

Drive Belt Change Tips

See Service Manual Page 4-89, plus also consider these tips as you go along:

- Loosen rear brake caliper to swing-arm bolt, notice rear brake hose route.
- Raise rear wheel. Loosen both drive belt adjustment screws equal turns.
- Use 6-point 27mm (1-1/16") hex socket to remove swing-arm pivot.
- Jiggle the swing-arm to get a ~2" gap, then thread belt onto front pulley.
- Thread belt onto rear pulley, reinstall swing-arm pivot pin with grease.

May Also Need to Loosen or Remove:

- Upper and Lower Belt Guards
- Some Exhaust Pipes
- Rear Master Cylinder

Notes:

1. The guys who have permanently removed their upper and lower belt guards can skip their removal when they install a new drive belt with the rear tire installed on the swing-arm.
2. The guys who retain the upper and/or lower belt guards need to remove them to install a drive belt with the rear tire installed on the swing-arm.
3. The guys who have relocated their rear master cylinder (like a relo bracket with S* or Bubs pipes) often have shorter available brake hose length so be careful of it.

Source: <http://rswarrior.com/forums/t/141459.aspx> (edited for spelling and format)

Laflamj 04 Sept 2009 1:01am

Belt is very easy to change. You just need a motorcycle jack and a few hand tools. You'll need to take out the swing-arm shaft, but you don't have to take the swing-arm off. It lifts up and the belt slides through the spot where the swing arm bolts to the frame. A few more bolts from under the front drive pulley cover and you gold buddy. Shouldn't take more then 20 minutes.

Bruce59 04 Sept 2009 5:09am

For belt... put on jack, remove rear wheel, front pulley cover, four bolts on rear engine mount (which you'll see under pulley cover), slide out the swing-arm pivot bolt and let it lever down creating the opening you need to slip the belt in place.

Southbound Chicken 04 Sept 2009 8:04am

You don't need to remove the rear wheel to change the belt.

JamesD 04 Sept 2009 8:12am

You don't have to remove the wheel but it might make it more manageable. The only suggestion I would make is make sure you have a socket large enough to remove the nut holding the swing-arm in place before you start. I had to make a trip to sears in the middle of my first belt installation.

Drive Belt Change Tips

Southbound Chicken 04 Sept 2009 12:18pm

Jack the bike up on a motorcycle jack till the rear tire is almost clear of the floor then remove the swing arm pivot bolt, this allows the front of the swing arm to drop enough so that you can snake the belt in then reposition the swing arm and slide the bolt back in, adjust belt as needed and your done, might take me 10 or 15 minutes tops.

Southbound Chicken 05 Sept 2009 6:25am

OK without holding me to a stop watch I have found that changing the belt to be a lot easier by leaving the tire/wheel where its at assuming all you need to do is swap the belt, once you develop a "system", for what ever it is you are doing, things move along fairly swiftly.