

Taking Care of the Unexpected

If You Have a Flat Tire

How you handle a flat tire on the trail depends on how serious the tube or tire damage is, and what tools and supplies you have with you.

If you have a slow leak or a minor puncture, there are two ways to try making a temporary repair:

- Use an aerosol tire sealer to seal the puncture and inflate the tube. (This can be done without removing the tire or wheel.)
- Use a tube patch kit to repair the puncture. (This requires removing the tire.)

If the leak is more serious, or a temporary repair doesn't hold, the tube must be replaced. The tire will also need to be replaced if it is damaged (page 96). Replacing a tube or tire involves removing and re-installing the wheel (pages 89, 91).

If you are unable to repair a flat tire on the trail, you will need to push the motorcycle back to your base or send for help. We strongly recommend that you do not try to ride with a flat tire. The motorcycle will be hard to handle, and if the tire comes off the rim, it may lock up the wheel and cause you to crash.