

# Load Limits & Guidelines

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## Loading Guidelines

Improperly loading your motorcycle can affect its stability and handling. Even if your motorcycle is properly loaded, you should ride at reduced speeds and never exceed 80 mph (130 km/h) when carrying cargo.

Follow these guidelines whenever you carry a passenger or cargo:

- Check that both tires are properly inflated (page 168).
- If you change your normal load, you may need to adjust the rear suspension (page 160).
- To prevent loose items from creating a hazard, make sure that all cargo is tied down securely before you ride.
- Place cargo weight as low and close to the center of your motorcycle as possible.
- Balance cargo weight evenly on both sides.
- Make sure all cargo compartments are securely closed.
- Check the headlight beam adjustment if you change your normal load.
- Do not attach large or heavy items (such as a sleeping bag or tent) to the handlebar, forks, or fender.