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IH: Wheels, Brakes & Tires

Front Wheel Bearing Lock Nut Retainer

A number of 1972 Super Glide and Sportster models were produced with the front wheel bearing lock ring (11035) installed backwards which can result in the front wheel to be loose or the bearing (9009) to lock up. The retaining ring is flat on one side and beveled on the other and used on wheel hubs from 1964-1972 to hold the bearing in the hub. Affected Sportster VINs were (3A or 4A) 39624H2 to 50531H2. Some of the motorcycles affected were caught and corrected at the factory and affected dealers were notified also. But in case some of these motorcycles were already sold to customers, the MoCo treated it as a safety defect in accordance with the National Motor Vehicle Safety laws. The dealers were to remove all suspect front wheels and inspect the retaining ring and bearing for damages at a reimbursed cost of \$2.10 for labor and handling each and reinstall the retainer with the flat side toward the bearing (beveled side out). ¹⁾

Rear Wheel Rim, Tire and Tube Flap

- From September 20, 1966 through the 1969 model season, a rubber tube flap (43148-67) was installed on the rear (steel wheel only) of Sportsters before the tube and tire were installed. ²⁾
- This new tube flap was also recommended as a retro fit to earlier model Sportsters. Consequently, the '59-'69 FSM includes the installation of this flap with no specification of year model used on. However, this new flap did not make it into the 57-67 Parts Catalog or the 68 Supplement Catalog. It first appeared in the 1969 supplement Catalog.
- This is a wider rubber piece than the standard rim strip that extended from bead to bead and all the way around the rim. It rode between the tube and the tire at the bead area and between the tube and the rim at the spoke areas. This change was made as a safety precaution to provide greater protection against tube wear caused by the tire bead edge rubbing on the tube at this point under heavy operating conditions such as off rode or maximum accel / braking conditions.
- The use this rubber flap was ended with the 1969 year models with the introduction of the 1970 year model taper beaded rims and tires.

Wheel Spokes

1979

The procedure for lacing 16 inch wheels changed to make them easier to lace in production. The relationship of the spoke flanges on the wheel hubs changed to match the new lacing pattern. Rims, spokes and nipples did not change. ³⁾

- With the new style wheels:
 - The inner spoke pairs on opposite sides of the wheel cross each other. The outer spokes on opposite sides of the wheel cross each other.
 - Pick any outside spoke hole and sight straight across the hub. The first spoke hole to the right of the line of sight is an outside spoke hole.
- With the old style wheels:
 - The inner spokes on both sides of the wheel angle in the same direction. All outer spokes angle in the opposite direction.
 - Pick any outside spoke hole and sight straight across the hub. The first spoke hole to the right of the line of sight is an inside spoke hole.

Wheel Hub

- Rim / Hub Dimension Chart - PDF

Front & Rear Hubs (by year and part number)				
FRONT				
Year	Model(s)	Hub Position	Rim Size	Hub and Brake Shell w/ bearings
1953-1963	K/KH/XL/XLH/XLCH	Front	18",19"	43600-52 ⁴⁾
1964-1972	XLH/XLCH	Front	18",19"	43600-64 ⁵⁾
Year	Model(s)	Hub Position	Rim Size	Hub Assembly w/ bearings and seals)
1973	XLH/XLCH	Front	19"	43600-73 ⁶⁾
1974-1977	XLH/XLCH	Front	19"	43600-74 ⁷⁾
1978	XLH/XLCH	Front	19"	43600-78 ⁸⁾
1979-1983	XL/XLS	Front	19"	43600-78 ⁹⁾
1984-1985	XL	Front	19"	43619-84 ¹⁰⁾
REAR				
Year	Model(s)	Hub Position	Rim Size	Hub Assembly w/ bearings
1953-1954	K/KH	Rear	19"	41017-52 ¹¹⁾
1955-1963	KH/XL/XLH/XLCH	Rear	18"	41017-55B ¹²⁾
1955-1978	KH/XL/XLH/XLCH	Rear	18"	41017-66A ¹³⁾
1979-1981	XL	Rear	16"	43457-79 ¹⁴⁾
1982-1985	XL/XLS/XLX	Rear	16"	40952-82A ¹⁵⁾

Rear Wheel Hubs

Sub-Documents

* . . . [Problems Associated with Drum Brake Rear Hubs](#)

Rear Wheel Hub Internal Parts



Axles & Wheel Bearings

Specs For Cast Wheels

Front Bearing Info				
Model/Year	Bearing ID/Type	OD*	Width*	AxleType/Threads/WrenchSize
1979-85	3/4" Timken (9052)	1.781"	.655"	
	Hub Spacer = ID="?????" ... OD="?????" ... Length="?????"			
	*=Specs from Timken LM11910 / LM11949			
	Hub depth for bearing (expected to be .820) accommodates .400 width Oil Seal			

Part Numbers For 1979-1985 Wheel Bearings & Spacers

(Based on [Ronnie's Microfiche](#)) unless noted otherwise

FRONT AXLE

1979-1985 - 3/4" Front Axle

43623-78 - Sleeve, bearing spacer - 4.564" (Violet)

43624-78 - Sleeve, bearing spacer - 4.550" (Pink)

43625-78 - Sleeve, bearing spacer - 4.536" (Gold)

REAR AXLE

1979-1985 - 3/4" Rear Axle

41563-77 - 3/4" Axle shank, with 5/8"-18 Nut ¹⁷⁾ — Lock Washer, Washer)

9052 --- Bearing (Timken Tapered Roller)

- 1979 to 1981

43620-78 Spacer - between bearings - 3.937" (Red)¹⁸⁾

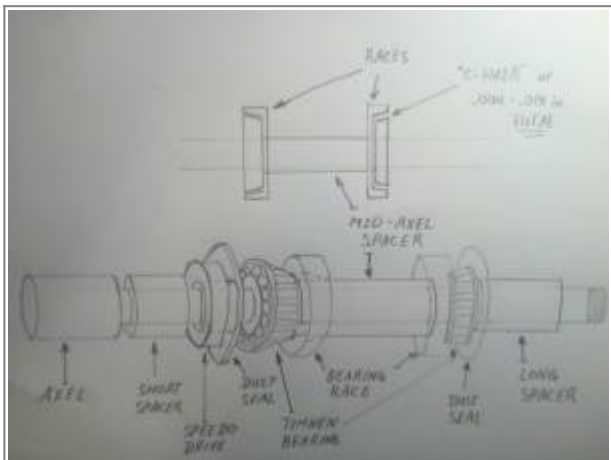
43621-78 Spacer - between bearings - 3.951" (Green)¹⁹⁾

43622-78 Spacer - between bearings - 3.923" (Blue)²⁰⁾

Cast or Laced Wheels			
Ref. #	Part #	Size	Kit Includes
Last update: 2024/01/25 03:48 techtalk:ih:wheels01 http://www.sportsterpedia.com/doku.php/techtalk:ih:wheels01			
A01	43871-52		Axle Only. Also required are (7067) lock washer (43886-52) shoulder nut.
	78 Spacer		Also fits all '52-'56 K Models (with flanges) ²¹⁾
	78 Spacer		between bearings - 4.434" (with flanges) ²²⁾
	43871-73		Axle Only. Also required are (6653) axle washer (5/8" x 1-5/16" x 3/32")
	78 Spacer		between bearings - 4.448" (with flanges) ²³⁾
	1973-1977	3/4"	(7022) lock washer (5/8") (7813) nut (5/8" x 18 x 9/16" x 15/16" Hex)
A01	Late 1982-1985		
	78 Sleeve, bearing spacer		4.420" (without flanges) (Orange) ²⁴⁾
	78 Sleeve, bearing spacer		4.434" (without flanges) (Yellow) ²⁵⁾
	78 Sleeve, bearing spacer		4.448" (without flanges) (White) ²⁶⁾
	78 Sleeve, bearing spacer		4.448" (without flanges) (White) ²⁶⁾
	78 Sleeve, bearing spacer		4.448" (without flanges) (White) ²⁶⁾
A01	Front Axle P/N		
	43883-84	3/4"	Axle Only. Also required are (6653) axle washer (5/8" x 1-5/16" x 3/32") (7022) lock washer (5/8") (7813) nut (5/8" x 18 x 9/16" x 15/16" Hex)
	1984-1987		
	Additional Information		

Drawing of '73 Front Axle

Click on drawing to enlarge:



Drawing by Flying Monkey of the XLFORUM ³⁰⁾

Front Axle Bearings

Factory Information - Front, Cast or Laced Rear Wheels				
	HD Part #	1957-1963 Sportster - 1952-1956 K Models - Model Year Front Bearing Info		
B01	9009 (1)	Bearing ID/Type: Ball Bearings (shielded single row)	OD:	Width:
	9008 (1) (brake side)	Bearing ID/Type: Ball Bearings (open single row)	OD:	Width:

Factory Information - Front, Cast or Laced Rear Wheels					
B02	HD Part #	1964-1972 Sportster - Model Year Front Bearing Info Retro fit to 1957-63 Sportster - 1954-1956 K Model			
	9009 (2)	Bearing ID/Type: Ball Bearings (shielded single row)	OD:	Width:	
B03	HD Part #	1973-1999 Sportster Model - Year Front Bearing Info			
	9052 (2)	Bearing ID/Type:	OD:	Width:	
		3/4" Timken	1.781"	.655"	Solid - 5/8-18UNF - 15/16Nut&Head
		Hub Spacer = ID="???" ... OD="???" ... Length="???"			
		Hub depth for bearing (expected to be .820) accommodates .400 width Oil Seal			
		*=Specs taken from Timken LM11910 / LM11949 Bearing Components			
47519-83A (2)	Wheel Bearing Oil Seal - Fits in hub after bearing installed				

Front Hub Spacers

H01		
1953-1963 XL/XLC/XLH/XLCH 1952-1956 K Models 18" & 19" Laced Wheels (chrome or aluminum)	HD PART #	CENTER HUB BEARING SPACER (with flange)
	43740-52 ³¹⁾	Length ??
	HD PART #	Bearing Washer (shim)
	41205-52	
	HD PART #	Bearing Locknut
	41201-52	
H02		
Replaced 43740-52 for previous year models		
1964-1972 XLH/XLCH ³²⁾ 18" & 19" Laced Wheels (chrome or aluminum) Retro fit to 1954-1956 K Models ³³⁾ 1957-1963 Sportster ³⁴⁾	HD PART #	CENTER HUB BEARING SPACER (with flange)
	43740-64	Length ??
H03		
Original 1973 single spacer (43745-73) replaced by variable length spacers below		
1974-1977 XLH/XLCH ³⁵⁾ 19" Cast 7 / 9 Spoke 1973-1978 XLH/XLCH ³⁶⁾ 19" Laced All w/ Single Disc Brake ³⁷⁾	HD PART #	CENTER HUB BEARING SPACER (no flange)
	43745-73	Replaced by spacers below
	43633-74	Length - 2.162" (White / Red) ³⁸⁾
	43634-74	Length - 2.177" (Orange / Green) ³⁹⁾
	43635-74	Length - 2.148" (Violet / Gold) ⁴⁰⁾
H04		
1978 XLH/XLCH ⁴¹⁾ 19" Cast 7 / 9 Spoke Dual Disc Brake	HD PART #	CENTER HUB BEARING SPACER (no flange)
	43469-77	
H05		

1979-1991 XL/XLH/XLCH/XLCR 19" Cast 7 / 9 Spoke or Laced Dual Disc Brake	HD PART #	CENTER HUB BEARING SPACER (no flange)
	43623-78	Length - 2.564" (Violet) ^{42) 43) 44)}
	43624-78	Length - 2.550" (Pink) ^{45) 46) 47)}
	43625-78	Length - 2.536" (Gold) ^{48) 49) 50)}

Measuring / Sizing Wheel Hub Spacers

- If your unsure of which hub spacer you need , the best way to find out is to mock up your wheel / hub and do some measuring: ⁵¹⁾
Wheel bearing endplay should be .004"-.018" with the axle nut torqued to 60-70 ft/lbs. ⁵²⁾
1. Install outer races into the hub, make sure they're fully seated. Don't install any seals yet.
 2. Clamp the axle in a vise vertically, threaded end up.
 3. Put axle spacer onto axle. (doesn't really matter which one)
 4. Slide 1 bearing onto the axle. (no grease or oil in the bearing)
 5. Put hub/wheel onto the axle.
 6. Slide bearing spacer onto the axle.
 7. Slide the other cone onto the axle.
 8. Put a spacer onto the axle that's long enough to reach the axle threads and still leave enough room to put the axle nut on.
 9. Put the axle nut on and snug it up. (not too tight yet)
 10. Lift the rim/hub and see if you have any end play.
 1. If you have too much, the spacer is too long and a shorter spacer is needed. You can try and find a shorter spacer or shorten the one you have. (a lathe is the best way to shorten it).
 2. If you don't have any play, the spacer is too short. Add shims until you get just a little play.
 11. Once you have a little end play, torque the axle nut to 60ft/lbs and check end play again. Use shims to get your desired end play (shown in the FSM).
 12. When you have the correct end play you can either: use with the spacer and shims that you have in there, or have a single spacer machined to the combined length of the spacer and shims.

Front Outside Bearing Spacers

	Against Left Bearing	Against Right Bearing	Year Model Info
BS01	43636-52 Grease Retainer ID: OD: Width:	41201-52 Bearing Locknut ID: OD: Width:	1957-1972 Sportster 1952-1956 K Models Laced Front Wheel
BS01	? ID: OD: Width:	? ID: OD: Width:	Laced Front Wheel
BS01	? ID: OD: Width:	? ID: OD: Width:	Laced Front Wheel

	Against Left Bearing	Against Right Bearing	Year Model Info
BS01	? ID: OD: Width:	? ID: OD: Width:	Laced Front Wheel

Right Side Bearing Spacer Washer (between the bearings) 1963-1978

- On 1963-1978 XLH/XLCH Models, a bearing spacer washer HD part #41195-63 (or V-Twin part number 44-0395 ⁵³⁾) is placed between the two bearings on the right hub (brake side). This spacer washer is reportedly not installed at the factory but is a service part for alignment where the aluminum back plate butts to the bearing inner race due to wear. The race will plow right into the soft back plate when the axle flexes ⁵⁴⁾.
 - This is not a grease shield for the bearing. The grease shield used on the brake side →'62 was no longer in use by '63 and up models.
- This small washer has a lip, its very thin, and is not a regular flat washer. It goes in between the right side bearings in the hub, and pushes/holds the outer bearing flush with the hub where it goes up against the inside of the brake backing plate. Others have also said it is OK to use a second one in between the backing pate and the outer bearing if you need a little clearance so the backing plate wont rub, but if you need more than those 2, you should look inside your hub for issues... ⁵⁵⁾



Wheels

Front

See also [Factory Tire Information](#)

All front wheels are the same from '74-'77 ⁶¹⁾

Front Wheel 1957-1985

Sportster Model	Year	Size	Wheel and Position	HD Wheel Assembly without bearings & bearing spacer	Wheel Assembly includes brake shell
XLC 900 (883)	1958	19"	Front Laced (chrome)	43506-52 ^{62) 63)}	(drum brakes)
XLH 900 (883)	1957-1959	18"	Front Laced (chrome)	43507-53 ^{64) 65)}	(drum brakes)
XLCH 900 (883)	1958-1963	19"	Front Laced (chrome)	43506-52 ^{66) 67)}	(drum brakes)
Front Wheel					Notes
Sportster Model	Year	Size	Wheel and Position	HD Wheel Assembly w/ bearings & bearing spacer	Wheel Assembly includes brake shell
XLH 900 (883)	1960-1963	18"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43496-60 ⁶⁸⁾	(drum brakes)
	1960-1963	19"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43497-60 ⁶⁹⁾	(drum brakes)
	1964-1967	18"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43496-64 ⁷⁰⁾	(drum brakes)
	1967-1969	19"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43497-64 ⁷¹⁾	(drum brakes)
	1970-1972	18"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43496-64 ⁷²⁾	(drum brakes)
	1970-1972	19"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43495-70 ⁷³⁾	(drum brakes)
	1970-1972	19"	Front Laced (chrome)	43505-70 ⁷⁴⁾	(drum brakes)
Also used on '73 FX	1973	19"	Front Laced (chrome)	43509-73 ⁷⁵⁾	(single disc brake)
Also used on FX/FXE	1974-1977	19"	Front Cast 7 Spoke (black)	43522-77 ⁷⁶⁾	(single disc brake)
	1974-1977	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke (black)	43615-74 ⁷⁷⁾	(single disc brake)
	1974-1977	19"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43508-74 ⁷⁸⁾	(single disc brake)
Also used on '74-'77 FX	1974-1977	19"	Front Laced (chrome)	43509-74 ⁷⁹⁾	(single disc brake)
	1978	19"	Front Cast 7 Spoke	43461-78 ⁸⁰⁾	(dual disc brake)

	1978	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke	43617-83 ⁸¹⁾	(dual disc brake)
	1978	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke (black)	43320-80 ⁸²⁾	(dual disc brake)
	1978	19"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43351-78 ⁸³⁾	(dual disc brake)
Also used on '78-'81 FX,FXE FXEF, FXEF-80 FXE-80 models ⁸⁴⁾	1978	19"	Front Laced (steel)	43341-78 ⁸⁵⁾	(dual disc brake)
XLCH 900 (883)	1960-1963	18"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43496-60 ⁸⁶⁾	(drum brakes)
	1960-1963	19"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43497-60 ⁸⁷⁾	(drum brakes)
	1964-1969	19"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43497-64 ⁸⁸⁾	(drum brakes)
	1970-1972	19"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43495-70 ⁸⁹⁾	(drum brakes)
	1970-1972	19"	Front Laced (chrome)	43505-70 ⁹⁰⁾	(drum brakes)
	1973	19"	Front Laced (chrome)	43509-73 ⁹¹⁾	(single disc brake)
43522-77 also on FX/FXE	1974-1977	19"	Front Cast 7 Spoke (black)	43522-77 ⁹²⁾	(single disc brake)
	1974-1977	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke (black)	43615-74 ⁹³⁾	(single disc brake)
	1974-1977	19"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43508-74 ⁹⁴⁾	(single disc brake)
	1974-1977	19"	Front Laced (chrome)	43509-74 ⁹⁵⁾	(single disc brake)
	1978	19"	Front Cast 7 Spoke	43461-78 ⁹⁶⁾	(dual disc brake)
	1978	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke	43617-83 ⁹⁷⁾	(dual disc brake)
	1978	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke (black)	43320-80 ⁹⁸⁾	(dual disc brake)
	1978	19"	Front Laced (aluminum)	43351-78 ⁹⁹⁾	(dual disc brake)
43341-78 also on '78-'81 FX,FXE FXEF, FXEF-80 FXE-80 models ¹⁰⁰⁾	1978	19"	Front Laced (steel)	43341-78 ¹⁰¹⁾	(dual disc brakes)
XLH 1000	1979	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke	43311-78 ¹⁰²⁾	(dual disc brake)
	1979-1983	19"	Front Cast (black)	43617-83 ¹⁰³⁾	(dual disc brake)
	(L) 1979-1983	19"	Front Laced	43321-79 ¹⁰⁴⁾	(dual disc brake)
43312-84 also on '84 FXE ¹⁰⁵⁾	1984-1985	19"	Front Laced	43312-84 ¹⁰⁶⁾	(single disc brake)
XLCH 1000					
Also used on '77 FXS 78-80 FX/FXEF FXS-80/FXEF-80	1979	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke	43311-78 ¹⁰⁷⁾	(dual disc brake)
XLCH 1000	1977	19"	Front Cast 7 Spoke	43499-77 ¹⁰⁸⁾	without bearings/sleeve (dual disc brakes)
	1978	19"	Front Cast 7 Spoke	43499-78 ¹⁰⁹⁾	without bearings/sleeve (dual disc brakes)
XLS 1000	1979	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke	43311-78 ¹¹⁰⁾	(dual disc brake)
	1979-1982	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke (black)	43617-83 ¹¹¹⁾	(dual disc brake)

	(L) 1979-1983	19"	Front Laced	43321-79 ¹¹²⁾	(dual disc brake)
	1983	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke	43309-83 ¹¹³⁾	(dual disc brake)
	1984-1985	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke (black-tubeless)	43626-84 ¹¹⁴⁾	First use of tubeless tires (single disc brake)
Also used on '84 FXE ¹¹⁵⁾	1984-1985	19"	Front Laced	43312-84 ¹¹⁶⁾	(single disc brake)
XLX-61 (1000)	1983	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke (black)	43617-83 ¹¹⁷⁾	(dual disc brake)
	1984-1985	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke (black-tubeless)	43626-84 ¹¹⁸⁾	First use of tubeless tires (single disc brake)
	1984-1985	19"	Front Cast 9 Spoke (silver-tubeless)	43338-83A ¹¹⁹⁾	(single disc brake)

Rear

See also [Factory Tire Information](#)

All rear wheels 55-78 will interchange.¹²⁰⁾

Rear Wheel 1957 - 1985

Sportster Model	Year	Size	Wheel and Position	HD Wheel Assembly w/ bearings & bearing spacer	
XL 900 (883)	1957	18"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40989-53B ¹²¹⁾	(drum brakes) also fits '53-56 K models
	1957-1959	18"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40989-53A ¹²²⁾ ¹²³⁾	(drum brakes) also fits '53-56 K models
	1957-1959	18"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40989-53C ¹²⁴⁾	(drum brakes)
	1957-1959	18"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke (black)	41037-77 ¹²⁵⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1957-1959	16"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke	41035-77A ¹²⁶⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1957-1959	18"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (black)	40999-78 ¹²⁷⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1957-1959	18"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (gold)	41002-78 ¹²⁸⁾	XLH 75th Anniversary - option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)

XLH 900 (883)	1958-1959	18"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40989-53A ^{129) 130)}	(drum brakes) also fits '53-56 K models
	1958-1963	18"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40989-53C ¹³¹⁾	(drum brakes)
	1960-1963	18"	Rear Laced (aluminum)	40990-60A ¹³²⁾	(drum brakes)
	1960-1969	18"	Rear Laced (aluminum)	40990-60C ¹³³⁾	(drum brakes)
	1970-1971	18"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40989-70 ¹³⁴⁾	(drum brakes)
	1970-1971	18"	Rear Laced (aluminum) Low Road Clearance	40990-60C ¹³⁵⁾	(drum brakes)
	1958-1971	18"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke (black)	41037-77 ¹³⁶⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1958-1971	16"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke	41035-77A ¹³⁷⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1958-1971	18"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (black)	40999-78 ¹³⁸⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1958-1978	18"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (gold)	41002-78 ¹³⁹⁾	XLH 75th Anniversary - option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
XLCH 900 (883)	1958-1959	18"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40989-53A ^{140) 141)}	(drum brakes) also fits '53-56 K models
	1958-1963	18"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40989-53C ¹⁴²⁾	(drum brakes)
	1960-1963	18"	Rear Laced (aluminum)	40990-60A ¹⁴³⁾	(drum brakes)
	1960-1969	18"	Rear Laced (aluminum)	40990-60C ¹⁴⁴⁾	(drum brakes)
	1970-1971	18"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40989-70 ¹⁴⁵⁾	(drum brakes)
	1970-1971	18"	Rear Laced (aluminum)	40991-70A ¹⁴⁶⁾	(drum brakes)
	1958-1971	18"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke (black)	41037-77 ¹⁴⁷⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1958-1971	16"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke	41035-77A ¹⁴⁸⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1958-1971	18"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (black)	40999-78 ¹⁴⁹⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1958-1978	18"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (gold)	41002-78 ¹⁵⁰⁾	XLH 75th Anniversary - option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
XLH 1000	1972-1977	18"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40989-70 ¹⁵¹⁾	(drum brakes)
	1973-1978	18"	Rear Laced (aluminum)	40991-70A ¹⁵²⁾	(drum brakes)

	1972-1978	18"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke (black)	41037-77 ¹⁵³⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1972-1978	16"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke	41035-77A ¹⁵⁴⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1972-1978	18"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (black)	40999-78 ¹⁵⁵⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	(E)1979	18"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke	40962-79 ¹⁵⁶⁾ 40952-79 ¹⁵⁷⁾	(disc brake - this year & all future models)
	(L) 1979-1980	16"	Rear Laced (chrome)	43720-79 ¹⁵⁸⁾	
	1980	16"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (black)	40953-79A ¹⁵⁹⁾	
	1981	16"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (black)	40955-81 ¹⁶⁰⁾	
	1981	16"	Rear Laced (chrome)	43720-81 ¹⁶¹⁾	
	1982-1985	16"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40951-82 ¹⁶²⁾	
	1982-1985	16"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke	41015-82A ¹⁶³⁾	
	1958-1978	18"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (gold)	41002-78 ¹⁶⁴⁾	XLH 75th Anniversary - option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
XLCH 1000	1972-1977	18"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40989-70 ¹⁶⁵⁾	(drum brakes)
	1972-1978	18"	Rear Laced (aluminum)	40991-70A ¹⁶⁶⁾	(drum brakes)
	1972-1978	18"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke (black)	41037-77 ¹⁶⁷⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1972-1978	16"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke	41035-77A ¹⁶⁸⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1972-1978	18"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (black)	40999-78 ¹⁶⁹⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
	1979	18"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke	40962-79 ¹⁷⁰⁾ 40952-79 ¹⁷¹⁾	
	1958-1978	18"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (gold)	41002-78 ¹⁷²⁾	XLH 75th Anniversary - option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
XLCH 1000	1977	18"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke	40995-77 ¹⁷³⁾	without bearings/sleeve (disc brake)
	1978	18"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke	40995-78 ¹⁷⁴⁾	without bearings/sleeve (disc brake)

XLS 1000	1979	16"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke	40963-79 ¹⁷⁵⁾	
	1979-1980	16"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (black)	40953-79A ¹⁷⁶⁾	
	(L)1979-1980	16"	Rear Laced (chrome)	43720-79 ¹⁷⁷⁾	
	1981	16"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke (black)	40955-81 ¹⁷⁸⁾	
	1981	16"	Rear Laced (chrome)	43720-81 ¹⁷⁹⁾	
	1982	16"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke	41015-82A ¹⁸⁰⁾	
	1982-1985	16"	Rear Laced (chrome)	40951-82 ¹⁸¹⁾	
	1983-1985	16"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke	40983-83A ¹⁸²⁾	
	1984-1985	16"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke	41015-82A ¹⁸³⁾	
XLT 1000	1977-1978	18"	Rear 7 Spoke (black)	41037-77 ¹⁸⁴⁾	Option retro'd for prior years (drum brakes)
XLX-61 (1000)	1983-1985	16"	Rear Laced (chrome)40951-82 ¹⁸⁵⁾		
	1983-1985	16"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke	41015-82A ¹⁸⁶⁾	
	1983-1985	16"	Rear Cast 9 Spoke	40983-83A ¹⁸⁷⁾	

Tapered Bead Rims

The "special" tapered wheels that were paired to the "special" tapered bead rims were known as "C-section" rims.¹⁸⁸⁾

"C-section" rims can be positively identified after the tire is removed from the rim by the part numbers stamped in rim.

The taper was at the 'normally flat' area from the inside bead seat corner and the shelf edge at the drop towards the drop center.

The metal 'shelf' tapered toward the center with a safety hump just before the drop down.

This was a "special package" buy from Goodyear with the rim included since you couldn't buy the tires to properly fit the rims anywhere else but them.

- "C-section" Rim Part#s for "High Ground Clearance" Sportsters:
 - Steel Rims:
 - Front (43003-70) 19 x 2.50C
 - Rear (43004-70) 18 x 2.50C
 - Aluminum Rims:
 - Front (43010-70) 2.50C-19
 - Rear (43008-70) 2.50C-18

Standard low clearance models did not have the "special" rims and use standard tires.

- Other notes:
 - 43005-70 steel 18" steel spool rear drum
 - 43008-70 (250 C) aluminum 18" steel spool rear drum
 - 43002-70 steel 19" '64-72 style front drum
 - 43010-70 aluminum 19" '64-72 style front drum
 - 42998-74 (250 C) aluminum 19" aluminum hub front disc (made in Italy)

- 43018-73 steel 19" aluminum hub front disc

Factory Wheels Pics

Click on a picture to enlarge it.

19" front (43522-77) & 18" rear (41037-77) ¹⁸⁹⁾



1971 front and rear (taper base) rims from an XLCH ¹⁹⁰⁾



2.50C-18 (43008-70) aluminum (taper base) 18" steel spool rear wheel on 1974 XLH. ¹⁹¹⁾



Tires

Tire Fitment Chart

- HD issued a bulletin in June of 1978 regarding tire fitment on 1000cc, 1200cc and 1340CC models for proper matching of tires and rims. ¹⁹²⁾
 - “For the personal safety of the motorcycle rider, tires and inner tubes must be correctly matched to the wheel rims. Mismatching tires, tubes and rims may result in damage to the tire bead during mounting or may allow the tire to slip on the rim damaging the tube and causing rapid tire deflation. In addition, using tires and tubes other than those specified may adversely affect motorcycle stability”.
 - Tires:
 - Use only tube type tires with inner tubes on all Harley-Davidson wheels. Tubeless type tires will not seat properly. Protective rubber rim strips must be used on laced (wire spoke) wheels.
 - 16" (seven spoke cast) wheel requires a center valve tube (40553-78) while all other 16" wheels use a side valve tube (40550-77). Tires were interchangeable between cast and laced (wire spoke) wheels.
 - 18" tires and tubes were not interchangeable between cast and laced (wire spoke) wheels. The bead diameter of the MN90-18 tire was app. 0.075" (app. the thickness of a nickel) larger than the 4.25-18T tire.
 - 19" used the same size tube for both cast and laced (wire spoke) wheels but the tires were not interchangeable. The MJ90-19 tire also had a larger bead diameter.

June 1978 ¹⁹³⁾				
Wheel Size	Wheel Description	Models	Tube Size (Goodyear)	Tire Size
16"	Rear Cast 7 Spoke	FX/FXE/FXS	MT-90-16cv (center valve)	5.00-16T
	Front & Rear Laced 16 Spoke	FL/FLH	G5.10-16T (side valve)	5.10-16T
	Rear Laced & Cast 9 Spoke	FX/FXE/FXS		MT-90-16T
18"	Rear Laced	XL/XLH/XLCH/XLT/XLCR	W18 / W19	4.25-18T
	Rear Cast 7 or 9 Spoke		V18 / V19	MN90-18
19"	Front Laced	XL/XLH/XLCH/XLT/XLCR FX/FXE/FXS	V19 / V19	3.75-19T
	Front Cast 7 or 9 Spoke			MM90-19T
				MJ-90-19

Factory Tire Information

- Rim size and contour are cast or stamped into exterior surface of rim.
- Example: T19x2.50 CO DOT. "T" indicates the rim conforms to 'Tire and Rim Association' standards, 19 is the nominal diameter of the rim in inches measured at the bead center diameter, 2.5 is the width of the bead seat measured in inches, CO designates the rim contour, DOT means the rim meets Dept. of Motor Vehicle Standards. ¹⁹⁴⁾
- See also [Factory Rear Rims](#) and [Factory Front Rims](#)
- See [Tire 101](#) for decoding sizes, conversion, cross reference charts, etc.

HD Recommendations per Year Model					
Year Range	Wheel Size and Position	Tire Size	Recommended Tire Pressure		
1957-1959 XL	18" Front and Rear	3.50x18	14 psi Front, 18 psi Rear		
1958-1966 XLH	18" Front and Rear	3.50x18	14 psi Front, 18 psi Rear		
1967-1969 XLH	19" front	3.25/3.5x19	16 psi		
	18" Rear	4.00x18"	20 psi		
1959-1969 XLCH	19" Front	3.25/3.50x19	14 psi		
	18" Rear	4.0 x 18	18 psi		
1970-1978 ¹⁹⁵⁾	Wheel Size and Position	Wheel Type	Rim Contour	Tire Size (Goodyear or Yokohama) Use corresponding size inner tubes	Recommended Tire Pressure

XLH-XLCH-XLT	19" Front	Cast, 7 or 9 spoke	T 19 2.15 TL ¹⁹⁶⁾	MJ90-19 * (XLT use Yokohama Y-980 only)			
XLH-XLCH-XLT	19" Front	Laced		3.75-19T or MM90-19 ¹⁹⁷⁾ (Taper base bead tire size, use on taper base bead rim only) ¹⁹⁸⁾			18 psi ¹⁹⁹⁾
XLH-XLCH-XLT	18" Rear	Cast, 7 or 9 spoke	T 18 2.50 TL ²⁰⁰⁾	MN90-18 Tire obsolete, acceptable replacement 120/90-18 * (XLT use Yokohama Y-622 only)			
XLH/XLCH/XLT	18" Rear	Laced		4.25-18T (Taper base bead tire size, use on taper base bead rim only) ²⁰¹⁾			30 psi ²⁰²⁾
XLH-XLCH	16" Rear (accessory)	Cast 7 spoke		MT90-16 / 5.00-16T / 5.10-16T			
1979 XLH-XLCH-XLS ²⁰³⁾	Wheel Size and Position	Wheel Type	Rim Contour	HD Tire Series	Goodyear Tube Size	Goodyear Tire Type	Goodyear Tire Size 4 Ply
	19" Front	Laced Early '79	2.50 CM	NA	V 18/19	Sport Rib (Tapered Bead) ²⁰⁴⁾	MM90-19T
	19" Front	Laced Late '79	2.50 TLA	YYY	V 19/19	Eagle A/T	MJ90-19
	19" Front	Cast	2.15 TL	YYY	V 18/19	Eagle A/T	MJ90-19
	18" Rear	Laced Early '79	2.50 CM	NA	W 18/19	All Traction (Tapered Bead) ²⁰⁵⁾	4.25-18T
	18" Rear	Cast	2.50 TL	NA	V 18/19	Eagle A/T	MN90-18 Tire obsolete, Acceptable replacement 120/90-18 ²⁰⁶⁾
	16" Rear	Laced	3.00 D	WWW	G5.10-16	Eagle A/T	MT90-16
	16" Rear	Cast	3.00 D	WWW	G5.10-16	Eagle A/T	MT90-16
1980-1985 XLH-XLS-XLX ²⁰⁷⁾	Wheel size and Position	Wheel Type	Rim Contour	HD Tire Series	Tube Size ²⁰⁸⁾ / Valve Stem Type	Tire Size Goodyear Eagle A/T or Dunlop K181 4 Ply	
	19" Front	Laced	2.50×19 TLA	YYY	MJ90-19 Rubber (center pos.)	Either brand MJ90-19	
	19" Front	Cast	2.15×19 TL	YYY			

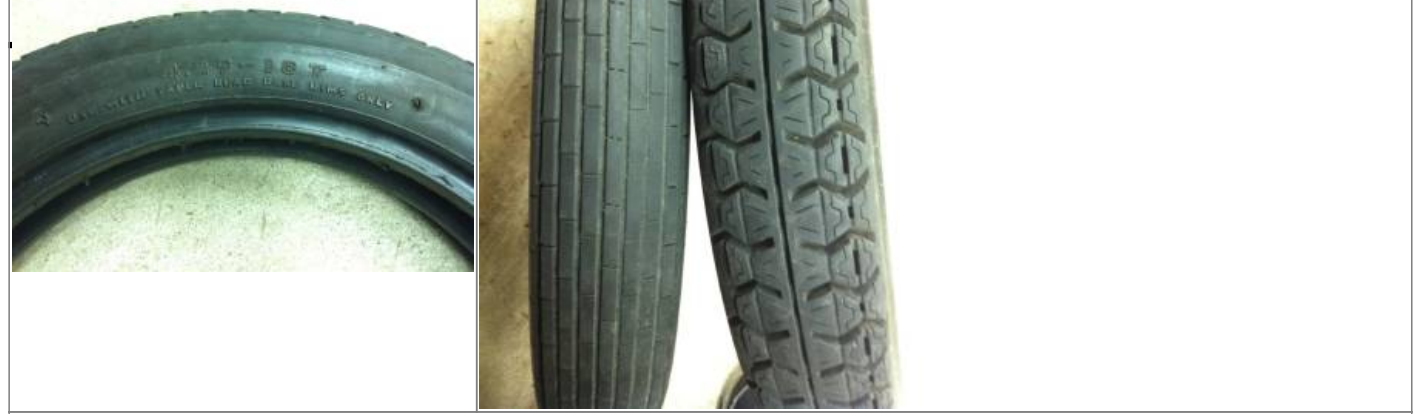
Starting in 1970, Harley Davidson partnered with Goodyear for new "special" tires and rims for standard "high ground clearance" Sportster models. <http://www.sportsterpedia.com/doku.php/techtalk:ih:wheels01>

The tires are identified on the sidewall as (front - 3.75 x 19 Sportster and rear - 4.25 x 18 All Traction) (MT90-16)
 The MoCo has written that these tires must be used exclusively for replacement on the special "C-section" rims.
 These rims have a special tapered bead seat with a safety hump at the top of the center drop.
 By design, standard tires such as Goodyear 3.50 x 18, 4.00 x 18 or 3.25/3.50 x 19 sizes will not fit correctly on these rims and are an unsafe replacement.
 16" Rear Laced or Cast 3.00x16D WWW 11/32" rim hole
 G 5.10-16 Dunlop MT90-16

Goodyear Taper Bead Tires (70-78)



XR-1000	Size and Position	Wheel Type	Rim	HD Tire	Rim Valve	meter	4 Ply
	19" Front	Tu					100/90V-19
							130-90V-16



Goodyear taper beaded tires: MM90-19 Front and 4.25x18t Rear (for taper bead rims only)

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