STOP!

Service Bulletin - MX500/650 Spoke Re-tightening Procedure

A CAUTION: Regularly check the spoke tension and retighten the spokes whenever loose.

CHECKING SPOKE TENSION:

Verify spoke tension by grasping and shaking each spoke. The spoke should not be loose from the hub. Look for any play between the spoke flanges (see figure 1 for the parts of the spoke and figure 2 for the wheel assembly detail) where it mates with the hub. Try to turn the nipple using only your fingers. You should **not** be able to spin any nipple by hand. If one or more spokes are loose, or if you can turn any nipple using your fingers, all the spokes must be checked and need to be tightened with a spoke wrench.

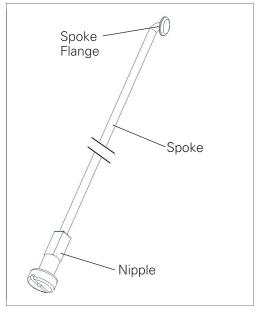


Figure 1: Parts of the spoke

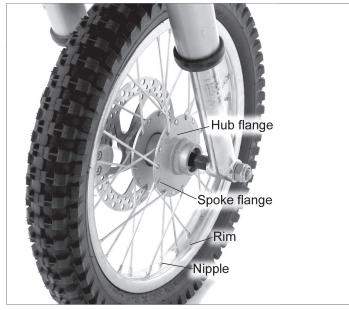


Figure 2: Wheel assembly detail

If you have any doubt, ask an experienced motorcycle or bicycle mechanic to inspect your spokes to determine if the spokes need tightening or adjusting.

Continued

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09/23/05

TIGHTENING SPOKE TENSION: REQUIRES A SPOKE WRENCH TOOL (PROVIDED)

Start at the nipple closest to the tire valve stem and tighten each spoke nipple, in sequence, exactly ½ to ½ turn (as shown in figures 3 and 4).

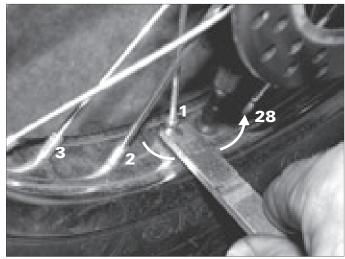


Figure 3: Tightening the nipple. Turn in direction of the arrow to tighten.

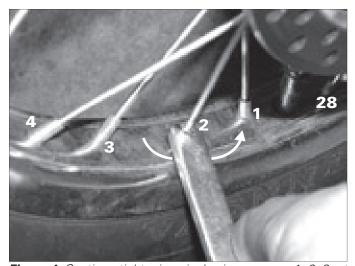


Figure 4: Continue tightening nipples in sequence 1, 2, 3, etc.

Continue tightening each nipple $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ turn at a time and in sequence starting at the valve stem. In the figure 4 photo, the wheel has 28 spokes.

A CAUTION: Tightening each nipple more than ½ turn each can cause the wheel to become distorted and wobbly thus permanently damaging the wheel.

A single $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ turn may not be enough to bring the spokes into proper tension. Continue tightening all spokes no more than $\frac{1}{2}$ turn in sequence until all spokes are tight.

For additional information, you can search the web for "wheel truing" for more tips and additional information on spoke wheels.

One site that is extremely informative: http://www.off-road.com/dirtbike/nov00rsWheelTruing.html

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