

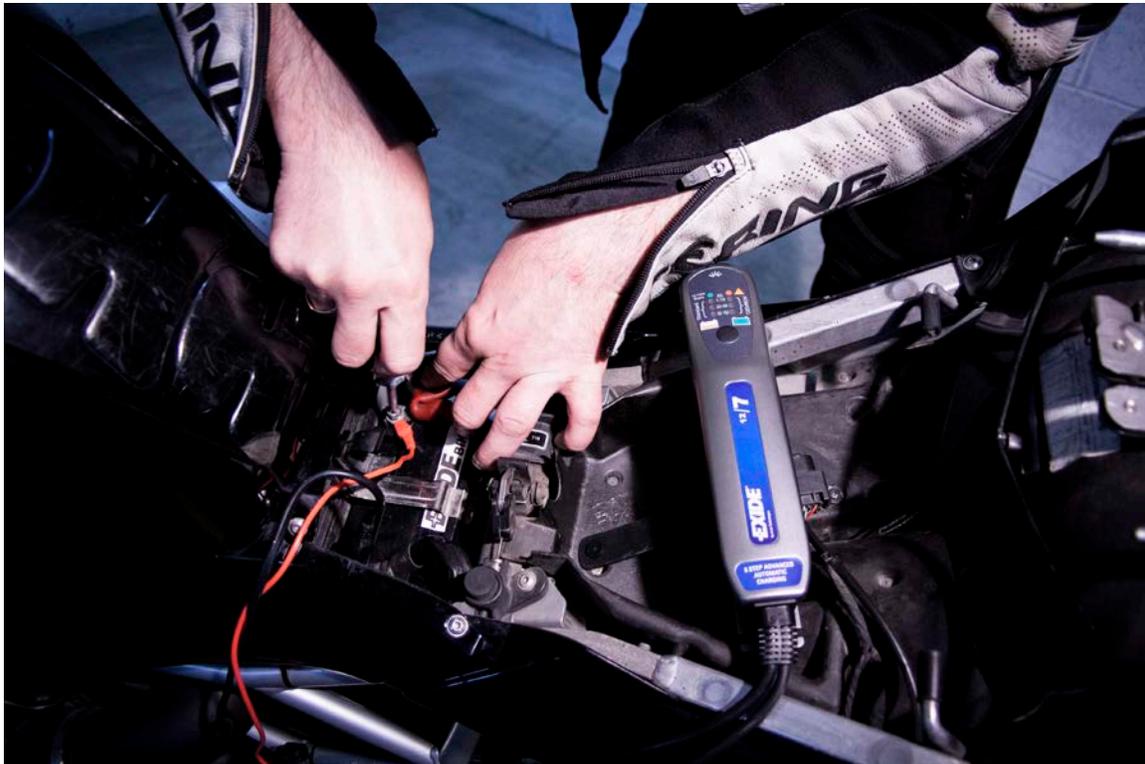
# Article

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## Get Your Bike Ready for Motorcycle Season

With the clocks moving forward and temperatures climbing, motorcycle season is finally here. There's a good chance your bike hasn't been out of the garage much, or at all, over the winter months. So to make sure it's ready for the road, follow these practical tips from battery specialists Exide Technologies. These will help you avoid any nasty surprises and prepare your bike for the year ahead.



**Chain.** Your bike's chain could probably do with cleaning and lubricating. Make sure the teeth and chain are not worn and fit together well, and see that the

tension is not too tight. You'll need to roll the bike forward at one point to check the entire chain, as it could stiffen or weaken in a single isolated spot.

**Tyres.** Tyres don't just wear down over time – they lose pressure too, so make sure they're at the recommended pressure before you take the bike out on the open road. Inspect the treads and look for any signs of significant wear. If your bike wheels have spokes, test each one for tightness – you don't need us to tell you how important this is.

**Oil.** If it's been a while since you took your bike out, it's a good idea to change the oil at the start of the season. This should be done fairly regularly anyway, as it helps to prevent the parts from degrading – so don't keep putting it off. As a general guideline it should be changed every few thousand miles, but consult your bike's manual for a more definite figure.

**Brakes.** Examine brake pads for wear and tear. Bleed and flush the brake fluid if it's due. The importance of a bike's braking system can't be overstated, so test both front and back brakes before hitting the road.

**Parts.** Check your bike's parts for deterioration, including spark plugs, cables and air filters. Keep the equipment clean, lubricated if necessary and in solid working condition. This will help keep your bike safe, and improve its performance and lifespan.

**Lights.** It seems obvious, but it's easy to overlook the state of your lights if you head out in bright daylight after a break from riding. So run a check on all your lights – front, back, brakes and indicators.

### Exide State-of-Charge Advisor

By leaving the Exide State-of-Charge Advisor permanently connected to your bike battery, you can quickly find out when it needs a charge.



**Battery.** If your bike hasn't been on the road for a while, the battery will need a good charge – Exide's 12/7 charger comes with an extra cable that can be left attached to the battery, so you avoid the hassle of removing the battery to charge it. Look also at the terminals and cables, ensuring everything is clean, secure and in good order. If your battery needs replacing, Exide recommends its Factory Sealed Gel/AGM or Maintenance Free AGM battery. These use advanced technology and are reliable, long-lasting and suitable for all kinds of weather. If you can, connect the battery to the charger after every use to keep it in top condition.

**Gear.** Before you strap on the helmet and go, take a few minutes to look it over, along with any other gear you wear or carry, like gloves, back protectors, safety kit and supplies. Scan the helmet carefully for any hairline cracks or structural flaws, and check the visor for scratches or cracks. If you come across even the slightest problem, always replace your helmet.

**Wash.** Finally, give your bike a thorough clean. You might even spot something you had missed, like a small leak or a loose fitting. When you're done your bike will look great and ready to go, especially if you follow with a wax or polish.

### The Exide Motorcycle Range

The Exide motorcycle range of batteries includes Factory Sealed Gel/AGM, Maintenance Free AGM, and Conventional. Exide also has its own battery tester and charger, ideal for keeping your bike running smoothly.

Exide has one of the most comprehensive fitment guides on the market, covering well over 90% of the parc. To find out more, speak to your local Exide representative or visit [www.exide.com](http://www.exide.com).



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## Usage

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## Disclaimer

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The recommendations and technical tips contained in this article are provided as a guide only. While Exide Technologies takes care to compile accurate information, we do it in partnership with third-party bike specialists and therefore cannot be held responsible for any inaccurate recommendations. Always check the technical specifications of the bike.

## Media contact

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## About Exide

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Exide Technologies, with operations in more than 80 countries, is one of the world's largest producers and recyclers of lead-acid batteries. The company's global business groups provide a comprehensive range of stored electrical energy products and services for industrial and transportation applications. Transportation markets include original-equipment and aftermarket automotive, heavy-duty truck, agricultural and marine applications, and new technologies for hybrid vehicles and automotive applications. Industrial markets include network power applications such as telecommunications systems, electric utilities,

railroads, photovoltaic (solar-power related) and uninterruptible power supply (UPS), and motive-power applications including lift trucks, mining and other commercial vehicles.

Further information about Exide, including its financial results, is available at [www.exide.com](http://www.exide.com).