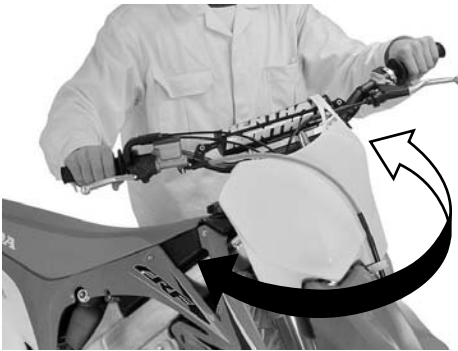


Refer to *Safety Precautions* on page 23.

Steering Head Bearings Inspection

1. With your CRF on a box or workstand (front wheel elevated), turn the handlebar to the right and left to check for roughness in the steering head bearings.

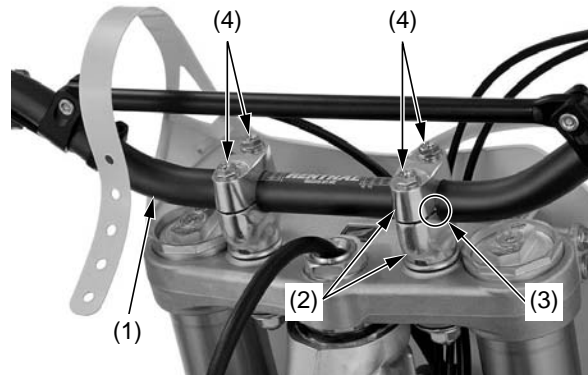


2. Stand in front of your CRF, grab the fork (at the axle), look at the steering head, and push the fork in and out (toward the engine) to check for play in the steering head bearings. If any roughness or play is felt, but you do not see any movement in the steering head, the fork bushings may be worn. Refer to the Honda Service Manual for replacement or adjustment procedures, or see your dealer.



Handlebar Inspection

1. Remove the handlebar pad.
2. Check the handlebar (1) for bends or cracks.
3. Check that the handlebar has not moved from its proper position. Make sure the end of the handlebar holders (2) is aligned with the paint mark (3) on right or left side.
4. Check the torque of the handlebar upper holder bolts (4):
16 lbf·ft (22 N·m, 2.2 kgf·m)
Tighten the front bolts first.



- (1) handlebar
- (2) handlebar holders
- (3) paint mark
- (4) handlebar upper holder bolts

Control Cables

Periodically, disconnect the throttle, clutch and hot start cables at their upper ends. Thoroughly lubricate the cable pivot points with a commercially-available cable lubricant. If the clutch lever, hot start lever and throttle operation is not smooth, replace the cable.

Be sure the throttle returns freely and automatically from fully open to fully closed in all steering positions.