The brakes should be applied gradually since a hard braking may cause a breakdown. A hard braking is especially dangerous on slippery roads.

When moving at slow speeds, use the lower gears, maintaining the appropriate speeds as mentioned below. In case the gears have to be frequently changed over, avoid altering the speed by partial engagement of the clutch (by causing the clutch to slip), as this will lead to premature wear of the clutch disks.

In order to change over from a higher gear to a lower one, it is necessary to reduce the engine speed (to throttle down). When the motorcycle speed decreases, disengage the clutch (press down the clutch lever). Then engage the lower gear by depressing the front arm of the foot gearshift pedal, engage the clutch and increase the engine speed (give full throttle).

To rapidly reduce the travelling speed of the motorcycle, the brakes should be applied. The following three methods of braking can be used: applying the brakes; engine braking; engine braking and applying the brakes at the same time.

The first method (applying the brakes) may be resorted to when the motorcycle has to be quickly stopped, provided there is a good road adhesion of the wheels. When application of the brakes is intended, disengage the clutch, at the same time reduce the engine speed (throttle down) and gradually press down the rear wheel brake pedal and the front brake lever. Using two brakes at the same time ensures a better stability of the motorcycle. Braking may be also effected by using only the foot brake.

In the case of engine braking, it is necessary to reduce the engine speed without disengaging the clutch. If the engine speed is considerably reduced during braking, disengage the clutch to prevent the engine from stopping and, if necessary, stop the motorcycle by applying the brakes. As a rule, the engine braking must be resorted to when riding down a continuous low grade or over straight stretches of the road, and also whenever it is necessary to reduce the speed on a slippery road.

To slow down the motorcycle by simultaneously applying the brakes and braking by means of the engine, reduce the fuel mixture supply (throttle down), without disengaging the clutch, then gradually press down the rear wheel brake pedal and the front brake lever. In doing so, take care that the driving wheel is not completely stopped as this may result in the engine stoppage and even a breakage of the power transmission components. This method of braking (by simultaneously applying the brakes and braking by means of the engine) is used when riding down steep grades and over a slippery road, in order to avoid skidding. The brakes must be applied carefully as there is a great risk of the motorcycle skidding and overturning during hard braking. Particularly dangerous is a hard braking in the winter time and on a slippery road.

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