



scooterhelp.com

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE



NOTICE

To keep your VESPA in perfect running order and not to invalidate the guarantee offered by the contract, it is advisable to entrust repairs only to retailers or authorized service stations.

Demand original **Piaggio** spare parts exclusively. All PIAGGIO spares are made of the same material, have undergone the same machining steps and inspections as the components of your VESPA. This means guarantee for long life and normal performance of your machine and for your personal safety.

Special care should be taken with regard to fuel mixture which should consist of a good quality gasoline and oil of make, grade and in the amount prescribed in this booklet, page 20.

INDEX OF MAIN DIRECTIONS

Introduction	78 -	90		×	- 6	page	5	Electric wiring	*			
Technical da	ta					36	6	Accessories	8	6	40	18
Identification	clata					36	6	Operation				20
Description:	engine	30			-		8	Maintenance	20	-		scooterhelp.com
	controls	1			-	4	12	Lubrication chart	2			30
	frame		8	+		>	13	Fault finding			-	📈 33

The descriptions and illustrations in this booklet are not to be taken as binding on the Manufacturer. The essential features of the model described and illustrated herein remaining unattered, the PLAGGIO Firm reserves therefore the right to carry out at any moment, without being obliged to bring this booklet up-to-date in due course, modification that may occur concerning machine units and parts, or delivery of accessories, that the Firm deems to be convenient on improvement purposes or for what may concern manufacturing or commercial requirements.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The « Piaggio Co. » welcoming your in the family of the Vespa owners, wishes to thank your for your preference, trusting that this scooter will be of your satisfaction.

For its characteristics (comfort, low fuel consumption, noiseless running, neatness etc.) the Vespa can have a large field of use: for work purpose as well as tourist trips, both along large highways and narrow farm roads.

Long and hard rides will not worry you and, driving the Vespa, you will soon realize its excellent performance.

This booklet, in which the simple instructions for operation and maintenance can be found, will enable you to know better your own Vespa and use it in the most sortable way.

scooterhelp.com

TECHNICAL DATA

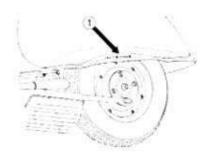


Fig. 2 - Stamping on frame (1)

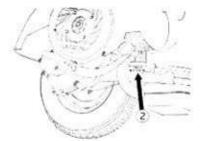


Fig. 3 - Stamping on engine (2)

Fuel consumption (CUNA Standards)

2.2 liters to 100 Km (107 miles per USA gals; 128 miles per imp. gals).

Max speed (CUNA) 85 Km h(53 m.p.h.)

Carrying capacity 2 persons and 10 Kg.

(22 lbs) of luggage.

Range 360 Km (225 miles)
Wheel base 1180 mm (46.4")
Handlebars width . . 710 mm (27.9")

Max length 1735 mm (68.3")

Max height . . . 1020 mm (40.1")

Ground clearance . . 130 mm (5.1"

Min. turning circle . . 1500 mm (59")

Weight (without fuel) 86 Kg (191 lbs)

IDENTIFICATION DATA

Serial numbers with prefix VBA are shimped on both frame and engine scootechelp.com indicated on Figs. 2 and 3 respectively.

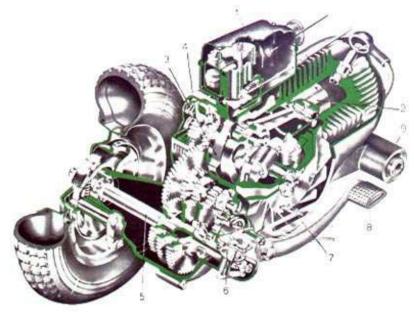


Fig. 4 - Section of engine

scooterhelp.com

Air cleaner and carburettor - 2. Piston - 3. Crankshaft - 4. Clutch - 5. Mainshaft with gear pinton of Gear shifter - 7. Flywhool magneto - 5. Kick-starter - 9. Crankcase arm couldn't dely pivoted to the triple.

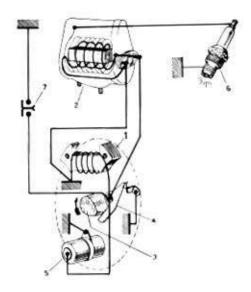


Fig. 5 - Ignition diagram

In Ignition coil in flywheel magneto - 2. External H. T. coil - 3. Rotor cam - 4. Breaker - 5. Condenser - 6. Sparkplug - 7. Engine cut out on switch.

Such numbers and prefixes identify the Vespa as prescribed by law and are repeated on the test card and other documents of the Vespa.

They must be quoted when ordering spares.

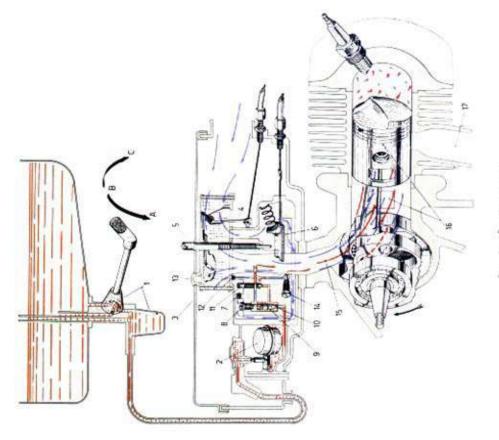
ENGINE

Single horizontal cylinder, two-stroke, with deflector piston and rotary valve, i. e.: fuel mixture flow to the cylinder is controlled by the rotation of a crankweb (see Fig. 4).

The engine works on a 2% gasoline-oil mixture.

Bore		,	0.700	100	117		57	mm	(2.24")
Stroke		110	0.00	140	17.0	900	57	mm	(2.24")
Displac	en	ner	nt	-	1000	14	5.45	cc (8	8.8	8 cu,in)
Compr		in		atio	3				1	R to 1

The engine is pivoted to the chassis of scooter through the cylindric arm of the crankcase half, clutch side, provided with a spindle and two bushes \$600 terhalp.com Its vibrations are damped by the rear su-



scooterhelp.com

spension with variable rate coil spring and hydraulic damper (see also page 13). The rear wheel is secured to the end of mainshaft.

Ignition by an external H.T. coil with pri-

mary winding fed by another coil inside the flywheel magneto (see Fig. 5). Sparkplug: Marelli CW 240 A - T, AC 42 F, Champion L. 5, Bosch W 240 T1. Ignition timing with spark advance of 28 + 1°.

Lubrication of piston, cylinder, wrist pin, connecting rod, crankshaft, main bearings is attended to by the content of oil in the fuel mixture.

Both clutch and gear box operate in oil bath,

Fuel supply by gravity with gasoline-oil mixture.

The carburettor is embodied in the air cleaner case, has a plate-shaped slide valve and immersed jets.

Fuel tank with total capacity of 7.7 liters (2.03 USA gals; 1.7 imp. gals) and emergency reserve of about 1.4 I (0.37 USA gals; 0.3 imp. gals).

Three way tap («off» - «on» - «reserve»).

Transmission. The engine (see Fig. 4 directly drives the rear wheel through clutch, cush drive and gear box.

Engine to wheel transmission ratios:

First: 12.2 to 1 Second: 7.46 to 1 Third: 4.73 to 1

Clutch. Multiplate, with lining bonded to the driving discs (see Fig. 4). Control by lever, on left hand side of han-

dlebars (see Fig. 8), and adjustable cable.

Gear box. 3-speed drive with mesh gears in oil bath (see Fig. 4). Its adjustable twistgrip control in soupled with that of the clutch, on left with the clutch, on scoote repricements.

of handlebars (see Fig. 8). SC



Starting. By means of kickstarter, right hand side of scooter. The multiplate gear and consequently the engine are set in motion through a ratchet sector and a gear by operating the kick-starter.

Cooling effected at all engine speeds by a centrifugal fan (see Fig. 7).

Muffler. Expansion and absorption combined type with very high silencing efficiency.

Air cleaner mounted inside the body. Air goes to the carburettor through a large flexible inlet tube, a silencing chamber and porous filtre, which ensures a very quiet air intake.

We recommend not to after the muttler and the air cleaner but to keep them in perfect efficiency, in order that the noise level does not exceed the limits prescribed by law.

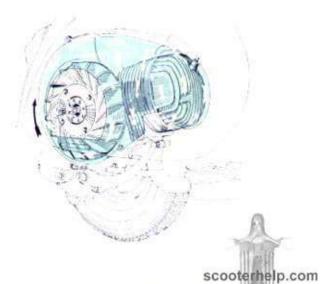
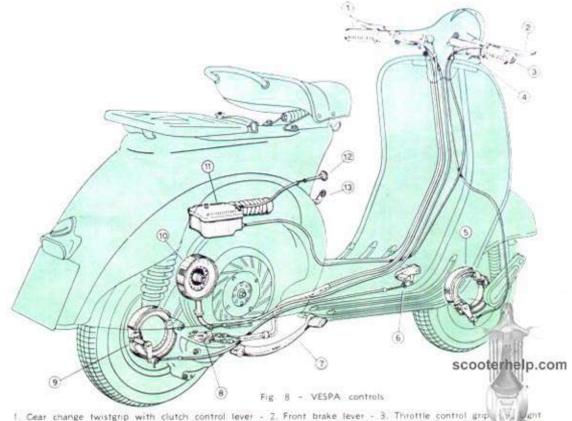


Fig. 7 - Engine cooling scheme



1. Cear change twistgrip with clutch control lever - 2. Front brake lever - 3. Throttle control grip LV. Vent and dip switch - 5. Front brake shoes - 6. Rear brake pedal - 7. Kickstarter - 8. Gear shifter Rear brake shoes - 10. Clutch - 11. Carburettor, air cleaner - 12. Choke control lever - 13. Fuel tap.

FRAME

Stressed skin body of pressed steel sheet, (see Fig. 1), with streamlined, monocoque type structure. It gives full protection to the driver, to the passenger and to the machine units; it is completed in this function by the mudguard and, on the two sides, by the steel sheet engine bonnet and tool box.

Handlebars in light alloy, with arrangement for head lamp and speedometer. All control cables and electric wires, connected to the handlebars, are concealed inside them (see Fig. 8).

Steering column, suspension and wheels, The steering column bears the handlebars, clamped on its top end, and the front wheel swinging hub, pivoted at its bottom end through a stub axle (see Fig. 9). Front suspension with variable rate coil spring and double action hydraulic damper. Rear suspension: swinging bracket for en-



Fig. 9 - Engine and suspension

- 1. Steering column and front suspension
- 2. Engine
- 3. Pivoting arm of crankcase half, clutch side
- 4. Rear suspension spring and hydraulic shock-attended

is arranged on the frame, near the handlebars. Turning the key anticlockwise and the handlebars to the left, the lock engages the lugs welded on the steering column, so that the machine can only turn around. Turn the key clockwise for releasing the steering system (see Fig. 10).

We recommend not to lubricate the steering lock, even if it does not function properly.

Do not attempt to ride the machine unless the key is in, and remains in, the lock and the handlebars move freely.

Speedometer. The speedometer is housed in the central portion of the handlebars (see Fig. 10) and adds to the appearance of the scooter.

It is driven by the front wheel, the flex drive being completely enclosed in the steering column.

The speedometer dial is lit during night riding by a bulb installed in suitable position in the head lamp.

WIRING

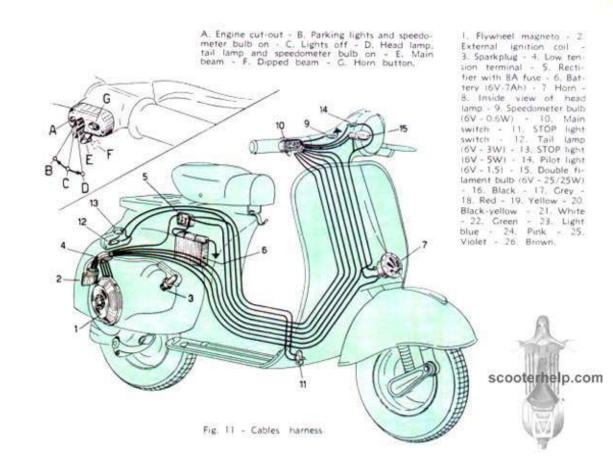
Either alternating or direct current for both horn and lighting system is supplied as follows (see Figs. 11-12).

- Main and dipped beam, tail lamp and horn are directly fed with a.c. by the six-pole flywheel magneto (nominal voltage: 6 V).
- Parking lights, front and rear, and the Stop light are with d.c. by a 6V-7Ah battery which is re-charged by the flywheel magneto through a metal rectifier.
- The 6V 0.6W speedometer bulb is fed by either a.c. or d.c.

The **head lamp**, \varnothing 115 mm (4.5"), installed in the handlebars, has a 25.25 W double filament bulb (main and dipped beam), and with a 1.5 W bulb (pilot light and parking light).

The tail lamp, with red reflecto\$Cooterhelp.com bulb which also illuminates the number.





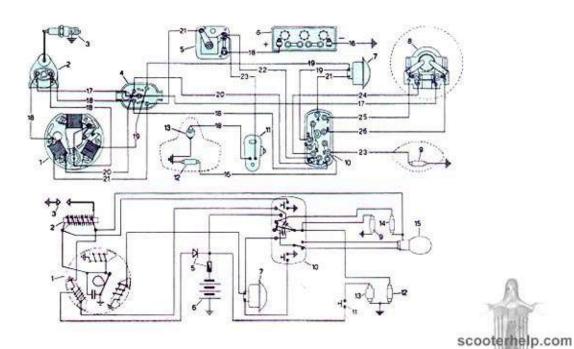


Fig. 12 - Electric wiring diagram

plate and a 5 W bulb for the STOP light. The light and dip switch unit, with two levers is installed on the right hand side of the handlebars (see Fig. 11); one of the control levers has three positions:

- pilot light, tail lamp and speedometer bulb on;
- lights off;
- head lamp, tail lamp and speedometer bulb on;

the other one gives the two lighting conditions of the head lamp (main and dipped beam with tail light).

The switch has also two push buttons for cut-out and horn respectively.

TOOL KIT

1 four-ended box wrench (11-14-21-22 mm); 2 double open-ended wrenches (11-14 and 7-10 mm); 1 single open-ended wrench (8 mm); 1 screwdriver.

These tools are contained in a canvas roll which is placed in the left wing together with this booklet and the test card.

ACCESSORIES

On request the Vespa 150 can be equipped with following accessories.

Rear saddle of the nose pivoted, sprung type, to be secured to three chassis holes after removing the luggage rack.

The central spring is adjustable to the driver's weight.

A foam rubber pillion seat can be used instead of the rear saddle. The seat can be secured to the rear luggage rack of the scooter.

Both rear saddle and foam rubber seat are small and attractive looking and give remarkable comfort to the passenger, thus completing the efficiency of suspension (see Fig. 13).

Spare wheel and bracket. The terminal p.com be secured in two ways to the scroter:



- a. in front, by a light alloy bracket secured to the scooter longeron by means of two screws.
- b. at the rear, by a steel sheet pressing, provided with spacers, to be clamped onto the frame, under the luggage carrier or the rear saddle, by means of the three screws securing the latter.

A ready re-starting of the scooter after a puncture is made possible by the spare wheel; the latter is held by either bracket in such a position where it is easily accessible and does not inconvenience the driver at all.

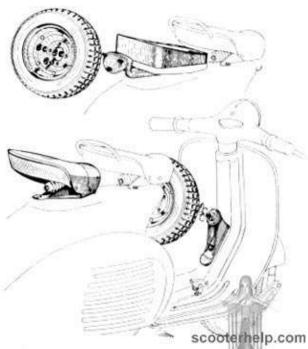


Fig. 13 - Pillion seat, spare wheel and bracks

Owing to the simple and rational design of Vespa scooter, no particular experience is required for its operation, nor skilled personnel for its maintenance. The tasks can be carried out by any customer, even unexperienced, by following some general rules.

OPERATION

Fuel to be used during and after running-in should be a 2% mixture of gasoline and ESSO SAE 30 2T. Two-Stroke Oil, i.e.: 20 cc of oil per liter of gasoline, or 1/4 pint per 11/2 gallon resp.

We recommend to use good quality, standard grade car gasoline, and to mix it with oil thoroughly. Keep the breather of filling cap clean.

Running-in. Important rules to be followed while running-in 2000 Km (1200 miles):

- Do not exceed following speeds:
 - 1st gear: 20 Km/h (13 mph) 2nd gear: 35 Km/h (22 mph)
 - 3rd gear: 55 Km/h (34 mph)
- Do not hold these speeds for long periods neither use full throttle up-hill.

- Change oil in the gear box and check that nuts and bolts are not slack after the first 1000 Km (600 miles).
- Check that carburettor is well blocked on crankcase so that no air infiltrations may occur.

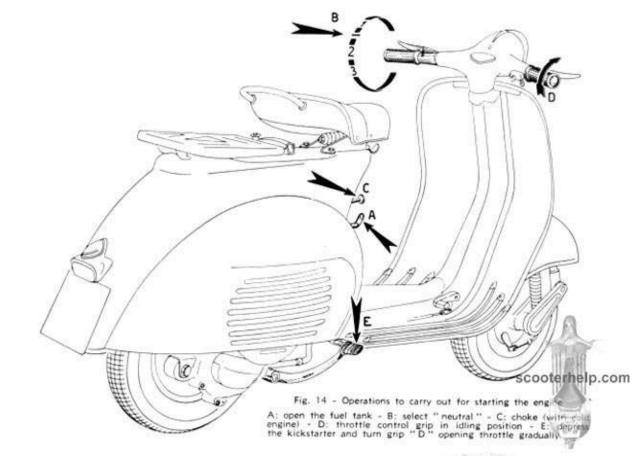
Starting the engine. See (Fig. 6) the three positions of the tap: on, off, reserve.

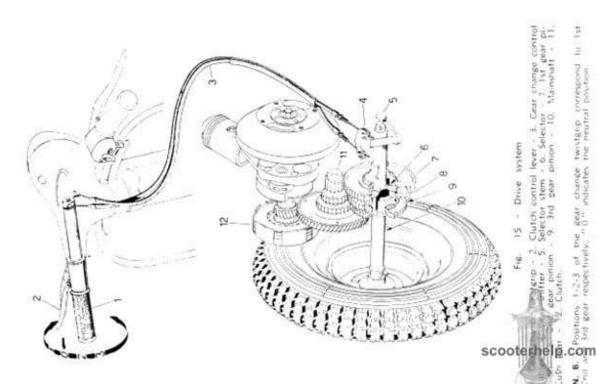
Open the fuel tap, put the gear box in neutral (Fig. 14-15) and the throttle in slow running position, then depress the starting lever.

Lift the choke rod when the engine is cold; push said rod back as soon as the engine starts.

scooterhelp.com In case of starting troubles due to engine







being flooded (unvaporized fuel mixture has reached the cylinder, and combustion becomes therefore very difficult), proceed according to either one of following methods.

 Push-start the scooter: engage second gear, depress the clutch and push the machine to a certain speed; suddenly release the clutch lever and pull it back as soon as the engine fires.

— Close the fuel tap, remove sparkplug and action the engine by means of the kickstarter; wipe the plug dry and screw it back. Open the fuel tap and depress the starting lever.

Be careful while re-assembling the sparking plug: start screwing it by hand at the proper angle to avoid damaging the cylinder: use the box wrench just for the last turns.

Setting the machine in motion. Let the engine idle, lift the clutch and turn the gear change twistgrip (L.H.) so that the line engraved on it coincides with the figure «1» (1st gear) engraved on handlebars (see Fig. 15). Now let in the clutch gently, while opening the throttle gradually to set the machine in motion.

Gear change. After reaching the required speed in 1st gear, quickly close the throttle, lift the clutch and turn the gear change twistgrip so that the engraved line is opposite figure « 2 » (2nd gear); let in the clutch and open the throttle.

Repeat this procedure for changing into 3rd gear and for changing down.

When you reduce the speed of your machine, change down without delay. See the drive system on Fig. 15.

Do not turn the gear change twistgrip while the engine is not running.

As soon as gear change troubles arise, customers should have their machines adjusted by a Retailer or autorized service station.

Slow running adjustment. Idling revs can be raised or reduced respectively by simply tightening or slackening, either with a screwdriver or by hand, the knowledge need comscrew on air cleaner steel sheet cover use



Fig. 16 - Removing the inner tube

Fig. 6, No. 9). The screw controls the slide valve of throttle.

The adjuster screw for the throttle control cable is installed on the air cleaner case (see Fig. 6, No. 11). This screw is to be re-set only if necessary and while dismantling and re-assemling.

Opposite to said adjuster screw there is on the air cleaner case a plugged hole for access to another screw (spring-loaded) with a tapering end (see Fig. 6. No. 7). This screw controls the flow of carburated air through the duct from the idling jet, and consequently the idling revs. We recommend to the customer to keep from re-setting this screw, unless strictly indispensable or during dismantling and re-assembling operations that should, anyway, be entrusted to a Service Station.

Stopping the engine. Push the earth button; this will leave the cylinder full of fuel vapours, and the next start will be easier.

Tyres. The wheels are interchangeable, i. e. they can be assembled either in front or rear, provided, of course, that they are inflated to the pressures subsequently prescribed.

For replacing a flat tyre, unscrew the four nuts which secure the wheel; pull the latter sideways off the studs, repsecute the poon fit on the spare wheel.

Make sure that the spring washers are present when re-assembling the wheel: tighten the nuts diagonally and evenly.

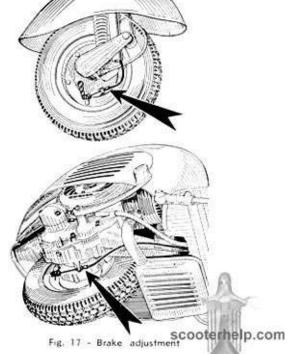
For removing the inner tube, deflate it first, then unscrew the six nuts on the wheel. so that the two halves of the rim fall apart (see Fig. 16).

Tyre pressure should be 1.25-1.4 Kg/cmg (17.7-20 psi) on rear wheel, and 0.8-1 Kg/cmg (11.3-14.2 psi) on front wheel. When the Vespa is ridden by two persons, the pressure of the rear tyre should be increased to 2-2.2 Kg/cmg (28.5-31.3 psi).

Brake adjustment. Brakes are properly adjusted if:

- the wheel rotates freely when respective control lever or pedal are in resting position.
- the braking action starts as soon as respective controls are operated.

These conditions are obtained adjusting the cables by means of screws indicated with an arrow in Fig. 17.

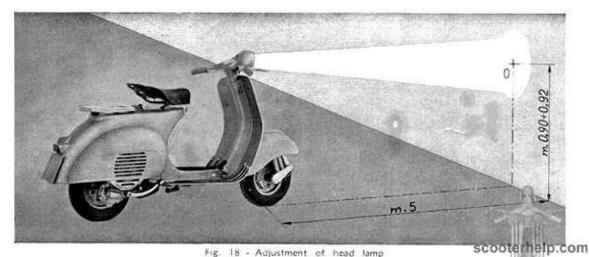




MAINTENANCE

Setting the head lamp. The correct orien- Check that both front and rear tyres are tation of the main beam can be obtained both horizontally and vertically as follows.

inflated to 1 and 2.2 atm (14.2 and 31.3 psi) respectively.



N. B. - Dimension + O + relates to adjustment carried out with driver and passenger on the machine

Place the scooter on a level floor in front of a white wall as seen on Fig. 18. Start the engine, hold the throttle control twistgrip at about 1/3 and set the switch on « main beam ».

With two persons on the Vespa, slacken the two screws securing the head lamp, then move the latter as required in order that the beam axis coincides with point « O » on the wall.

Tighten the screws firmly.

This operation can be carried out also with driver only sitting on the saddle.

In this case, of course, the beam alignment should be altered whenever the scooter is being ridden by both driver and passenger.

Cleaning the scooter. Brushing with paraffin and wiping dry with clean rags is advisable for external cleaning of engine. All painted surfaces should be washed with water, cleaned using a sponge and wiped dry with chamois leather. Do not use paraffin on such surfaces as it damages paint and turns it dull.

If necessary, blow the head lamp reflector clean or wipe off dust with a very soft feather brush. Do not use a cloth and keep fingers off the reflector surface.

Before setting the machine in motion

- Check oil level in gear box by unscrewing on the crankcase, the level screw marked « OLIO» (see Fig. 20, No. 1).
 With the scooter standing upright, oil should just be about to flow out.
- Be sure that the positive pole (+) of the battery is connected to the red cable, and the negative pole (—) is connected to the black cable.

A wrong connection will cause the rectifier to be inefficient and entirely damage the battery

Screw down the cell caps firms contented com entrance of impurities.

After the first 1000 Km (600 miles)

Warm up the engine and drain off all oil through the hole provided.

Pour some fresh oil in and run the engine for a few seconds. Drain again and refill with about 0.18 Kg (0.4 lbs) of ESSO MOTOR OIL 30.

See also page 20.

Every 4000 Km (2500 miles)

- Remove the air cleaner from the carburettor and agitate in a 30% oil-gasoline bath.
 - 2) Check oil level in the gear box.
- Clean the two lubricators of front wheel hub and refill them using a grease gun.
- Grease all joints on the brake controls.
- Grease the felt which lubricates the cam of flywheel magneto.
- Clean the sparkplug electrodes with a metal brush or very fine emery cloth, and adjust the gap to 0.6 mm (0.023 in).

Inspect the insulation material of sparkplug, replace if the porcelain is cracked. Wash with neat gasoline.

Use the type sparkplug prescribed by the Company. We remind owners that the use of an approved sparkplug will prevent many engine troubles.

Lubricate the speedometer drive pinion and flex drive.

All operations indicated hereunder should be carried out by authorized Service Stations.

 Clean the muffler exhaust pipe and decarbonize the engine as explained in following notes.

Remove the muffler, the cooling hood, the cylinder head and cylinder.

Decarbonize the piston crown, the dylinder ports and the inner side of the cylinder head. Carefully clear the cylinder of carbon deposits.

scooternelp.com

Heat the exhaust pipe of the muffler and

clean it either by scraping it internally with a hooked wire or blowing air through from the opposite end; in both cases the muffler should be held so that the exaust pipe is pointing downwards.

Every 8000 Km (5000 miles)

1) - Clean the breaker points.

In order to avoid ignition troubles or abnormal running, have the breaker points adjusted in a service station: the gap (see Fig. 19, "A") should be 0.3-0.5 mm (0.011" to 0.019), and the points should begin to open when the current in the primary ignition circuit has reached its peak value.

- 2) Lubricate the control cables and the gear shifter.
- 3) Change the oil in the gear box (see page 28).
- 4) In case of damper troubles contact your authorised service station.

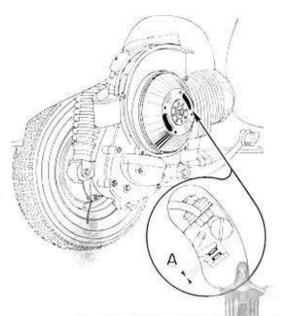


Fig. 19 - Breaker poirscooterhelp.com

Max gap: 0.3-0.5 mm (0.011-0.019")



LUBRICATION CHART

PARTS TO B	TYPE OF LUBRICANT			
Every 4000 Km (2500 miles)	Every 8000 Km (5000 miles)	The or content		
Gear box	Gear box	Esso Motor Oil 30		
(Top up oil level)	(Change the ail completely)			
Brake levers	Gear shifter			
Front suspension	Control cables	Esso Multi-purpose		
Felt of the flywheel com	-	Grease J		
Speedometer flex drive and pinion	1	11		
Engine: at every refilling (lubricated	by the oil in the fuel mixture)	Essa Sae 30 21. Two stake Od (20 oc et all per lise all perfect of 1/4 perfect of		
Shock-absorbers: only when not work	Essa Univis Scooterhelp.com			

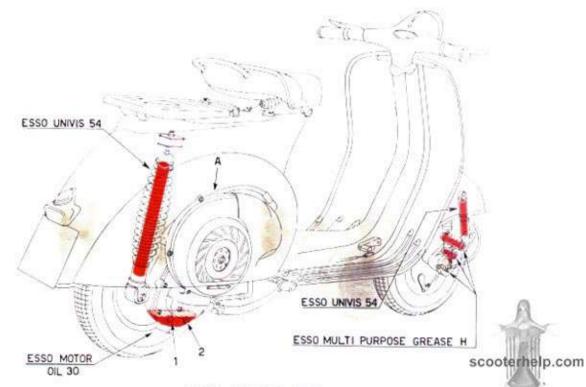


Fig. 20 - Lubrication scheme

A: engine lubricated by fuel mixture - 1.: filling hole -2.: draining hole.

Battery service. Follow the directions on the card accompanying each battery for service and normal re-charge.

Laying up. In such a case, proceed as follows.

- Clean the scooter thoroughly (see page 27).
- With engine not running, rotate the throttle control twistgrip to its fullest extent, then pump 40 cc. (2.5 cu.in) of Esso Motor Oil 30, by means of an oil can into the carburettor intake through the hole (see

fig. 6 No. 13) on the air cleaner cover.

Depress the kickstarter three our four times.

- Support the chassis of the machine on two wooden blocks ensuring that the tyres are clear of the ground.
 - 4. Empty the fuel tank.
 - 5. Grease all unpainted metal parts.
- Disconnect the cables from the battery, clean the terminals of the latter and wipe dry.



FAULT FINDING

When the machine does not run properly, make all inspections and rectifications as explained below.

If the suggested remedies are not sufficient to eliminate the trouble, the customer should not try to carry out operations portaining to the retailers, who have the necessary facilities to undertake this work.

Locating the trouble	Remedies				
HARD STARTING					
1 fuel system - Carburation					
Fuel tank empty	Turn to + reserve +. Refill as soon as possible.				
Filter on carburetter fuel tap body Carburetter body Jets Engine flooding Air cleaner checked or darty	Remove and wash in gasoline, Blow dry See page 23. See page 28, No. 1				
2 Ignilion	Disconnect the plug land. Check if scarking occurs between land and crankcase when the kickstarter is operated.				
Sparking plug duty	Clean (see page 28, No. 6). Correct gap to 0.6 mm				
Percelain of sparking plug cracked	Replace the plug (see • Notice •, page 23, and page 28).				
Breaker points duty, worn or pitted; gap between breaker points incorrect	Ask the Retailer either to have them cleaned (with very time emery piecer or suitable Schoolernelp.com reclaced, or to have pap adjusted.				

Locating the trouble	Remedies
INCORRECT RUNNING	
1 Lack of power	
Muffler outlet pipe carbonised	Clean (see page 29).
Sparkplug not well screwed into cylinder head Cylinder head not fitting properly into the spigot	Tighten with 21 mm box wrench.
on top of cylinder	Set the head properly and tighten the nuts uniformly
2 Explosions at muffler and carburettor	Replace or clean the plug and correct the gap (see page 28, No. 6) to 0.6 mm (C.023 in).
3, - High fuel consumption	55.55 SEEK THE STATE OF THE STA
a) Air cleaner choked or dirty; flap of choke	Clean with pure gasoline and blow dry.
valve sticking in closed or partially closed position	Dip the filter into a 30% gasoline-oil bath. Release and lubricate the choke control lever.
b) Other troubles (faulty carburettor, poor com- pression, etc.)	See your Retailer
4 Engine noisy - Clutch troubles - Gear pinions disengage of own accord - Starter assembly not	See your Retailer
engaging - Controls not operating property -	
of suspensions,	G
5 Poor braking	
Stroke of pedal or lever too long	Adjust (see Fig. 17, page 25)
Brake linings oily or worn down	Wash with gasoline and dry in air, or replace see your Retailer about oil leakage
Brake drums and linings scratched	Replace
6 Faulty electric wiring	*Ones
Lead terminals loose or wrongly connected Fuse of rectifier burnt	Re-coni 1 properly (see Figs. 11-12) or leplace and
ruse of recimier ournit	Replace Scooterhelp.coi
Incorrect adjustment of the head lamp	Re-set perly (see page 26).