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T

Tapered Roller Bearing

Tapered inner race of caged needle rollers and separate tapered outer race ¹⁾

Tappet

AKA Lifter, Cam Follower. Transmits power from the cam lobe to the valve stem by way of a pushrod and a rocker arm. Types: Hydraulic and Solid ²⁾

Tank

TAN or Total Acid Number

The required amount of KOH to partially or fully neutralize the petroleum product's acidity. ³⁾

TBN or Total Base Number

The amount of acid required to neutralize the lubricant's basicity expressed in KOH equivalent. ⁴⁾TBN > 4.0-5.0 is a minimum. The higher TBN, the better.

TDC

Top Dead Center. Position of a piston that is at it's highest point in the cylinder.

Thread Locking Compound

A liquid that is placed around threads before installing to harden and prevent threads from backing out or getting loose. Comes in regular and extra strength.

Thrust Washer

A washer positioned between two parts as in between gears on a transmission shaft

Timing Light

Stroboscopic lamp for carrying out ignition timing checks with the engine running ⁵⁾

Tire

Top End

Upper part of the engine consisting of the cylinders, heads and valve train and their components.

Torque

A measure of how much a force acting on an object causes that object to rotate ⁶⁾ as measured by a torque wrench.

Torque Specifications

A pre-determined tightness specified by the MoCo for certain fasteners/ bolts that can be found in the FSM or other service/ repair manuals.

Torque Wrench

A torque wrench is a tool used to precisely apply a specific torque to a fastener such as a nut or bolt. It is usually in the form of a socket wrench with special internal mechanisms. It was invented by Conrad Bahr in 1918 while working for the New York City Water Department. ⁷⁾

Torx Head

An internal six point pattern made into a bolt head.

Tracer

A stripe of a second color applied to a wire insulator to distinguish that wire from another. A B/W denotation would describe a black wire with a white tracer. ⁸⁾

Trail

Trail is expressed as the distance measured horizontally along the ground level between a point that lies directly beneath the wheels axle and an imaginary line extended through, and at the same angle as the steering stem ⁹⁾

Trap Door Transmission

Used to describe transmission configuration that is built in and around one outside plate or “trap door” that is bolted to the engine from the primary side. This enables you to unbolt the transmission for servicing without disturbing the internal engine components.

Tribology

Science branch dealing with friction, wear and lubrication. ¹⁰⁾

Triple Tree (Triple Clamp)

A cast piece made to attach to the steering heads, hold the fork tubes and swivel off the frame mount

TWI

Abbreviation for Tire Wear Indicator. Indicates the location of tread depth indicator bars on tires. ¹¹⁾

Go To Terminology List

1) , 2) , 5) , 8) , 11)

Haynes Sportster manual 1970-2010 pg REF*52

3) , 4) , 10)

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