Some early 1983 FLHT models were manufactured with FLT front forks and rear shock absorbers. All late 1983 FLT/FLHT models will be manufactured with FLHT front forks and rear shock absorbers.

When servicing front forks or rear shock absorbers on 1983 FLT/FLHT models, it is very important to determine which forks or shocks are installed on the vehicle. Then the proper replacement components or replacement parts can be installed.

See Figure 1. The FLT/FLHT front forks can be identified by raising the front wheel off the ground. Measure between the bottom edge of the fork slider cover to the center of the axle. The FLT measures approximately 13-13/16 inches and the FLHT measures approximately 13-5/16 inches.

See Figure 2. The FLT/FLHT rear shock absorbers can be identified by raising the rear wheel off the ground. Measure from the center of the top mounting bolt to the center of the bottom mounting bolt. The FLT measures approximately 13-1/2 inches and the FLHT measures approximately 13 inches.

**WARNING**

Due to the difference in height between the FLHT model and FLT model front forks and rear shock absorbers, FLT model front forks can be used with either FLT or FLHT rear shock absorbers and FLHT model front forks must only be used with FLHT rear shock absorbers.