



Emergency Kit for Motorcycles

This is a list of recommended items for all motorcycle riders that plan to take trips off the beaten path or over a long weekend or longer. As the Boy Scout motto states “Be Prepared” or at least be somewhat prepared for 90% of what is thrown at you, I always say.

Your motorcycle emergency (prep) kit should include something to carry the stuff in either saddle bags, or a pack tied to your sissy bar. I know what you’re saying I travel light I don’t want to be tied down with a heavy load. That might be well and good if nothing goes wrong. But it’s been my experience that if something can go wrong it will go wrong. Some of the issues I’ve had to deal with over the years have been loose battery cables, shifter pegs coming loose, blown fuses, flat tires, riding buddies with muscle issues and the list goes on and on. If you’ve been riding a while you too have stories to share. Had I not been prepared I would have been sitting on the side of the road waiting on someone to rescue me, but that was not the case and after a few minutes of road side maintenance or basic first aid I was back on the road.

- **Cell Phone**
 - With your ICE tag (In Case of Emergency Contact numbers)
- **Toolkit**
 - Most bikes come with toolkits, but you'll want to make sure you're equipped with:
 - Pliers (Locking type is my choice)
 - Various wrenches (including Allen wrenches and at least one adjustable.)
 - Spark plug socket
 - Screw Driver (Phillips & Flat), a multi fit driver with an assortment of fittings will work in a pinch.
 - A small, all-in-one Leatherman®-style tool can be a handy.
 - Tire Gauge
 - Assorted small items:
 - zip ties
 - assort fuses
 - super glue
 - lock tight
 - A small amount of duct tape rolled up on itself (this can be life saver).
 - Extra bulbs
- **Flashlight**
 - Ever been caught in the dark? A flashlight will save you the hassle of trying to use your cell phone for illumination. I have one that is magnetic, in case I’m caught by myself.
- **Tire Repair Kit**
 - A flat kit which includes CO₂ cartridges or a small compressor for tire inflation will get you on the road again.
- **First Aid Kit**
 - A first aid kit is something you never want to be without-- whether its poison ivy or an ankle burn from an exhaust pipe, the cliché about an ounce of prevention is absolutely true. Rather than assembling your own supplies, an easier and more thorough solution is to purchase a pre-assembled kit, which will ensure that key items are not missing.



This sounds like a lot but it’s really not and it all can fit easily in the bottom or your saddle bags if you have um. Think of these items as some sort of insurance policy: hopefully you’ll never need to use them, but if you do, they will be worth their weight in gold.

Scott Brown

Central Midwest HOG – Head Road Captain/ Safety Officer

CMHOG.Safety@gmail.com