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GreaseSpot #17 Chain Cleaning – Part 2

The purpose of the 'GreaseSpot' is to share ideas and tips on 'two wheel vehicle' maintenance (Bicycle and Motorcycle). Questions, ideas and tips come from our fellow riders, and they can be on most any topic of maintenance. GreaseSpot #16 focused on 'Repairing Paint Scratches and Surface Corrosion'; if you would like us to resend this GreaseSpot just let us know (info@grease ninja.com).

More information on Chain Cleaning...

We've been receiving comments on Chain Cleaning and wanted to share several of them.

- 1) Chain Cleaning: From RK America (Chain Manufacturer): We would recommend that you use a mineral based O-Ring safe chain cleaner. RK recommends that you douse a rag with the mineral based O-ring cleaner and wipe the dirt off the chain. Do not use wire or hard bristle brushes to clean a sealed chain. The wire or hard bristle bristles can catch or damage the seals reducing the life of the chain. Then, after cleaning the chain and before lubrication, go for a short ride around the block to remove most of the chain cleaner from the chain. After the short ride, follow up with a quality chain lubricant designed for sealed chains while the chain is still warm.
- 2) Steam Cleaning Sealed Chains: The availability of household steam cleaners has some thinking about using steam to clean chains. D.I.D and RK recommend not using steam to clean sealed chains because of the possibility of removing the factory lubricant from behind the seals.
- 3) Steam Cleaning non-sealed Chains: Steam cleaning is again not recommended because the water will be extremely difficult to remove from hidden areas between the link plates and between the roller and pin. Moisture remaining in the chain components will, in time, cause rust.
- 4) Cleaning with hi-pressure water can also have a similar effect as steam cleaning. Per RK America: "If you use steam or water, we would recommend spraying a rag with WD-40 and wipe the chain to disburse the water."

Cleaning the GreaseNinja Spray Tube...

A Tip from Jeff in Colorado: "I use Torx chain wax and it wants to clog the little tube. I found some 26 gauge "Bright Paddle Wire" in my shop that my wife got at the hobby store to put decorations on Christmas wreaths. After using the Grease Ninja I slide a length of the wire inside the tube and put it away until the next use. The wire keeps the tube clear and open. Any stiff 26 gauge wire should work."

If you have an idea on maintenance; please share it with us. If we use it, we will send you a GreaseNinja® Spray Tube Kit or First Aide Starter Kit in appreciation. www.GreaseNinja.com

Thanks....Earl

