

honda 250 super dream

Honda 250 Super Dream: An In-Depth Overview of a Classic Motorcycle

Honda 250 Super Dream stands as a testament to Honda's legacy of producing reliable, efficient, and stylish motorcycles. First introduced in the late 1970s and early 1980s, this model has gained a dedicated following among motorcycle enthusiasts, collectors, and everyday riders alike. Its blend of performance, durability, and affordability makes it a notable choice in the vintage motorcycle segment. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore the history, specifications, features, maintenance tips, and the enduring appeal of the Honda 250 Super Dream.

Historical Background of the Honda 250 Super Dream

The Origins and Development

The Honda 250 Super Dream was part of Honda's broader strategy to dominate the small and mid-sized motorcycle markets during the 1970s. As urbanization increased and commuting needs grew, Honda aimed to create a motorcycle that was not only practical but also affordable and easy to maintain. The Super Dream was introduced as a step above basic commuter bikes, offering a balance of power and comfort suitable for daily use.

The model was primarily targeted at markets in Asia, Southeast Asia, and parts of Europe, where small-displacement bikes were popular due to licensing restrictions and fuel economy concerns. Its design and engineering reflected Honda's commitment to reliability, fuel efficiency, and user-friendly operation.

Evolution and Variants

Over the years, the Honda 250 Super Dream underwent several updates and variations, with improvements in engine performance, aesthetics, and comfort features. While the core design remained consistent, these updates helped keep the model relevant in a competitive market. Collectors today often seek vintage models from the early 1980s, which are considered classics due to their simplicity and robustness.

Key Specifications and Features of the Honda 250 Super Dream

Engine and Performance

- **Engine Type:** 249cc, single-cylinder, four-stroke
- **Cooling System:** Air-cooled
- **Power Output:** Approximately 20 horsepower
- **Transmission:** 4-speed manual
- **Fuel System:** Carburetor-based fuel delivery

Dimensions and Weight

- **Overall Length:** Around 2,000 mm (78.7 inches)
- **Overall Width:** Approximately 720 mm (28.3 inches)
- **Seat Height:** About 780 mm (30.7 inches)
- **Dry Weight:** Roughly 130 kg (286 lbs)

Fuel Efficiency and Capacity

- **Fuel Tank Capacity:** 8 liters (2.1 gallons)
- **Fuel Consumption:** Estimated 40-50 km per liter (94-118 mpg), depending on riding conditions

Additional Features

- Electric and kick-start options
- Simple and durable frame design
- Basic instrumentation including speedometer and odometer
- Standard drum brakes on both wheels
- Optional accessories like luggage racks and extended footpegs

Design and Aesthetics

Styling and Color Options

The Honda 250 Super Dream features a classic, utilitarian design with a focus on function. Its streamlined fuel tank, simple fairings, and upright riding position make it ideal for city commuting and casual riding. During its production years, it was available in various color schemes, including:

- Red
- Blue
- Black
- Green
- White

Build Quality

Honda's reputation for build quality is evident in the Super Dream's sturdy frame and reliable components. The motorcycle's straightforward design means fewer complex parts, which contributes to its longevity and ease of maintenance. Vintage models are known to withstand the test of time when properly cared for, making them popular among collectors.

Performance and Riding Experience

Handling and Ride Comfort

The Honda 250 Super Dream offers a smooth and predictable ride, thanks to its lightweight frame and well-balanced suspension. Its upright seating position provides comfort during city rides and longer commutes. The bike's relatively low seat height makes it accessible for riders of various sizes.

Power and Acceleration

With approximately 20 horsepower, the Super Dream provides adequate acceleration for urban and suburban riding. Its 4-speed manual transmission allows for controlled power delivery, making it suitable for novice riders and experienced enthusiasts alike.

Fuel Economy and Efficiency

The motorcycle's air-cooled 249cc engine is designed for fuel efficiency. Typical fuel consumption ranges from 40 to 50 km per liter, making it an economical choice for daily transportation and long-term ownership.

Maintenance and Restoration Tips

Regular Maintenance Tasks

1. Oil Changes: Regularly change the engine oil to ensure smooth operation.
2. Carburetor Cleaning: Keep the carburetor clean to maintain optimal fuel-air mixture.
3. Brake Inspection: Check drum brakes for wear and replace brake shoes as needed.
4. Chain Tension and Lubrication: Keep the chain properly tensioned and lubricated for safe riding.
5. Battery Check: Ensure the battery is charged and terminals are corrosion-free.

Restoring a Vintage Honda 250 Super Dream

For collectors and restorers, sourcing original parts is essential to maintaining authenticity. Some common restoration steps include:

- Repainting or touch-up of the bodywork in original colors
- Replacing worn-out rubber components like grips and seals
- Refurbishing the engine with new gaskets and seals
- Upgrading electrical components while preserving original wiring
- Restoring or replacing seat upholstery for a fresh look

The Enduring Appeal of the Honda 250 Super Dream

Why Collectors Covet Vintage Models

The Honda 250 Super Dream's reputation for durability, simplicity, and affordability has cemented its status among vintage motorcycle collectors. Its classic styling, coupled with reliable performance, makes it a desirable addition to any collection of nostalgic bikes.

Modern-Day Usage and Customization

While primarily a vintage or collector's item, some enthusiasts continue to ride and restore the Super Dream for daily commuting or leisure. Its straightforward mechanics allow for easy customization, including modifications to improve performance or aesthetics, such as:

- Replacing the carburetor for better fuel efficiency
- Adding modern lighting or instrumentation
- Custom paint jobs and decals
- Upgrading to disc brakes (where compatible)

Community and Support

Owners of the Honda 250 Super Dream benefit from a vibrant community of vintage motorcycle enthusiasts. Online forums, social media groups, and local clubs offer support, parts sourcing, and shared restoration tips, ensuring the model's legacy continues.

Conclusion: The Honda 250 Super Dream's Place in Motorcycle History

The **Honda 250 Super Dream** remains a symbol of Honda's commitment to producing practical, reliable, and efficient motorcycles. Its simple design, robust engineering, and timeless appeal have made it a favorite among collectors and riders seeking a vintage motorcycle that can still perform well today. Whether used as a daily commuter, a restoration project, or a collector's pride, the Super Dream exemplifies Honda's legacy of quality and innovation in the world of motorcycling.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the key features of the Honda 250 Super Dream?

The Honda 250 Super Dream features a 250cc single-cylinder engine, classic design, reliable performance, and easy handling, making it a popular choice among motorcycle enthusiasts.

Is the Honda 250 Super Dream suitable for beginners?

Yes, the Honda 250 Super Dream is known for its manageable power and user-friendly controls, making it a suitable option for beginner riders.

What is the fuel efficiency of the Honda 250 Super Dream?

The Honda 250 Super Dream offers impressive fuel efficiency, typically averaging around 35-40 km/l, depending on riding conditions and maintenance.

How does the Honda 250 Super Dream compare to other bikes in its class?

The Honda 250 Super Dream is praised for its durability, smooth performance, and affordability, often outperforming competitors in reliability and ease of maintenance.

Are spare parts and maintenance readily available for the Honda 250 Super Dream?

Yes, being a popular model, spare parts for the Honda 250 Super Dream are widely available, and authorized service centers can provide regular maintenance and repairs.

What are common issues faced by Honda 250 Super Dream owners?

Common issues may include carburetor tuning, starter motor problems, or wear on the suspension components, but overall, the bike is known for its durability with proper maintenance.

Is the Honda 250 Super Dream suitable for long-distance touring?

While it is primarily designed for city commuting and short rides, with proper modifications and accessories, it can be used for light touring, though it may not be ideal for very long-distance journeys.

Additional Resources

Honda 250 Super Dream: An In-Depth Review of a Classic Motorcycle

The Honda 250 Super Dream stands as a testament to Honda's enduring legacy in the world of motorcycles. Launched in the late 1970s and continuing its popularity into the early 1980s, this bike has garnered admiration for its reliability, efficiency, and user-friendly design. As a classic model, it appeals not only to vintage motorcycle enthusiasts but also to everyday riders seeking a dependable and affordable two-wheeler. In this comprehensive review, we will explore the Honda 250 Super Dream's history, design, performance, features, and overall value, providing a detailed guide to prospective buyers and enthusiasts alike.

Historical Context and Background

The Honda 250 Super Dream was introduced during a period when Honda was expanding its line of small to mid-sized motorcycles aimed at a broad consumer base. It was positioned as an accessible, fuel-efficient, and straightforward motorcycle—ideal for daily commuting, beginner riders, and those looking for a reliable second bike.

This model built upon Honda's reputation for engineering excellence and innovation. Its design was influenced by the need for simplicity, ease of maintenance, and durability, making it a popular choice in various markets across Asia, Africa, and even some parts of Europe. Its production spanned several years,

with minor updates, but the core features and design philosophy remained consistent.

Design and Aesthetics

Body and Frame

The Honda 250 Super Dream features a classic, utilitarian design characteristic of bikes from its era. Its frame is constructed from lightweight steel, offering a good balance of strength and weight. The overall silhouette is compact and ergonomic, making it suitable for city commuting and casual riding.

The body panels are simple, with minimal ornamentation, emphasizing functionality over flashiness. The fuel tank is modestly sized but designed for comfort and ease of handling. The seat is elongated and slightly padded, providing comfort for both rider and passenger.

Color Options and Visual Appeal

While the color palette was limited during its production run—typically including shades like red, black, blue, and green—the straightforward design and clean lines give the Super Dream a timeless appeal. Its classic look has aged well, and many owners appreciate its vintage charm.

Ergonomics and Comfort

The riding position is upright and natural, catering to everyday use. The handlebars are positioned for easy reach, and the footpegs are placed to provide a comfortable stance over extended rides. The seat height is accessible for a broad range of riders, contributing to its reputation as a user-friendly motorcycle.

Engine and Performance

Engine Specifications

The Honda 250 Super Dream is powered by a 249cc single-cylinder, four-stroke engine. This engine is air-cooled and features a simple four-valve configuration, delivering a smooth and predictable power output. It is known for its durability and low maintenance requirements.

Power and Acceleration

The engine produces approximately 20-22 horsepower, which, while modest by modern standards, is sufficient for city commuting and light touring. The bike accelerates steadily and provides enough torque for quick starts and moderate hill climbing.

Fuel Efficiency

One of the standout features of the Super Dream is its impressive fuel economy. Owners often report mileage figures exceeding 70-80 km/l (kilometers per liter), making it an economical choice for daily transportation.

Transmission and Handling

The motorcycle comes equipped with a 4-speed manual transmission, facilitating smooth gear changes. Its lightweight frame and well-balanced chassis contribute to nimble handling, making it easy to maneuver through traffic and on narrow roads.

Technical Features and Specifications

- Engine Type: 249cc, single-cylinder, four-stroke
- Cooling System: Air-cooled
- Maximum Power: 20-22 hp
- Transmission: 4-speed manual
- Brakes: Drum brakes front and rear
- Suspension: Telescopic front forks and twin shock absorbers at the rear
- Tire Size: 2.75-18 (front) and 3.00-18 (rear)
- Weight: Approximately 120 kg
- Fuel Tank Capacity: 10 liters

Pros and Cons

Pros:

- Excellent fuel economy, ideal for budget-conscious riders
- Reliable and low-maintenance engine

- Lightweight and easy to handle
- Simple design makes repairs and maintenance straightforward
- Comfortable upright riding position
- Durable build quality, suitable for daily commuting
- Vintage aesthetic with timeless appeal

Cons:

- Limited power for highway cruising or aggressive riding
- Drum brakes may feel less responsive compared to disc brakes
- Basic features without modern amenities (no electric start, no digital instrumentation)
- Slightly outdated design for some modern riders
- Limited storage options

Maintenance and Durability

The Honda 250 Super Dream is renowned for its durability and longevity. Regular maintenance—such as oil changes, valve adjustments, and brake checks—can keep the bike running smoothly for decades. Parts availability remains decent in regions where the model was popular, though some components may require sourcing from vintage or aftermarket suppliers.

Its simple mechanical design means that even amateur mechanics can perform routine repairs, making it an excellent choice for those interested in DIY maintenance. The engine's air-cooling system minimizes the need for complex radiator maintenance, further reducing upkeep costs.

Market Value and Collectibility

Today, the Honda 250 Super Dream is regarded as a classic motorcycle with a dedicated following. Its vintage status has appreciated its value among collectors and enthusiasts. Well-maintained models can fetch higher prices, especially those in original condition with minimal rust and original parts.

For riders seeking a nostalgic experience or a dependable vintage bike, the Super Dream offers excellent value. Its affordability combined with Honda's reputation for reliability makes it a smart investment.

Comparison with Contemporary Models

Compared to modern 250cc motorcycles, the Honda 250 Super Dream may seem lacking in advanced features such as digital dashboards, disc brakes, or electronic fuel injection. However, its simplicity, fuel efficiency, and durability remain unmatched for budget-conscious daily riders.

When viewed against other vintage bikes of the same era, it often stands out for its straightforward engineering and Honda's trusted brand name.

Final Verdict

The Honda 250 Super Dream is a classic motorcycle that embodies simplicity, reliability, and economy. Its modest power output and basic features make it ideal for city commuting, beginner riders, or vintage motorcycle enthusiasts. While it may lack modern amenities, its timeless design and durable build ensure it remains a beloved model decades after its initial release.

If you are seeking a vintage bike that offers practicality without sacrificing Honda's renowned engineering quality, the Super Dream is a compelling choice. Its low maintenance costs, excellent fuel efficiency, and nostalgic appeal continue to endear it to riders worldwide.

Conclusion

The Honda 250 Super Dream is more than just a motorcycle; it's a piece of Honda's rich history. Its balanced combination of simplicity, reliability, and affordability ensures that it remains relevant even in today's market. Whether for daily commuting, collecting, or simply experiencing a vintage ride, the Super Dream offers a fulfilling and dependable two-wheeled experience. With proper care, it can serve its owner well for many more years to come, standing as a testament to Honda's commitment to quality and innovation in motorcycle manufacturing.

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honda 250 super dream: Character-Building Stuff Declan Shorthall, 2012-07-17 I am 39 years old now and I began writing this book in 2008. I have an honors degree in Childhood and Youth Studies from Exeter University and over ten years experience working with young people in schools and within the care system in the UK. My story is about my life growing up in the care system and then trying to build a good life for myself. I hope it might help young people living a similar situation to remain hopeful for their futures. I hope that adults working with young people will find my book insightful and hopefully it will guide them in their working practice as well as change the way they view the young people they work with and their families. I have been very lucky in that I have gone on to do some good things and build a loving family of my own, although I won't pretend this was easy. Having to unlearn the things I had learned as a child and not just replicate them was hard work but worth every bit of sweat and every tear. I live in a small Somerset village in the UK with my family. I work with the Somerset Youth Offending Team and with children who have emotional and behavioral difficulties, many of whom are in or have been in residential care at some point. I have written this book for many reasons but mainly because growing up I didn't believe that I could have a good life. I honestly thought that good things weren't meant for the likes of me. I was wrong, and I want to give every child the chance to read about how I discovered this. I did manage

to break the cycle and I believe that we can all have a good life. It just might not come knocking at your door. I want those that work with young people to believe in them, every child and young person needs to believe that life is what we make it, not what others have predicted for us.

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