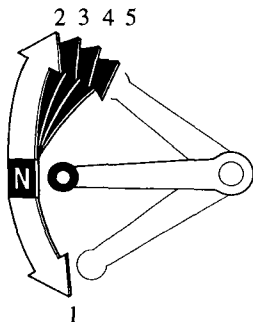


Shifting Gears



Your motorcycle has five forward gears. To upshift, raise the shift lever. To downshift, depress the shift lever. The shift lever automatically returns to the horizontal position when released. Remember to close the throttle and pull the clutch lever in completely before

shifting. Failure to do so can damage the transmission.

Learning when to shift gears comes with experience. Upshift to a higher gear or reduce throttle before engine speed (rpm) gets too high. Downshift to a lower gear before you feel the engine laboring (lugging) at low rpm.

Downshifting also allows you to use engine braking (compression) to help slow the motorcycle. However, be careful not to downshift when engine speed is near maximum or you can over-rev (exceed maximum rpm) and damage the engine.

To prevent transmission damage, do not coast or tow the motorcycle for long distances with the engine off.