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Vintage Dirt Bikes: Enthusiasts Guide (Wolfgang Publications)



Synopsis

Suddenly, everyone wants one of those old dirt bikes from back in the day. Knobby tires, small two-cycle engines, four-speed transmission, and a full four inches of suspension travel. Those are the bikes that most baby boomers grew up on; the ones that young men rode into the ground and left to rot where ever they last fell. But no more. Now, those simple little Hondas, Yamahas, Harleys, and Pentons are making their way from the back of the garage to the front. From the barn to the shop. The shop where patient mechanics and enthusiasts are stripping them down and bringing them back to life. The questions for the prospective buyer is: What to bring home? Among the thousands and thousands of dirt bikes, scramblers, trials bikes, play bikes and early motocross bikes, which are the best bikes to make your own? Vintage Dirt Bikes will help the reader make that decision by providing information on all the most popular makes. For each bike, this new book provides four to six paragraphs describing the bike in general terms. In addition, bullet points for each model include the following information: Relative cost to acquire, value when finished, and which are most likely to offer the most fun for the money. Readers will also find what to look for when checking the condition of items such as paint, suspension, frame, and engine. A general section at the back of the book will offer the reader help deciding where to buy classic bikes, where to get parts, who to call for help, and which parts of the restoration should be farmed out to experts with specific skills.

Book Information

Series: Wolfgang Publications
Paperback: 144 pages
Publisher: Wolfgang Publications (October 16, 2014)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1929133316
ISBN-13: 978-1929133314
Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.3 x 11 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 3.1 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #1,106,936 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #86 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Individual Sports > Cycling > Bike Repair #304 inÂ Books > Engineering & Transportation > Automotive > Motorcycles > Repair & Performance #10034 inÂ Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation

Customer Reviews

"Very highly recommended reading for motorcycle enthusiasts, Vintage Dirt Bikes: Enthusiasts Guide will prove to be especially useful to anyone considering acquiring or restoring a vintage dirt bike for themselves." (James A. Cox Midwest Book Watch 2015-01-12)Listed among "9 Great Motorcycle Books" article. (Motorcycle Classics 2015-08-21)

Doug Mitchel started his career as a professional journalist over 20 years ago. Today he is listed as author of over 20 books, all illustrated with his own very high quality photographs. Doug is also a regular contributor to a variety of magazines, from American Iron to Iron Works.

I received this book today and I am very disappointed, I got my first dirt bike in 1971 and the last one was a 1985 model I sold in about 1990. After reviewing the write ups, this book falls way short of mainstream dirt bikes, the bikes covered are minimal and a good part insignificant, many were covered were not popular. I wished I had saved my money and recomend you not waste yours

Although I like this book and am glad I bought it I was a little disappointed in some aspects of it. I think it would have benefited from some professional editing although that is a small quibble I guess and seems par for the course for much publishing today. It didn’t cover a lot of bikes I would like to have seen but that also means perhaps a new, volume 2 could be produced to cover in more material. If so, I’d buy that as well.

A number of inaccuracies here (Pacific Based Trading Company, for instance) and some degree of opinion replacing pure facts, but overall solid, and nice pics.

The book suffers from an egregious technical omission. How in the world do you write a book on this topic and not include the preeminent brand Husqvarna! The Swedish brand was a pioneer in the creation of high quality, agile, and world championship caliber bikes. The author should immediately publish an updated version with a proper Husky on the cover and a possible gatefold of the bike ridden by the motocross legend Thorsten Hallman. The author should have taken the time to properly research the subject to avoid such an oversight. All the other bikes shown in the book are well photographed and have nice write ups. Maybe I’ll use the book for traction the next time I ride my Husqvarna.

Anyone into vintage dirt bikes will like it but it is better suited to a novice.

Kinda blah and to generic. Recommend for people new to dirt bikes.

Very nice photos!!! Good info on vintage dirt bikes!!

great book

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