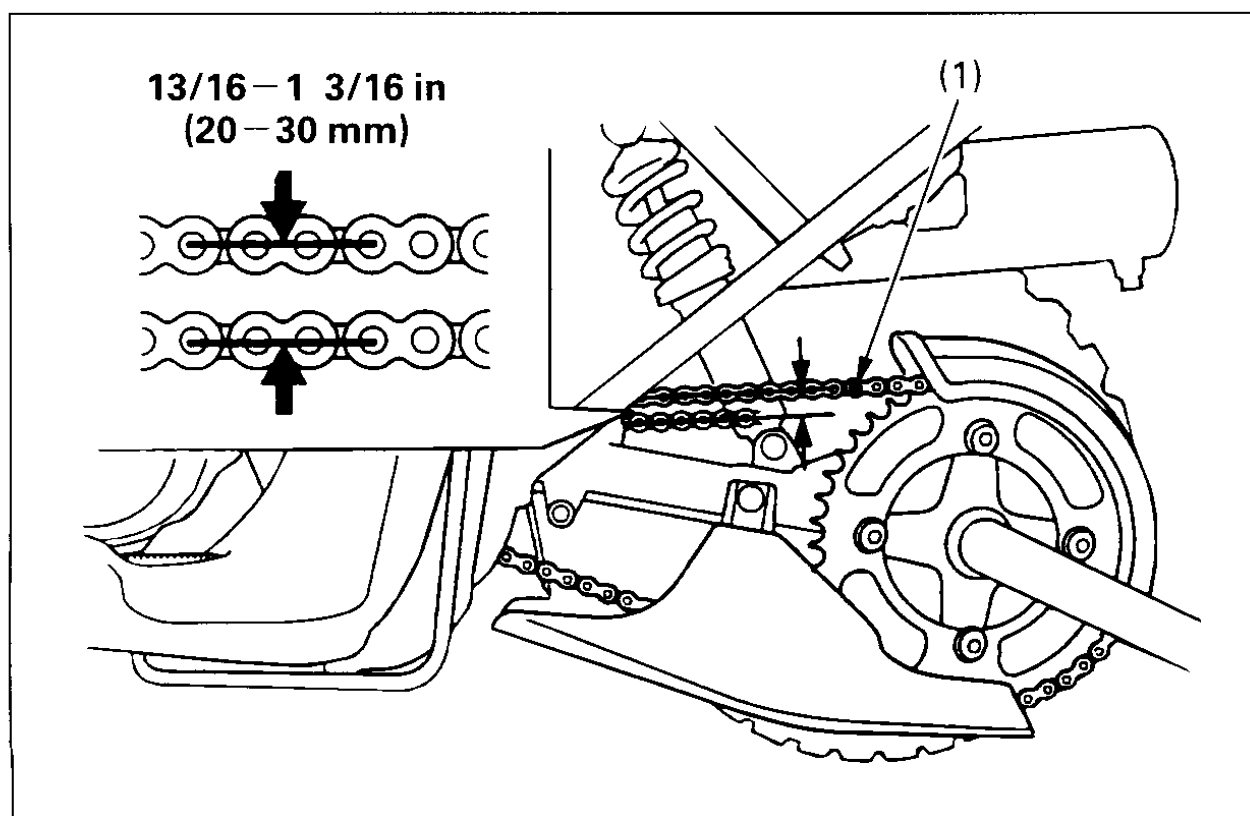


Fig. 4-11

(1) Drive chain

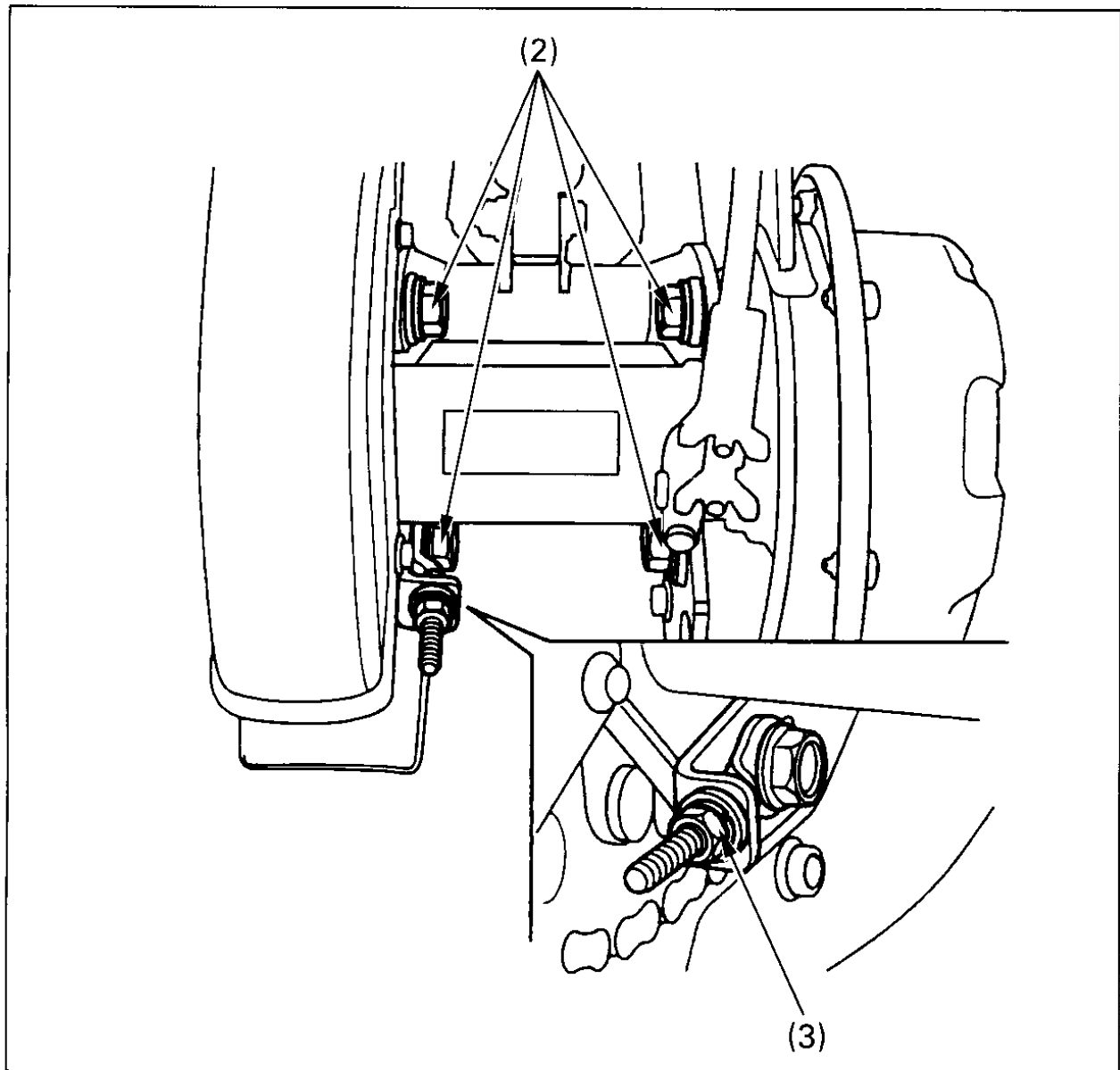


Fig. 4-12 (2) Fixing bolts

(3) Adjusting nuts

Lubrication and Cleaning

Lubricate every 30 days of riding or sooner if chain appears dry. The O-rings in this chain can be damaged by steam cleaning, high pressure washers and certain solvents. Clean the side surfaces of the chain with a dry cloth. Do not brush the rubber O-rings. Brushing will damage them. Wipe dry and lubricate only with SAE 80 or 90 gear oil. Commercial chain lubricants may contain solvents which could damage the rubber O-rings.

Chain Replacement:

DID428 V2/98 or RK 428 HMOZ/98

Replacement

With the upper or lower section of drive chain tight between the sprockets measure the distance between a span of 21 pins from pin center to pin center. If the distance exceeds the service limit, the chain is worn out and should be replaced.

Service limit:

10.6 in (268 mm)

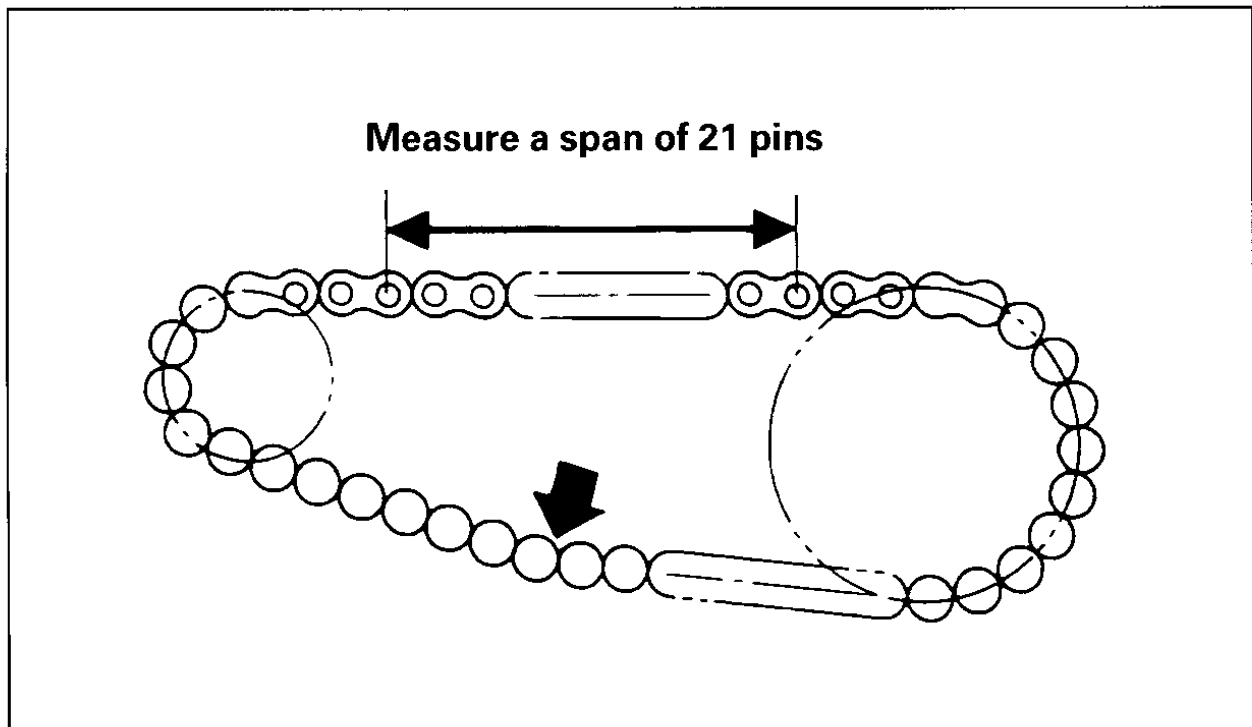


Fig. 4-13

Drive Chain Slider

Check the drive chain slider at the intervals specified in the Maintenance Schedule.

When the depth of the grooves in the slider reaches 0.12 in (3.0 mm), remove material to lower the height of the center ridge between the grooves to less than 0.12 in (3.0 mm).

Replace the slider when the depth of the grooves reaches the limit.

Service limit:

0.24 in (6.0 mm)

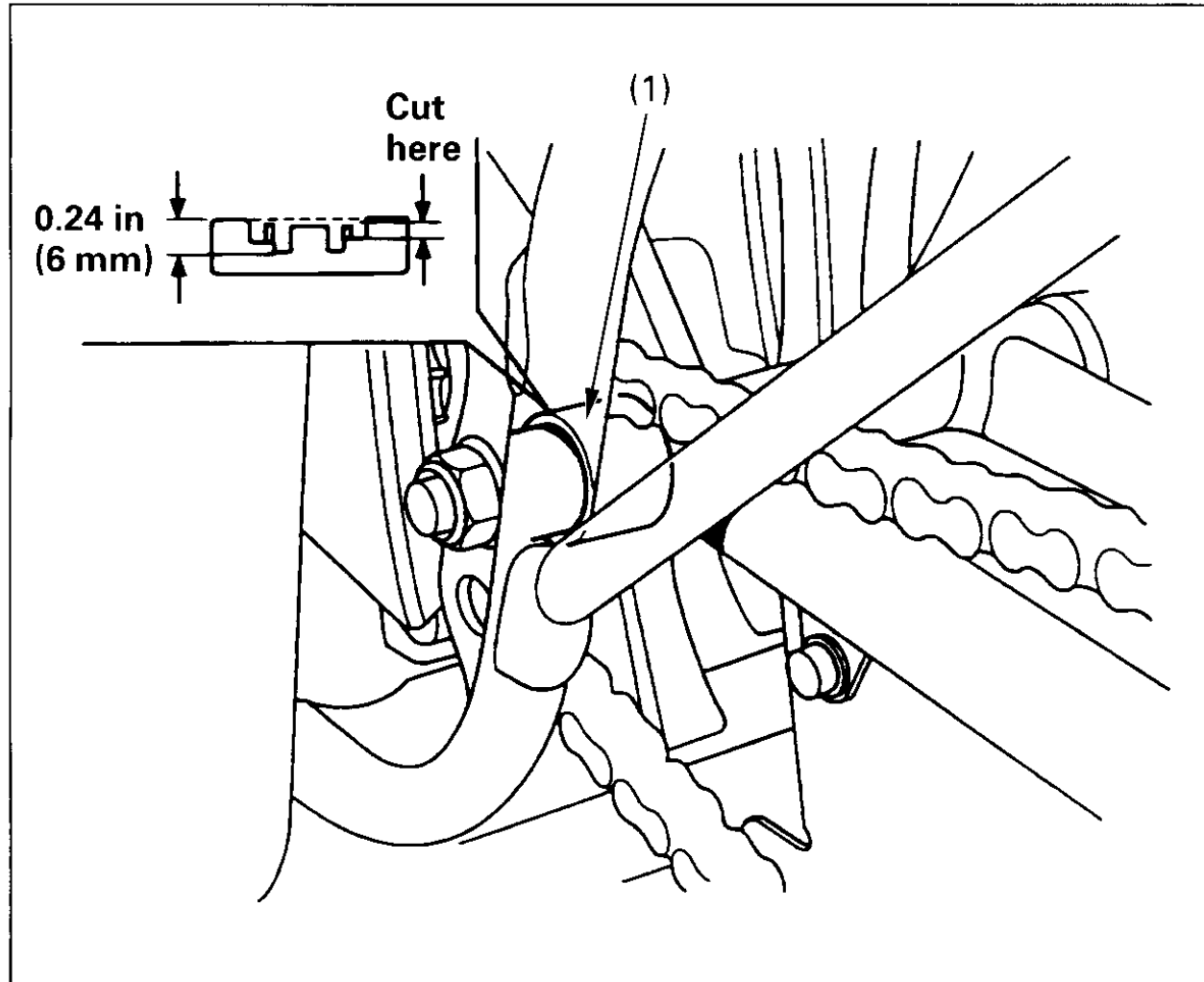


Fig. 4-14

(1) Drive chain slider

ENGINE

SPARK PLUG

The standard spark plug is: CR7HSA (NGK) or
U22FSR-U (DENSO)
For cold climate (Below 5 °C, 41 °F): CR6HSA (NGK) or
U20FSR-U (DENSO)
For extended high speed riding: CR8HSA (NGK) or
U24FSR-U (DENSO)

CAUTION:

Using a spark plug of incorrect size or heat range can cause serious engine damage.

To check and change the spark plug:

1. Disconnect the spark plug cap.
2. Clean any dirt from around the spark plug base.
3. Remove the plug with the wrench provided in the tool kit.
4. Visually inspect the spark plug electrodes for wear. The center electrode (Fig. 4-15) should have a flat tip and sharp edges, and the side electrode (2) should not be eroded. If the electrodes and insulator tip appear unusually fouled or burned, we suggest that you contact your authorized Honda dealer.
5. Discard the spark plug if there is apparent wear or if the insulator is cracked or chipped.
6. Using a wire-type feeler gauge, make sure that the spark plug gap is correct. If adjustment is necessary, bend the side electrode carefully.
The gap should be:
0.024 – 0.028 in (0.60 – 0.70 mm)
7. With the plug washer attached, thread the spark plug in by hand to prevent cross-threading.
8. After threading by hand, tighten a new spark plug 1/2 turn with the spark plug wrench to compress the washer. If you are reusing a plug, it should only take 1/8 – 1/4 turn after the plug seats.

CAUTION:

The spark plug must be securely tightened. An improperly tightened plug can become very hot and possibly damage the engine.

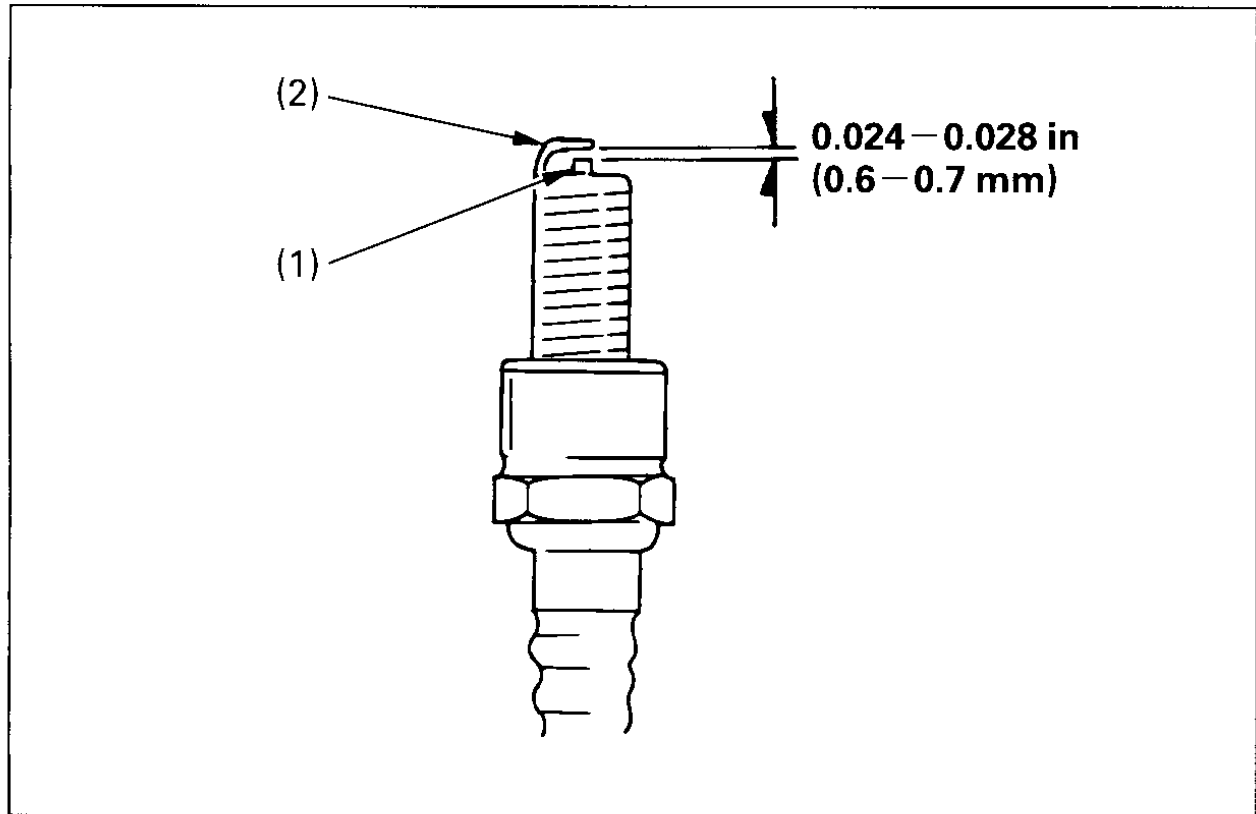


Fig. 4-15 (1) Center electrode (2) Side electrode

VALVES

Valve clearance should be:

0.002 in (0.05 mm)

Excessive clearance will cause noise. Insufficient clearance will cause loss of power and possibly damage the valves.

For those who are mechanically proficient and have the proper tools, instructions on adjusting valve clearances are given in the official Honda Service Manual. All others should have valves adjusted by an authorized Honda dealer.

CLUTCH

Clutch Adjustment

To adjust the clutch:

1. Make sure the ignition switch is OFF.
2. Loosen the lock nut (Fig. 4-16), and turn the clutch adjuster (2) counterclockwise until you feel slight resistance.
3. Then turn the adjuster 1/4 turn clockwise, and tighten the lock nut to hold the adjuster in this position.
4. After adjustment, start the engine and test ride the Sportrax to be sure the clutch is operating properly.

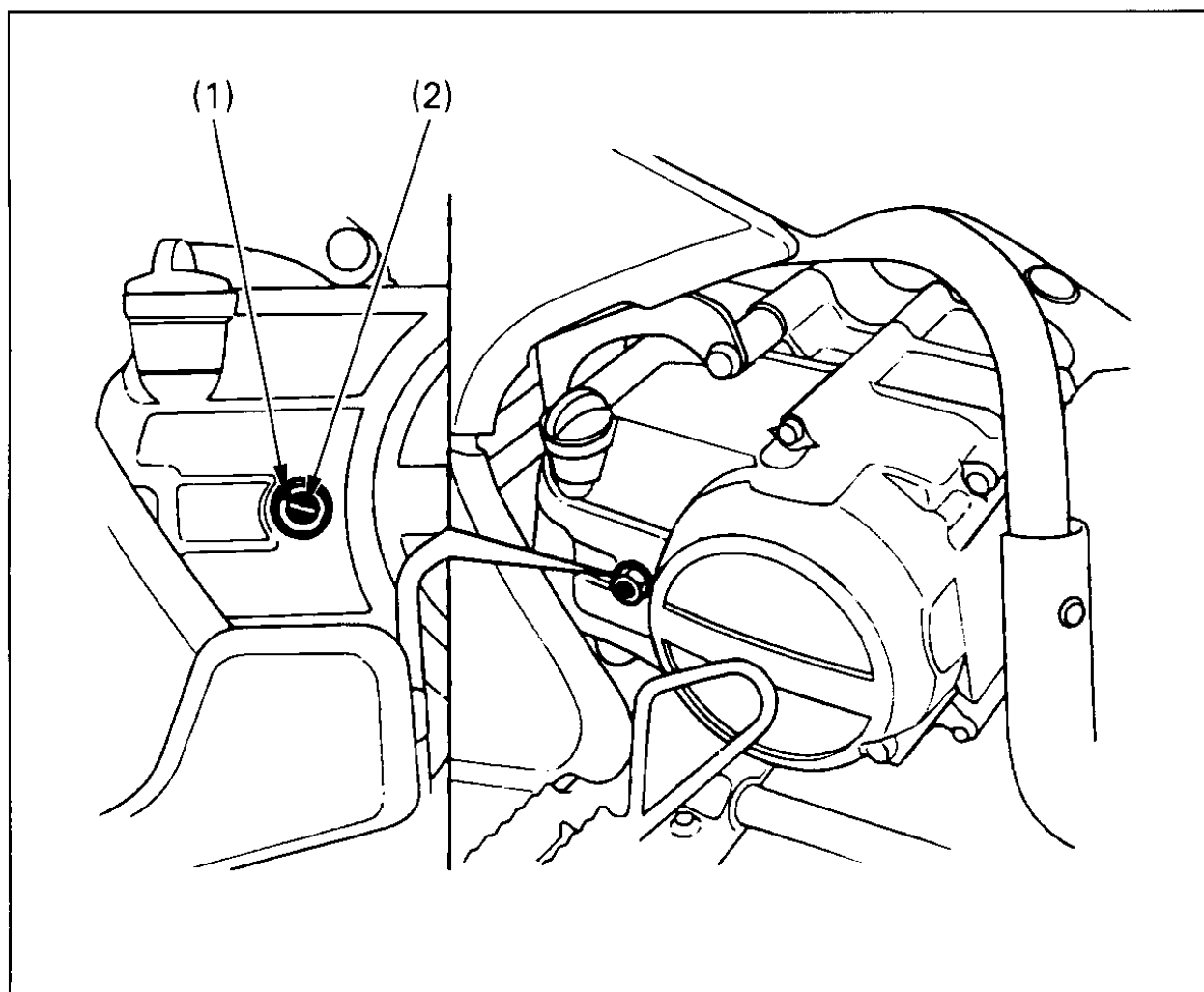


Fig. 4-16 (1) Lock nut

(2) Clutch adjuster

BRAKES

FRONT BRAKES

This Sportrax has drum brakes on both front wheels. Each day before riding you should check the brake lever free play. You should also periodically check the brake shoes for wear.

To check and adjust brake lever free play:

1. Measure the distance the brake lever (Fig. 4-17) moves before the brakes start to take hold. Free play, measured at the tip of the front brake lever (1) should be:
3/8 – 13/16 in (10 – 20 mm)

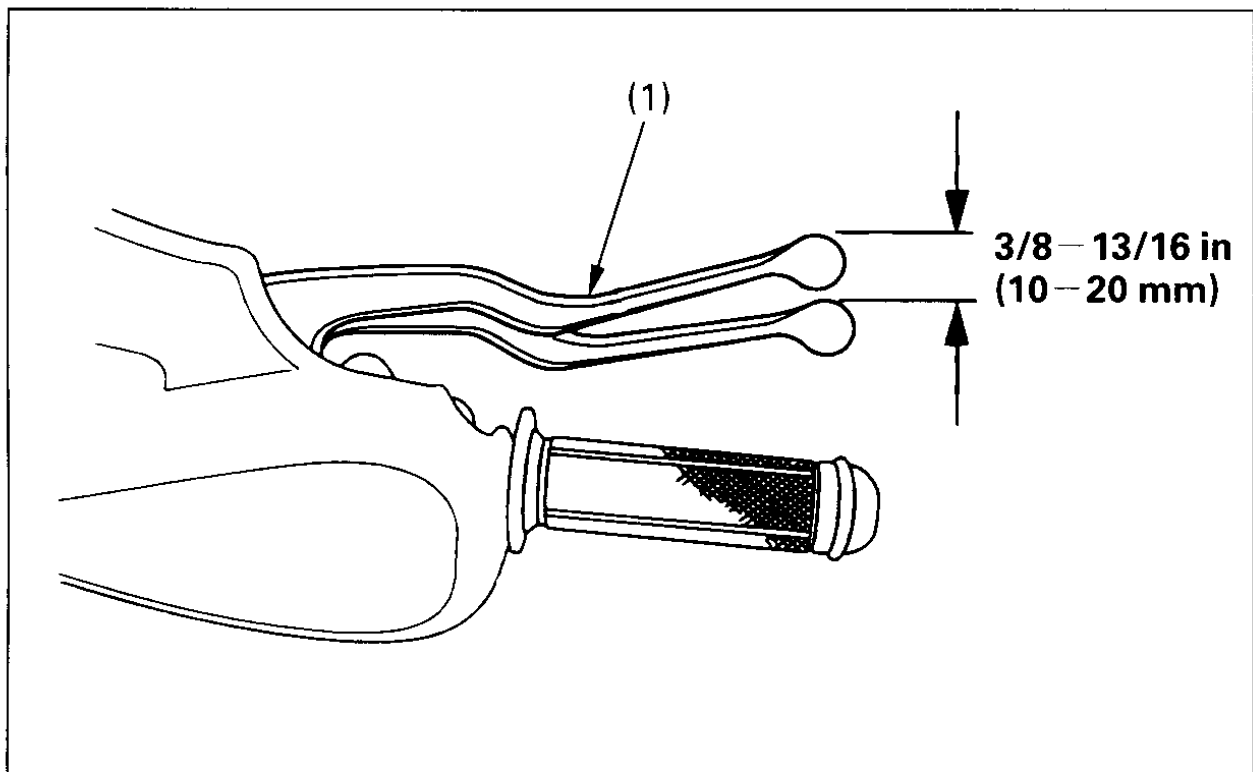


Fig. 4-17

(1) Front brake lever

To adjust the free play, turn the brake lever adjusting nut (Fig. 4-18), located under the front fender.

Make sure the cut-out on the adjusting nut is properly seated on the brake arm pin (2).

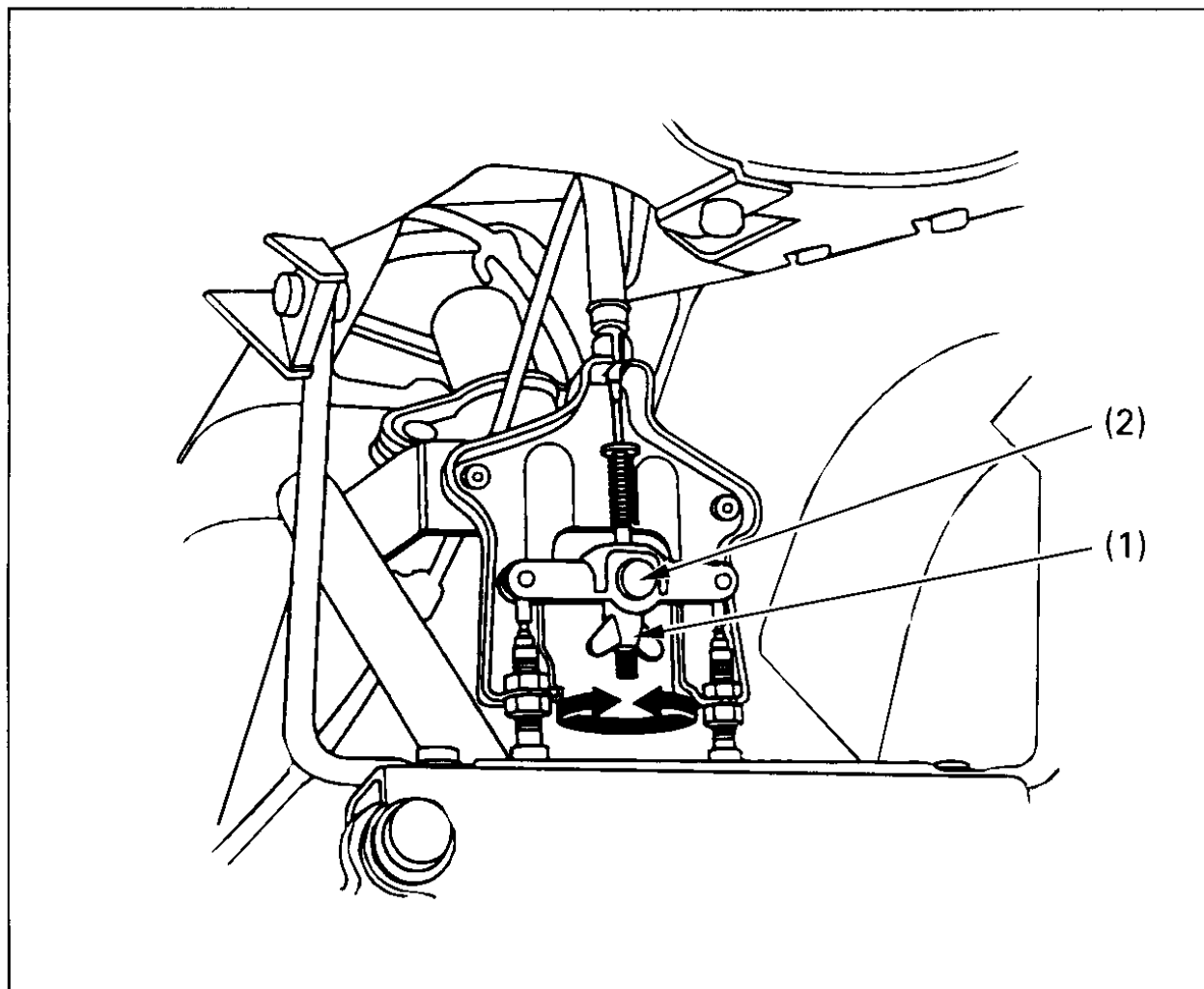


Fig. 4-18

(1) Brake lever adjusting
nut

(2) Brake arm pin

To check front brake shoe wear:

When the brake is applied, an arrow (1) attached to the brake arm (2) moves toward a reference mark (3) on the brake panel (see Fig. 4-19).

If the arrow aligns with the reference mark on full application of the brake, the brake shoes must be replaced. See your authorized Honda dealer for this service.

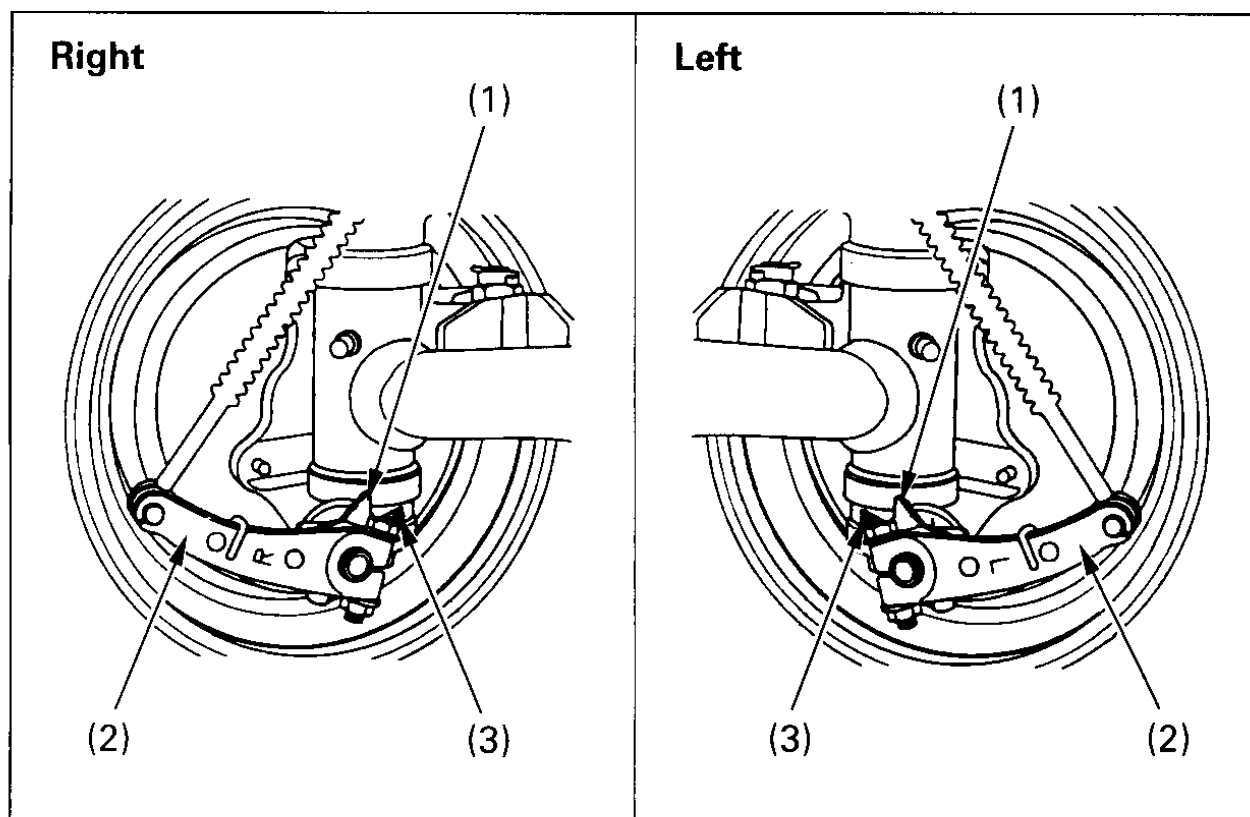


Fig. 4-19

- (1) Arrow
- (2) Brake arm
- (3) Reference mark

Other Checks:

Check the condition of the brake cables. If there are kinks or signs of wear that could cause sticking or failure, have the cables replaced by an authorized Honda dealer. Make sure the brake arm, spring, and fasteners are in good condition.

REAR BRAKE

This Sportrax has a single mechanical drum brake on the rear axle housing. Each day before riding you should check the operation of both the rear brake pedal and the rear brake lever. You should also periodically check the brake shoes for wear.

To check and adjust brake pedal free play:

Measure the distance the rear brake pedal moves before the brake starts to take hold. Free play, measured at the end of the pedal (Fig. 4-20), should be:

$3/8 - 13/16$ in (10 – 20 mm)

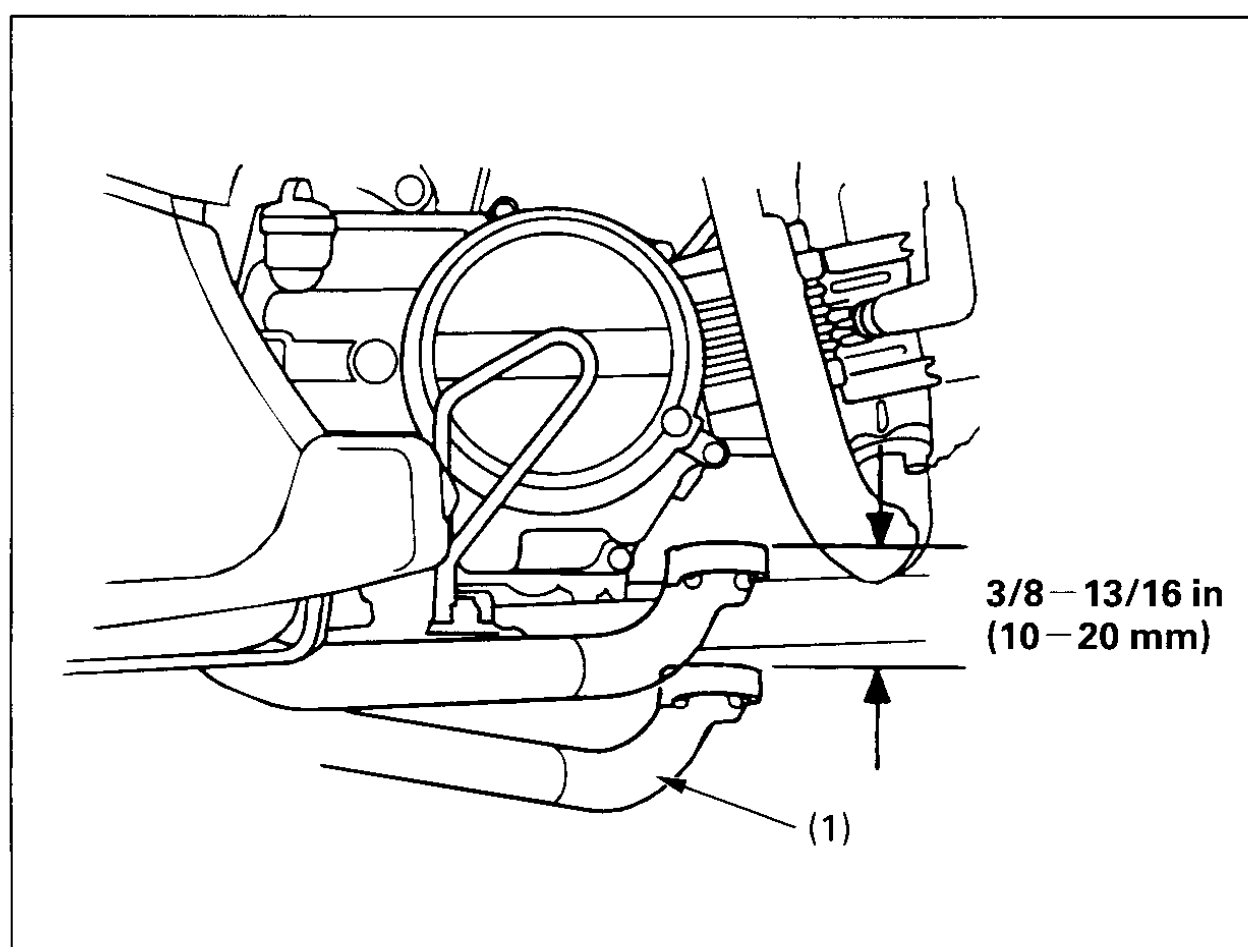


Fig. 4-20

(1) Rear brake pedal

A technical line drawing of a vehicle's rear suspension assembly, specifically a rear wheel hub and brake assembly. The diagram shows the hub, brake drum, and various mounting components. Three callout lines point to specific parts: (1) points to a bolt on the hub assembly, (2) points to a bolt on the brake drum, and (3) points to a bolt on the hub assembly.

Fig. 4-21

(1) Brake pedal adjusting nut	(3) Brake arm pin
(2) Brake lever adjusting nut	

To check and adjust brake lever free play:

Measure the distance the rear brake lever moves before the brake starts to take hold. Free play, measured at the tip of the brake lever (Fig. 4-22), should be:

$3/8 - 13/16$ in (10 – 20 mm)

To adjust the free play, turn the brake lever adjusting nut (Fig. 4-21), located on the brake operating rod at the rear of the frame. Make sure the cut-out on the adjusting nut is properly seated on the brake arm pin (3).

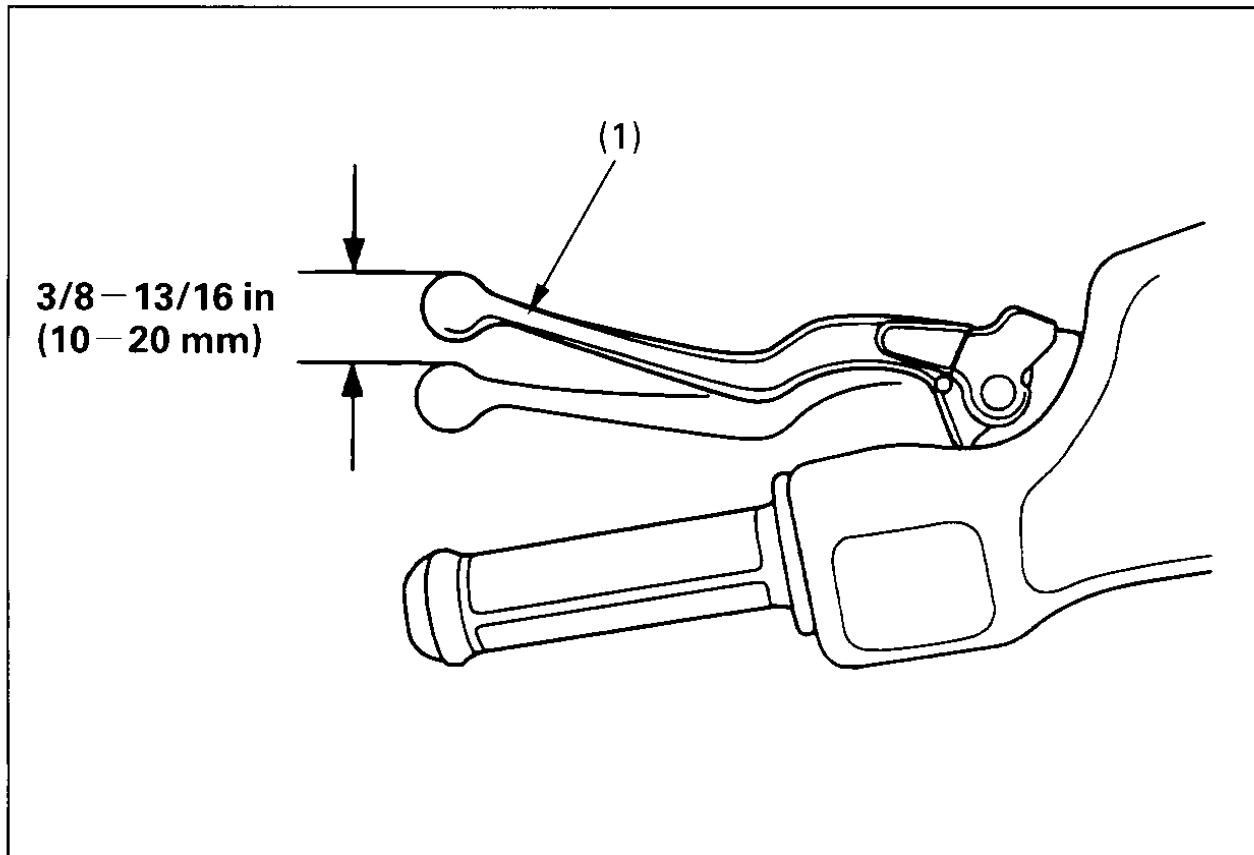


Fig. 4-22

(1) Brake lever

To check rear brake shoe wear:

When the brake is applied, an arrow (2) attached to the brake arm (1) moves toward a reference mark (3) on the brake panel (see Fig. 4-23).

If the arrow aligns with the reference mark on full application of the brake, the brake shoes must be replaced. See your authorized Honda dealer for this service.

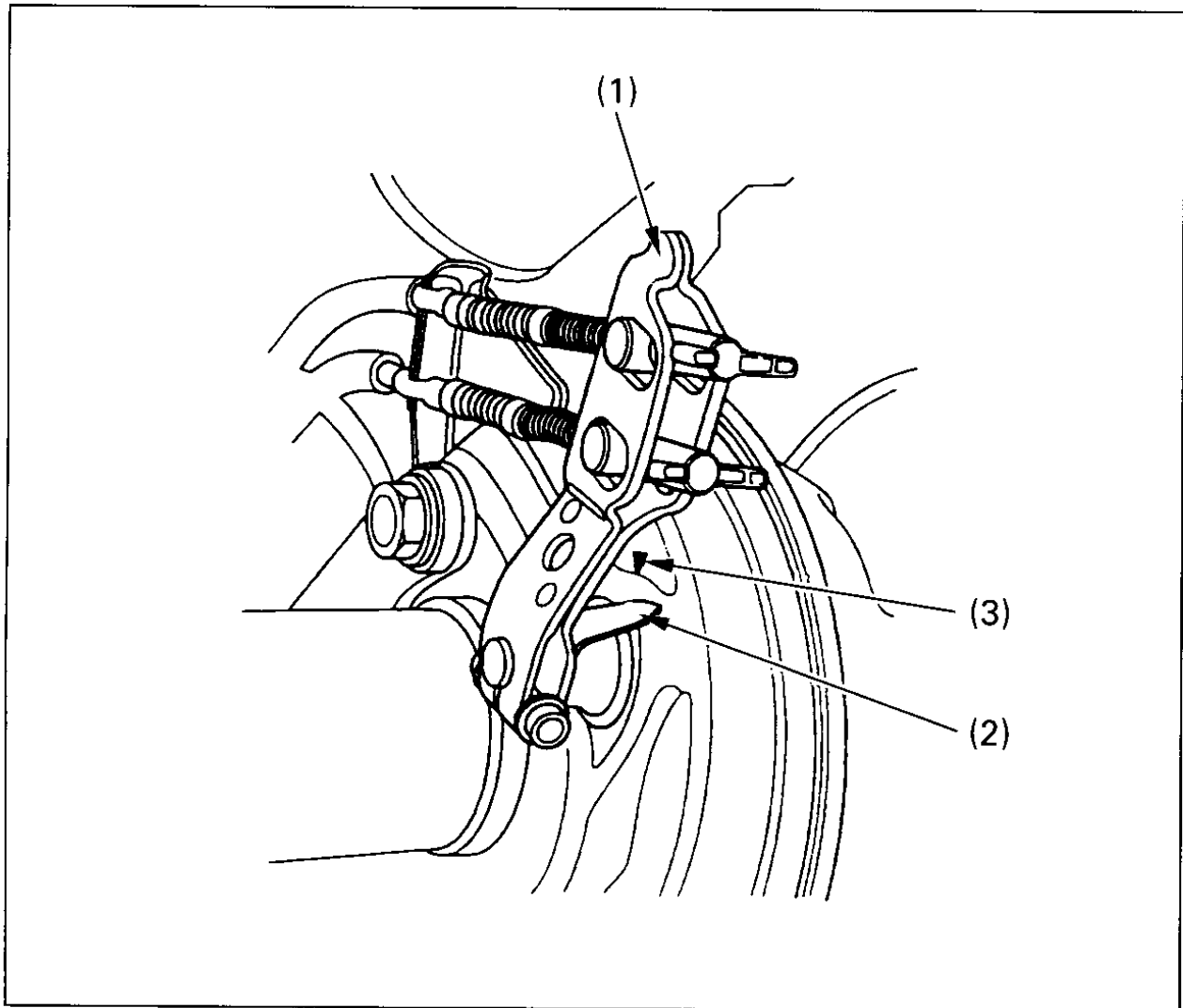


Fig. 4-23 (1) Brake arm

(2) Arrow

(3) Reference mark

Other Checks:

Check the condition of the brake cables. If there are kinks or signs of wear that could cause sticking or failure, have the cables replaced by an authorized Honda dealer. Make sure the brake arm, spring, and fasteners are in good condition.

DRAINING WATER FROM BRAKES

Make sure the engine is off and the parking brake is set. Then remove the drain bolt (Fig. 4-24) from the bottom of the rear brake cover. If any water drains, the brake seals must be replaced by your Honda dealer as soon as possible.

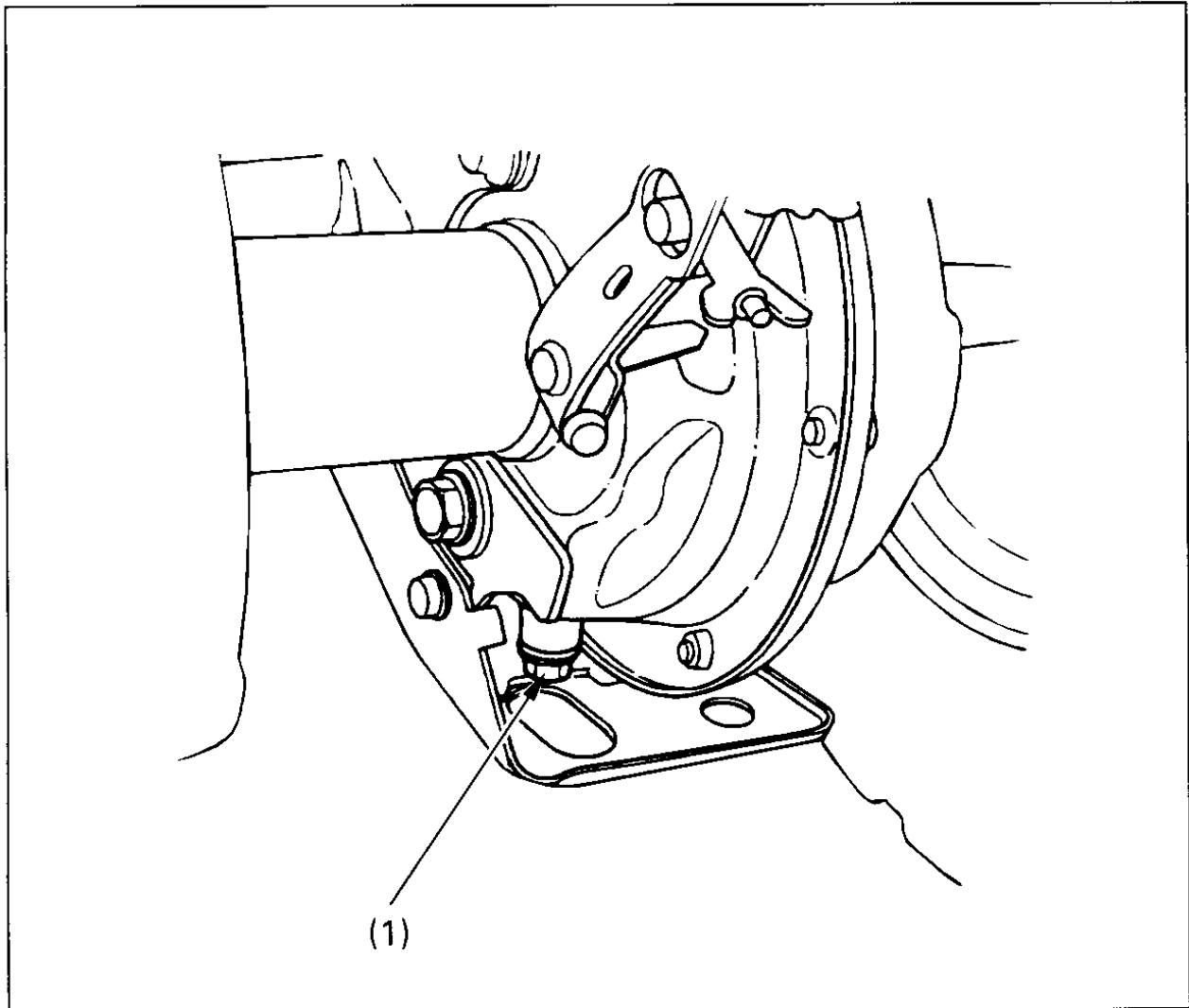


Fig. 4-24

(1) Drain bolt

SEAT REMOVAL

To remove the seat (Fig. 4-25), pull up the seat lock lever (1) behind the seat and lift the seat.

To reinstall the seat, slide the front prongs (3) into the recesses (4) and press the seat down until it locks.

Check that the seat is locked securely by lightly lifting up on the rear of the seat after reinstalling it.

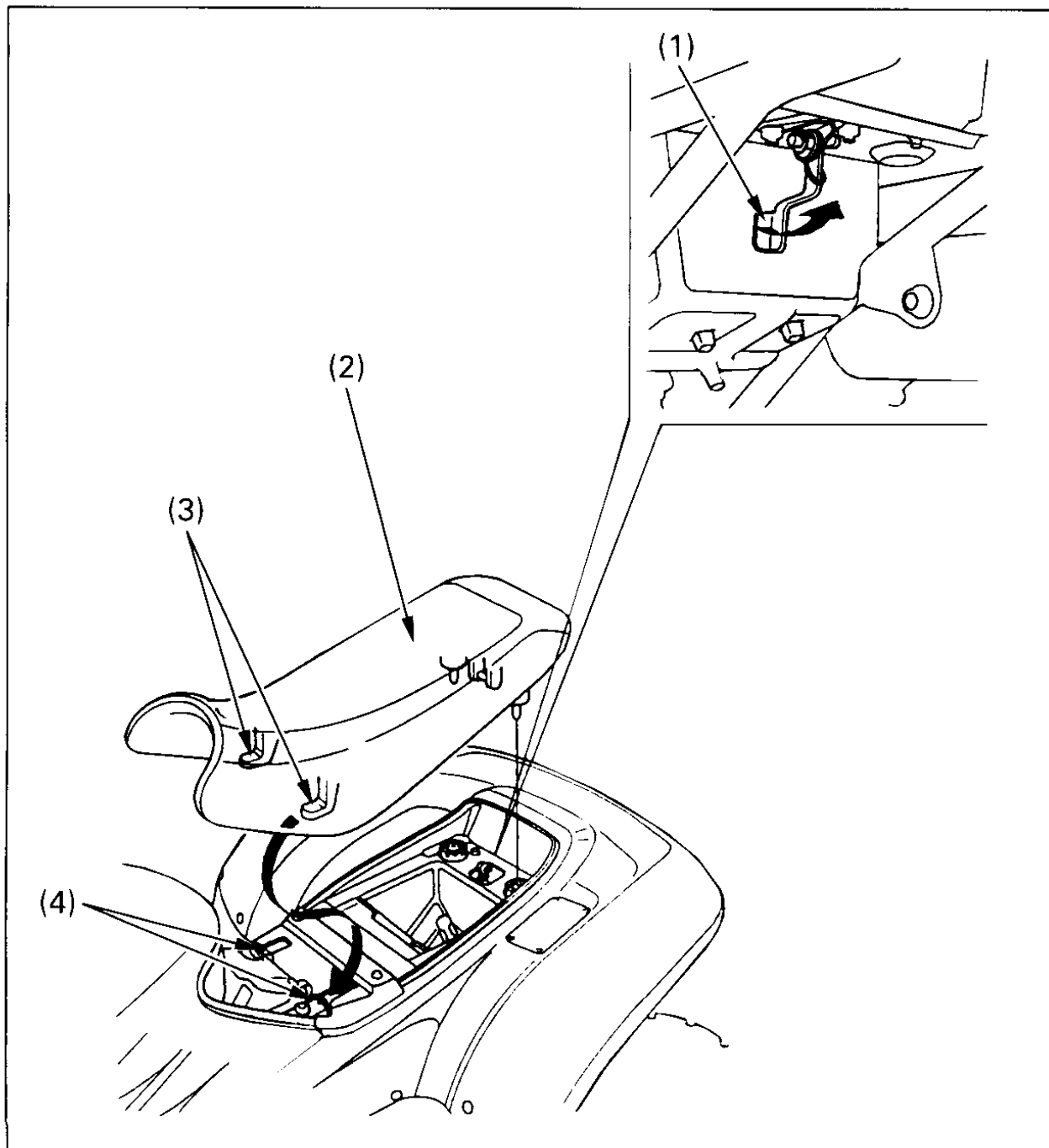


Fig. 4-25

(1) Seat lock lever
(2) Seat

(3) Front prong
(4) Recess

WHEELS AND TIRES

WHEEL REMOVAL

If you need to remove a wheel from your Sportrax, follow these procedures:

1. Raise the front (or rear) wheels off the ground and place a support securely under the vehicle.
2. Loosen the wheel nuts (Fig. 4-26) with a 17 mm socket wrench.
3. Remove the wheel.

When reinstalling a wheel, tighten the wheel nuts in a crisscross (rather than a circular) pattern.

Wheel nuts torque:

40 lbf·ft (54 N·m , 5.5 kgf·m)

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Installing wheels improperly.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

A wheel may come loose, possibly leading to an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Carefully follow the instructions in this Owner's Manual when installing wheels.

NOTE:

If a torque wrench was not used for installation, see your authorized Honda dealer before operating the vehicle to verify proper assembly.

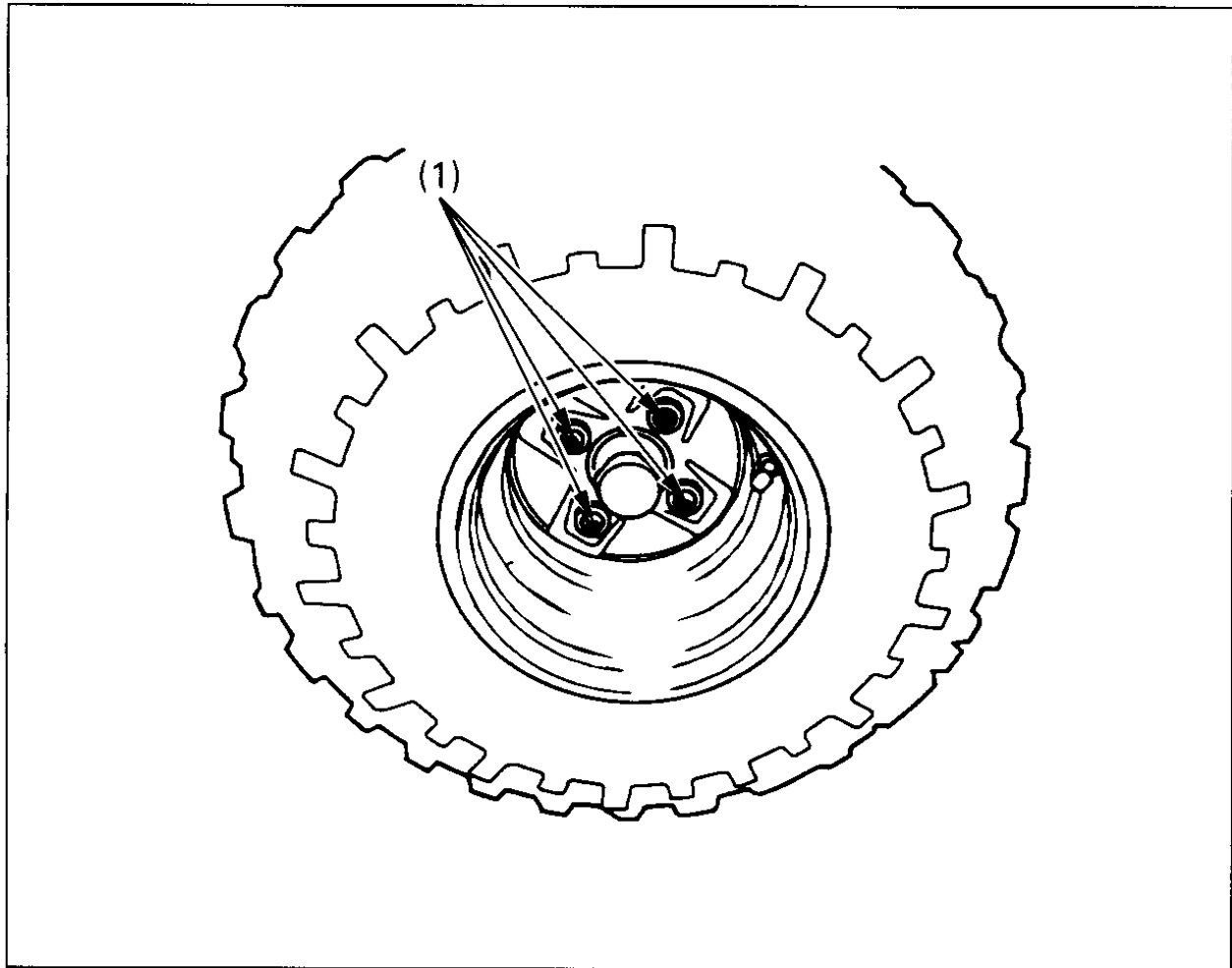


Fig. 4-26

(1) Wheel nuts

TIRES

This Sportrax is equipped with low pressure tubeless tires. Although the tires are designed specifically for off-road use, they are not immune to punctures. Always select your riding area with care.

Tire Pressure

Check the tire pressure frequently with the tire pressure gauge supplied with the vehicle. For normal use, the tires should be inflated to the pressure recommended in Fig. 4-27.

Tire pressure should be checked before you ride, when the tires are "cold." Be sure to check tire pressure at the riding site, since changes in altitude can affect air pressure.

- * A manually operated tire pump should be used rather than the high pressure systems found in service stations. This will minimize the possibility of tire damage from overinflation. If you use a high pressure system at a service station, add air in small amounts and check the pressure increase frequently to prevent possible tire damage from overinflation.

	FRONT	REAR
TIRE SIZE	AT 20 × 7-8 ★	AT 19 × 8-8 ★
TIRE BRAND	A/T 101 OHTSU	P/V 302 OHTSU
RECOMMENDED PRESSURE	2.9 psi (20 kPa , 0.20 kgf/cm ²)	2.9 psi (20 kPa , 0.20 kgf/cm ²)
MAXIMUM PRESSURE	3.3 psi (23 kPa , 0.23 kgf/cm ²)	3.3 psi (23 kPa , 0.23 kgf/cm ²)
MINIMUM PRESSURE	2.5 psi (17 kPa , 0.17 kgf/cm ²)	2.5 psi (17 kPa , 0.17 kgf/cm ²)

Fig. 4-27

Tire specifications

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Operating this ATV with improper tires, or with uneven tire pressure.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Use of improper tires on this ATV, or operation of this ATV with improper or uneven tire pressure, may cause loss of control, increasing your risk of an accident.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always use the size and type tires specified in this Owner's Manual for this vehicle.

Always maintain proper tire pressure as described in this Owner's Manual.

Tire Tread Condition

To check the condition of a tire tread, measure the groove depth (1) (Fig. 4-28) in the center of the tire, or check the wear indicator (2). The minimum tread depth is 3/16 in (4 mm). When the tread depth is less than recommended, the tire should be replaced.

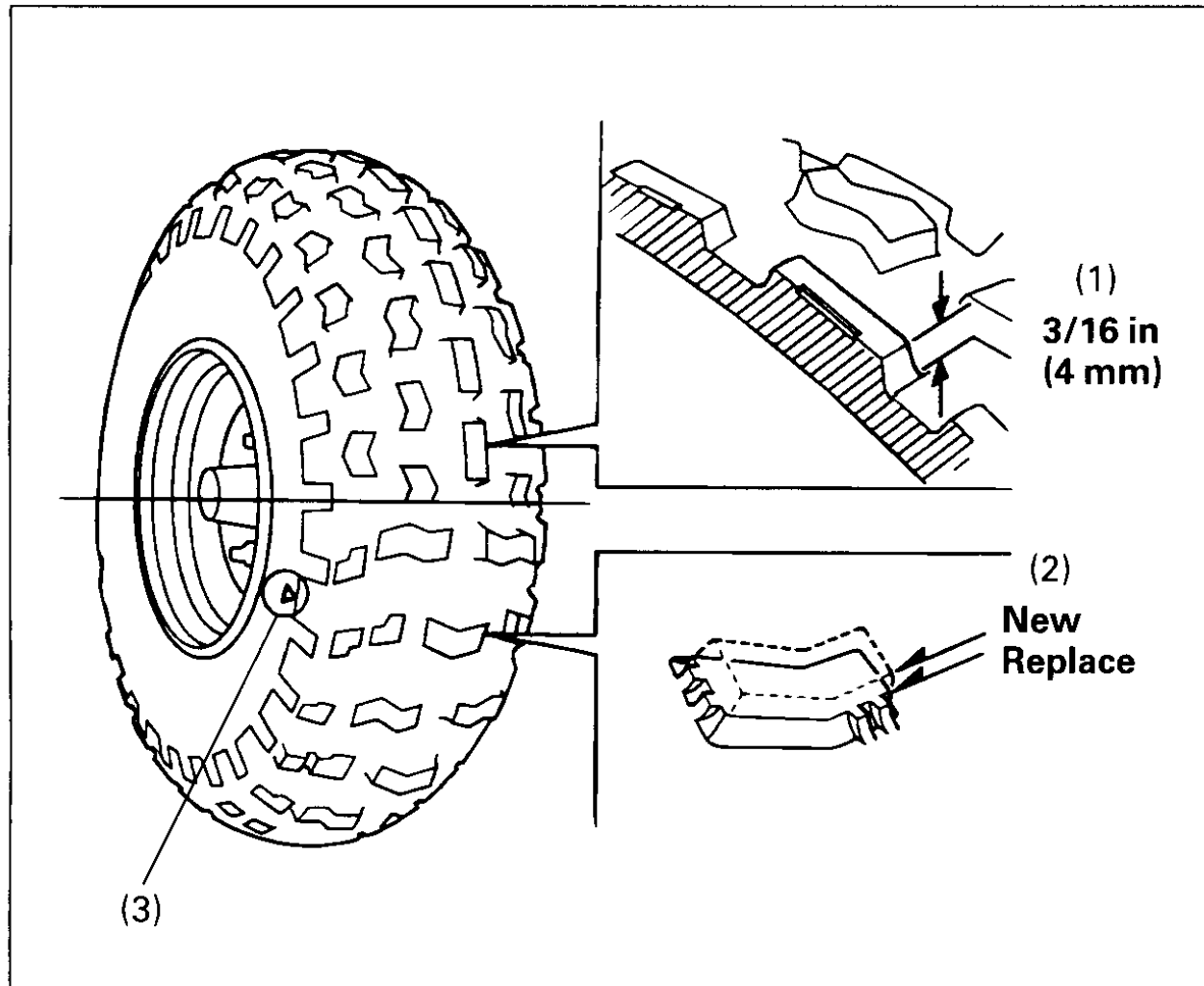


Fig. 4-28

(1) Groove depth
(2) Wear indicator

(3) Wear indicator location
mark

Repairing a Flat Tire

If you have a flat tire, use the plug method to make a temporary repair. (The plug method is applied from the outside of the tire and is the same as that for conventional tubeless tires.)

A plug-type repair kit, available at most auto parts stores or service stations, provides a plug, an installation tool, tire cement, and an instruction sheet. Follow the instructions provided with the repair kit to make a temporary repair.

As soon as possible, have the tire permanently repaired by an authorized Honda dealer. Any tire that cannot be repaired should be replaced.

Whenever the Sportrax is to be operated far from service facilities or available transportation, we recommend that you carry a tire pump and a repair kit with the vehicle.

While reading this manual, remember:

⚠ WARNING

Indicates a strong possibility that serious injury or death may result if instructions are not followed.

SKID PLATES

The skid plates (Fig. 4-29) protect the frame/lower arm, the drive components and the rear brake. Check the plates for cracks, damage or looseness at the intervals shown in the Maintenance Schedule.

Have the skid plates replaced if they are cracked or damaged. If the plate bolts are loose, tighten them securely.

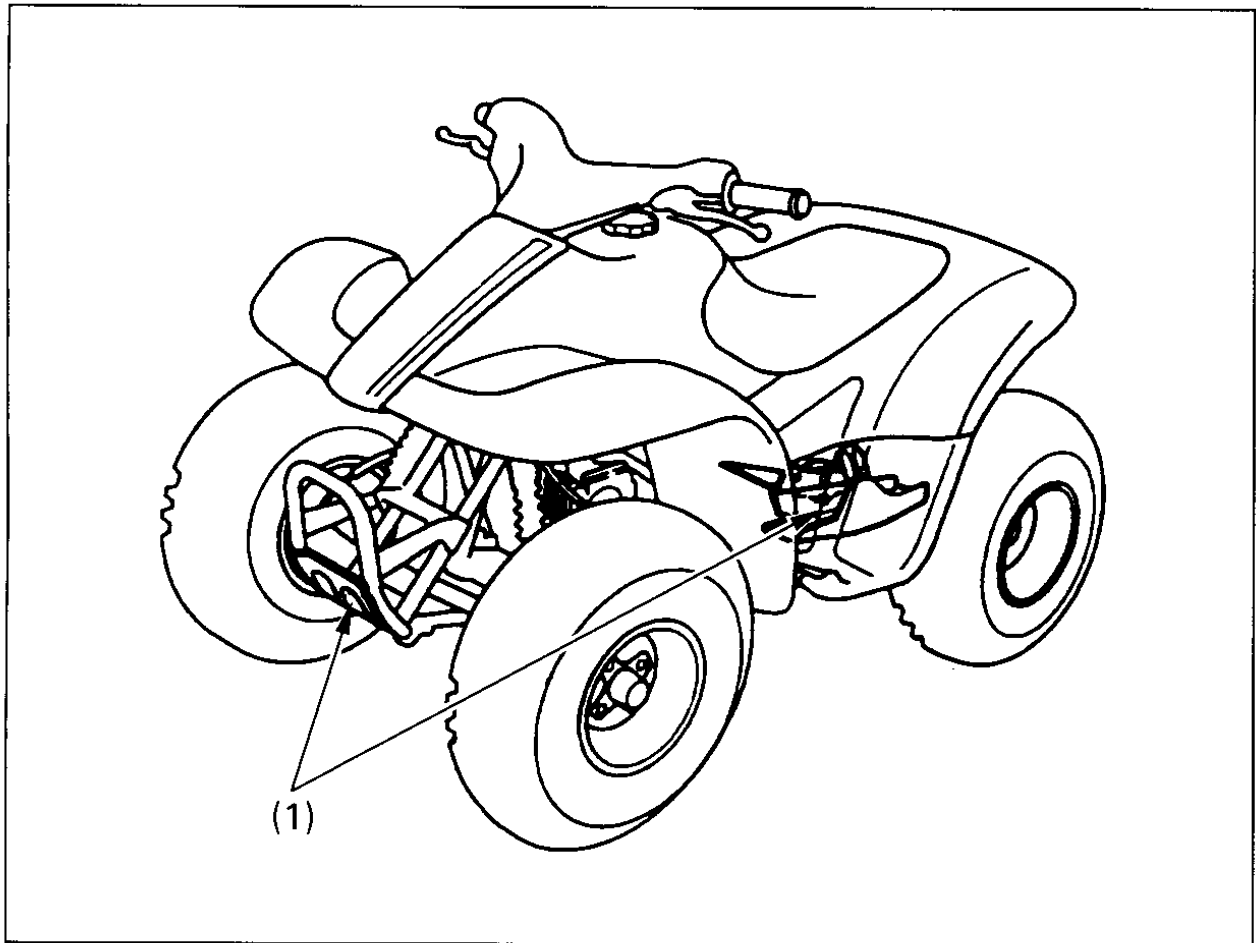


Fig. 4-29

(1) Skid plates

SPARK ARRESTER

The exhaust system must be periodically purged of accumulated carbon.

Regular servicing prevents carbon buildup (which can diminish engine performance) and also complies with USDA regulations for regular maintenance to assure proper function. The spark arrester prevents random sparks from the combustion process in your engine from reaching the environment.

The use of safety glasses is recommended for this procedure.

Because of the possible fire hazard, check that there are no combustible materials in the area before purging the spark arrester.

To purge the system:

1. Select a well-ventilated area free of combustible materials and make sure the exhaust pipe is cool.
2. Remove the bolt. (Fig. 4-30)
3. Start the engine and rev it up approximately twenty times while momentarily creating exhaust system back pressure by blocking the end of the muffler with a shop towel.
4. Stop the engine and allow the exhaust pipe to cool.
5. Reinstall the bolt securely.

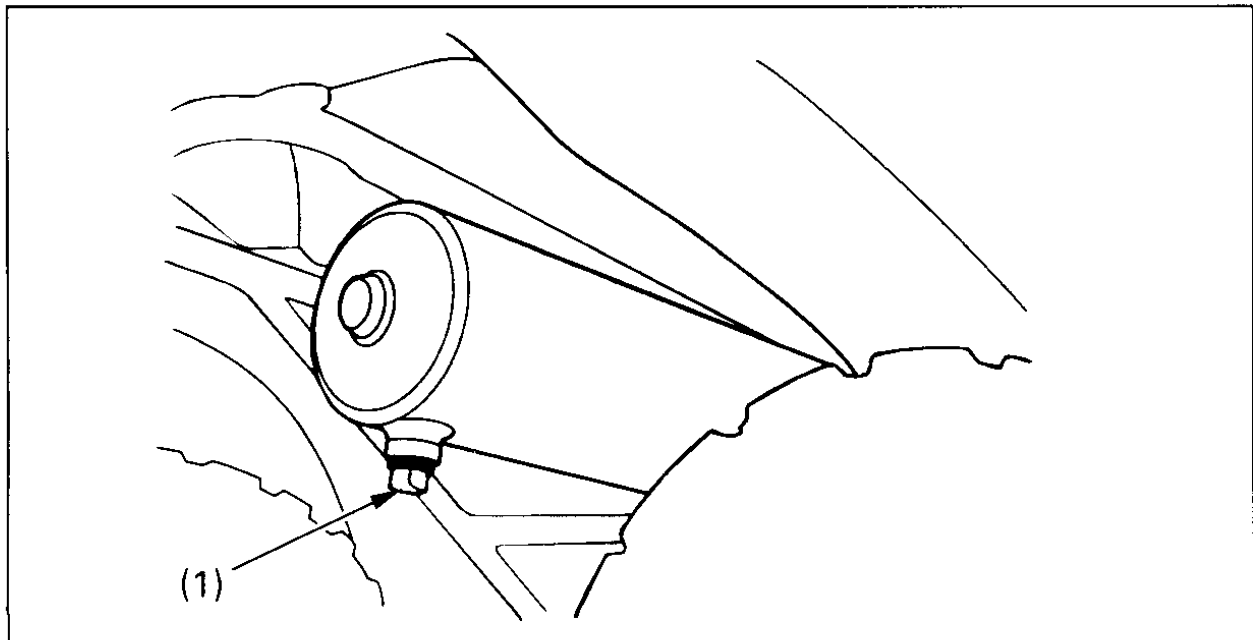


Fig. 4-30

(1) Bolt

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Improperly purging the exhaust system.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

Could injure the eyes.

Could cause burns.

Could cause carbon monoxide poisoning, possibly leading to death.

Could start a fire.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

When purging the exhaust system:

Always wear eye protection, and make sure no one stands behind the vehicle.

Always let the exhaust system cool before performing this operation.

Never run the engine in an enclosed area.

Make sure there are no combustible materials in the area.

TRANSPORTING YOUR Sportrax

When you transport your Sportrax, we recommend that you carry the vehicle in its normal operating position (on all four wheels) and follow these procedures:

1. Set the parking brake and place the transmission in gear.
2. Turn the fuel valve OFF.
3. Secure the vehicle with "tie downs" in the areas shown (Fig. 4-31). Suitable "tie downs" are available from your Honda dealer. Ordinary rope is not recommended because it can stretch under load.

CAUTION:

Using tie downs in any other areas can damage your Sportrax.

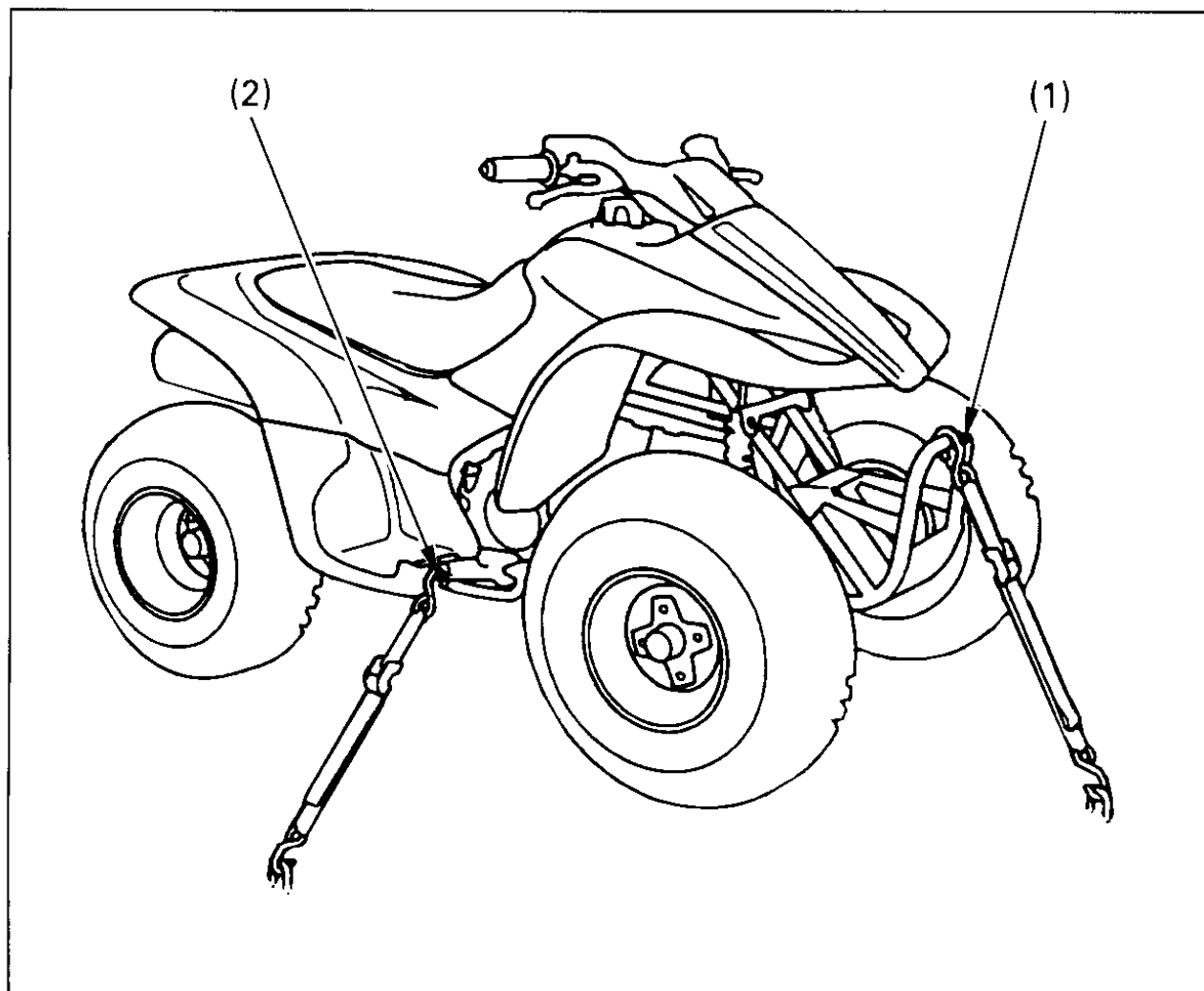


Fig. 4-31 Points to secure Sportrax with tie downs

(1) Front carry pipe
(2) Right footpeg

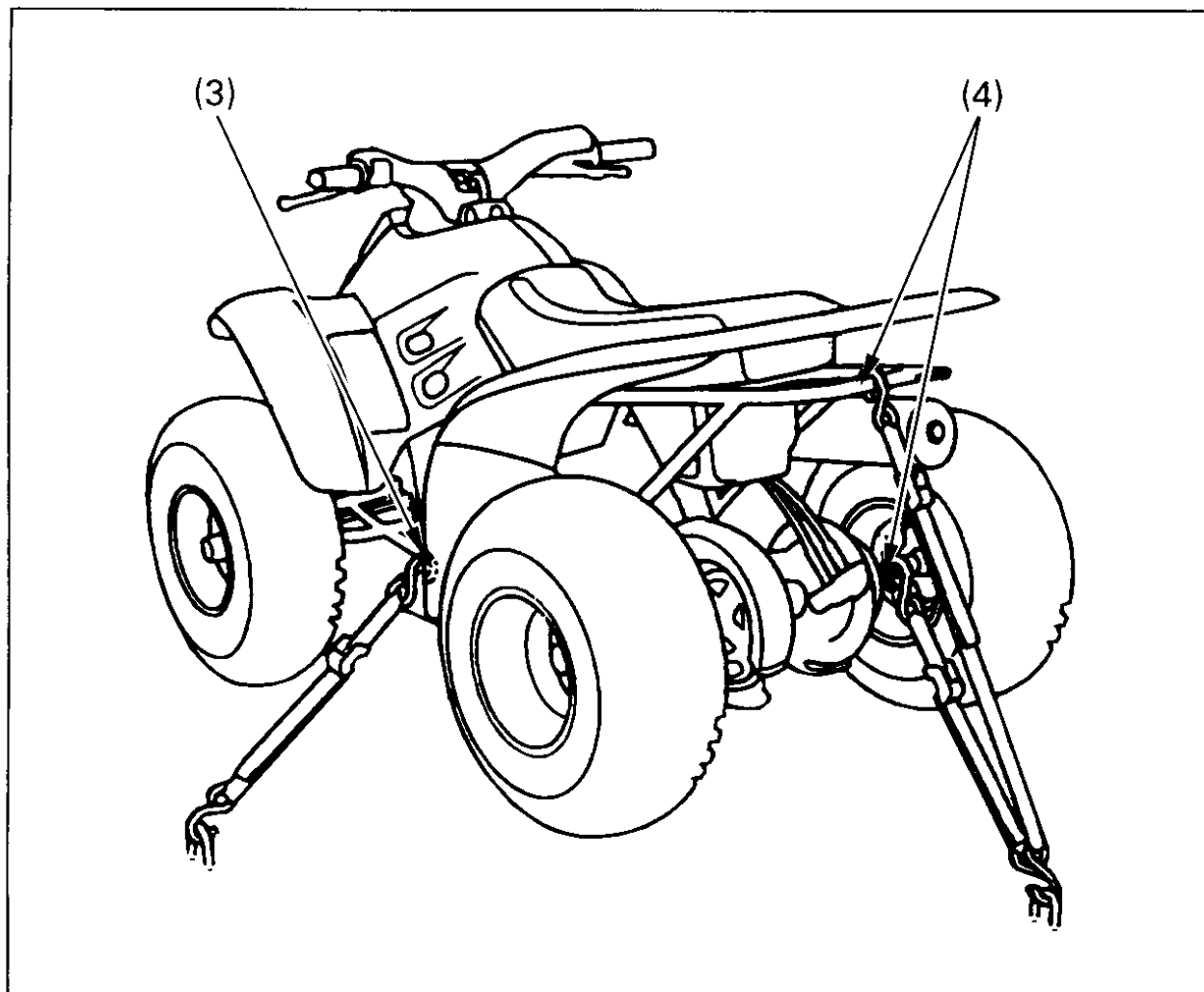


Fig. 4-32 Points to secure Sportrax with tie downs

(3) Left footpeg
(4) Rear carry pipe or Rear axle shaft

If it is necessary to incline your Sportrax upright on the rear end:

1. Follow steps 1 and 2 on the previous page.
2. Place a suitable container under the carburetor drain tube.
3. Turn the drain screw counterclockwise and drain the fuel from the carburetor.
4. After draining the carburetor, turn the drain screw clockwise until it is tight.
5. Pour the drained fuel into the fuel tank.
6. Tilt the vehicle and secure properly.

Do not tow your Sportrax behind a car or other vehicle.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Inclining this ATV without first draining fuel from the carburetor.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

The fuel could explode or ignite.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always drain fuel from the carburetor before inclining this ATV.

Always handle fuel in a well-ventilated area with the engine off. Do not smoke or allow flames or sparks in the area where fuel is handled.

If any fuel is spilled, make sure the area is dry before starting the engine.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

**Prolonged contact of fuel with the skin.
Breathing fuel vapor.**

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

**The fuel can cause skin irritation.
Fuel vapor could cause lung damage.**

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Avoid repeated or prolonged contact of fuel with the skin or breathing of fuel vapor.

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

CLEANING YOUR Sportrax

CLEANING

Clean your Sportrax regularly to protect the surface finishes and inspect for damage, wear, and oil leakage.

Avoid cleaning products that are not specifically designed for ATV or automobile surfaces.

They may contain harsh detergents or chemical solvents that could damage the metal, paint, and plastic on your Sportrax.

If your Sportrax is still warm from recent operation, give the engine and exhaust system time to cool off.

Park in a shady area. Washing your Sportrax in bright sunlight may cause the finish to fade because water droplets intensify the sun's brightness. Spotting is also more likely because surface water can dry before you have time to wipe it off.

We recommend avoiding the use of high pressure water spray (typical in coin-operated car washes.)

CAUTION:

High pressure water (or air) can damage certain parts of the Sportrax.

1. Rinse the Sportrax thoroughly with cool water to remove loose dirt.
2. Clean the Sportrax with a sponge or soft cloth using cool water. Avoid directing water to muffler outlets and electrical parts.
3. After cleaning, rinse the Sportrax thoroughly with plenty of clean water.
Detergent residue can corrode alloy parts.
4. Dry the Sportrax and lubricate the drive chain.
5. Start the engine and let it run for several minutes.
6. Test the brakes before riding the Sportrax. Several applications may be necessary to restore normal braking performance.

Braking efficiency may be temporarily impaired immediately after washing the Sportrax.

Anticipate longer stopping distances to avoid a possible accident.

STORING YOUR Sportrax

STORAGE

Before storing your Sportrax for an extended time, be sure you thoroughly check the vehicle for needed repairs and have them corrected. Otherwise, the repairs may be forgotten by the time you remove the vehicle from storage.

In addition, extended storage requires that you take the following steps to reduce the effects of deterioration from non-use of the vehicle:

1. Change the engine oil.
2. Lubricate the drive chain.
3. Drain the fuel tank and carburetor. Be sure to drain the fuel in a well-ventilated area, not in a garage.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Refueling this ATV or handling fuel improperly.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

The fuel could explode or ignite.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Always refuel this ATV and handle fuel in a well-ventilated area with the engine off. Do not smoke or allow flames or sparks in the area where fuel is handled.

Do not overfill the tank. Be careful not to spill fuel when refueling. After refueling, make sure the fuel fill cap is closed properly and securely.

If any fuel is spilled, make sure the area is dry before starting the engine.

⚠ WARNING

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Prolonged contact of fuel with the skin.
Breathing fuel vapor.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

The fuel can cause skin irritation.
Fuel vapor could cause lung damage.

HOW TO AVOID THE HAZARD

Avoid repeated or prolonged contact of fuel with the skin or breathing of fuel vapor.

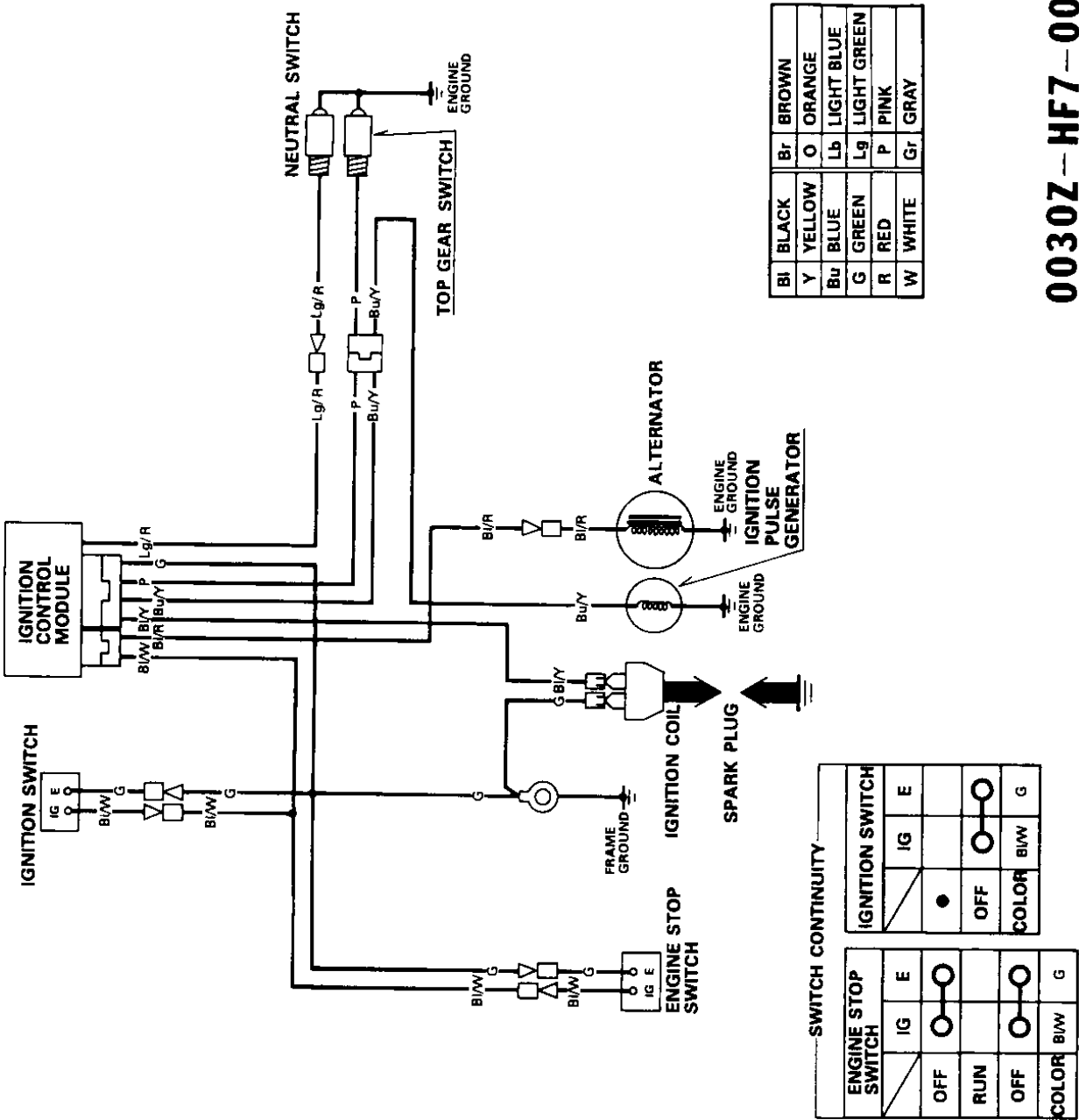
KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

4. Remove the spark plug and pour one tablespoon (15–20 cc) of clean engine oil into the cylinder.
Operate the recoil starter several times to distribute the oil, then reinstall the spark plug. (Make sure the engine stop switch is OFF before operating the recoil starter.)
5. Wash and dry the Sportrax, and wax all painted surfaces.
6. Inflate the tires to their recommended pressures.
7. Place the Sportrax on blocks to raise all four tires off the ground.

SPECIFICATIONS

DIMENSIONS	
Overall length	58.6 in (1,489 mm)
Overall width	35.2 in (895 mm)
Overall height	36.1 in (917 mm)
Wheelbase	38.8 in (985 mm)
WEIGHT	
Dry Weight	243 lbs (110 kg)
CAPACITIES	
Engine oil	1.0 US qt (0.9 ℓ , 0.8 Imp qt)
Fuel tank	1.59 US gal (6.0 ℓ , 1.32 Imp gal)
Fuel reserve	0.34 US gal (1.3 ℓ , 0.29 Imp gal)
ENGINE	
Bore and stroke	1.85 × 1.95 in (47 × 49.5 mm)
Compression ratio	9.2 : 1
Displacement	5.23 cu-in (85.8 cm ³)
Engine idle speed	1,600 ± 100 rpm
Spark plug, standard	CR7HSA (NGK) U22FSR-U (DENSO)
Spark plug gap	0.024—0.028 in (0.60—0.70 mm)
Valve clearance	0.002 in (0.05 mm)
CHASSIS AND SUSPENSION	
Caster angle	4°
Trail length	0.6 in (16 mm)
Tire size, Front	AT 20 × 7-8 ★
Rear	AT 19 × 8-8 ★
POWER TRANSMISSION	
Primary reduction	4.058
Gear ratio 1st	2.833
2nd	1.937
3rd	1.300
4th	0.958

WIRING DIAGRAM



0030Z--HF7--0000

CONSUMER INFORMATION

EMISSION CONTROL SYSTEMS

Source of Emissions

The combustion process produces carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen, and hydrocarbons. Control of hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen is very important because under certain conditions, they react to form photochemical smog when subjected to sunlight. Carbon monoxide does not react in the same way, but it is toxic.

Honda Motor Co., Ltd. utilizes lean carburetor settings and other systems to reduce carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen, and hydrocarbons.

Exhaust Emission Control System

The exhaust emission system consists of a secondary air supply system which introduces filtered air into the exhaust gases in the exhaust port. No adjustments to this system should be made although periodic inspection of the components is recommended. The secondary air supply system helps improve emission performance.

The exhaust emission control system is separate from the crankcase emission control system.

Crankcase Emission Control System

The engine is equipped with a closed crankcase system to prevent discharging crankcase emissions into the atmosphere.

Blow-by gas is returned to the combustion chamber through the air cleaner and the carburetor.

NOISE EMISSION CONTROL SYSTEM

TAMPERING WITH THE NOISE CONTROL SYSTEM IS PROHIBITED:

U.S. federal law prohibits, or Canadian provincial laws may prohibit the following acts or the causing thereof: (1) The removal or rendering inoperative by any person, other than for purposes of maintenance, repair, or replacement, of any device or element of design incorporated into any new vehicle for the purpose of noise control prior to its sale or delivery to the ultimate purchaser or while it is in use; or (2) the use of the vehicle after such device or element of design has been removed or rendered inoperative by any person.

AMONG THOSE ACTS PRESUMED TO CONSTITUTE TAMPERING ARE THE ACTS LISTED BELOW:

1. Removal of, or puncturing the muffler, baffles, header pipes or any other component which conducts exhaust gases.
2. Removal of, or puncturing any part of the intake system.
3. Lack of proper maintenance.
4. Replacing any moving parts of the vehicle, or parts of the exhaust or intake system, with parts other than those specified by the manufacturer.

Problems that May Affect ATV Emissions

If you are aware of any of the following symptoms, have the vehicle inspected and repaired by your authorized Honda Motorcycle Dealer:

1. Hard starting or stalling after starting
2. Rough idle
3. Misfiring or backfiring during acceleration
4. After-burning (backfiring)
5. Poor performance (driveability) and poor fuel economy

SERIAL NUMBERS AND COLOR LABEL

The frame, engine and key numbers (Fig. 5-1) will be needed when you order replacement parts. The color is also helpful. Record the numbers and color here for your reference.

The frame serial number (2) is stamped on the front of the frame. The engine serial number (3) is stamped on the right crankcase. The color label (4) is attached to the frame below the seat (page 147).

KEY NO. _____

FRAME NO. _____

ENGINE NO. _____

COLOR _____

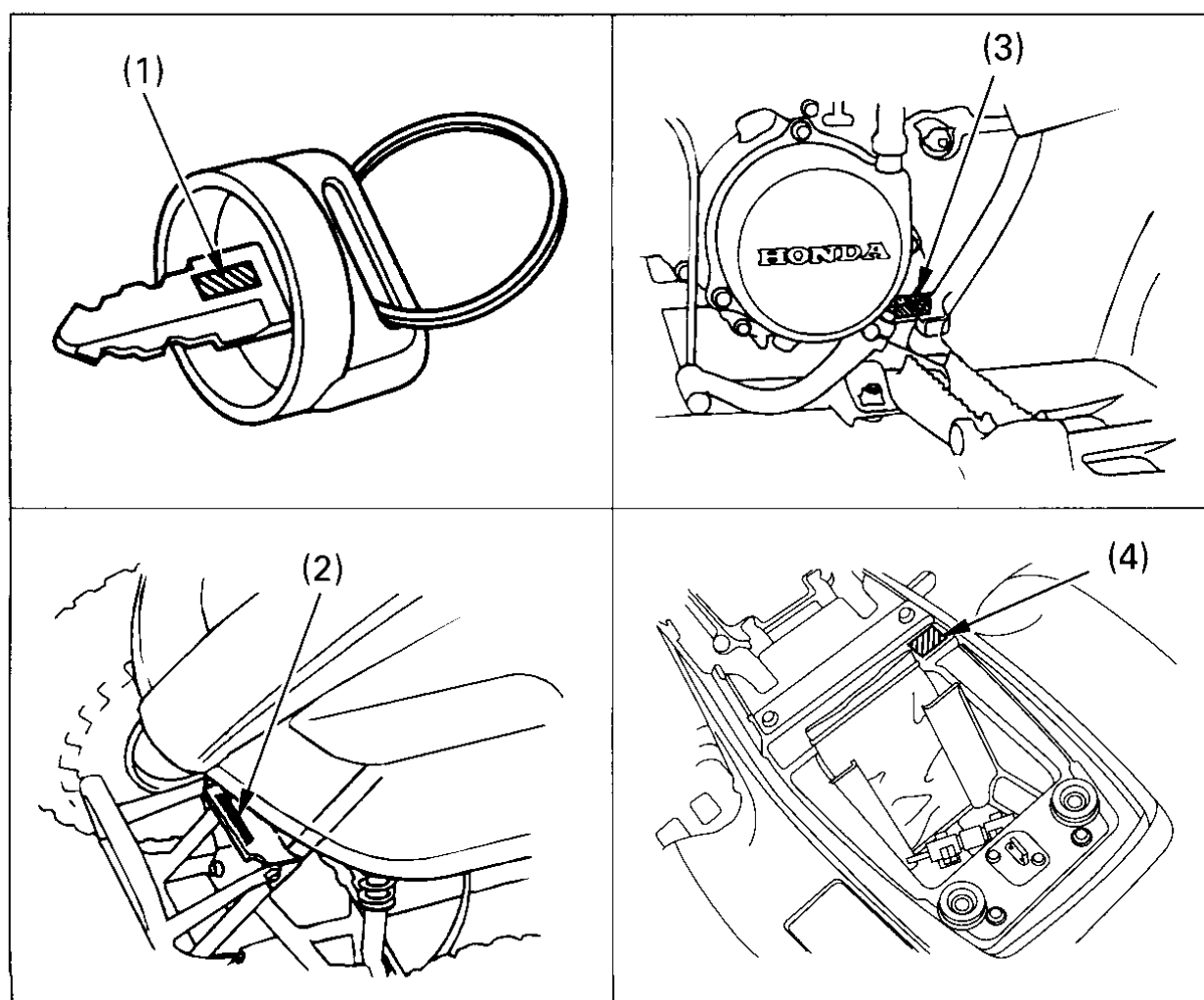


Fig. 5-1

(1) Key number
(2) Frame number

(3) Engine number
(4) Color label

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HONDA

The Power of Dreams

! WARNING

Improper use of ATVs can result in SEVERE INJURY or DEATH



**ALWAYS USE
AN APPROVED
HELMET AND
PROTECTIVE
GEAR**



**NEVER USE
ON PUBLIC
ROADS**



**NEVER CARRY
PASSENGERS**



**NEVER USE
WITH DRUGS
OR ALCOHOL**

NEVER operate:

- without proper training or instruction.
- at speeds too fast for your skills or the conditions.
- on public roads - a collision can occur with another vehicle.
- with a passenger - passengers affect balance and steering and increase risk of losing control.

ALWAYS:

- use proper riding techniques to avoid vehicle overturns on hills and rough terrain and in turns.
- avoid paved surfaces - pavement may seriously affect handling and control.

READ THE OWNER'S MANUAL

FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS.

31HF7690

00X31-HF7-6900

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PRINTED IN JAPAN