## **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 202).
- If you change your normal load, you may need to adjust the rear suspension (page 192).
- 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.