

THE FREEWAY NEWSLETTER

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Our circulation this month is 4.

Three owners, and the man himself, Dave Edmanscr, whose brainchild is bringing us a totally new kind of joy. And right at Christmas, too.

It might be a good idea if any and all of us who have anything to contribute just sit down and type up a service note and mail it out, while our circulation is still small and we can afford the postage. Perhaps later on, some one of us with a journalistic turn of mind can actually edit a formal publication.

First of all, safety tips for both the man, and the machine:

- 1.) Make sure that you completely uncrate and unclasp your vehicle, as I have already bent my rear wheel by having a couple of lumberjacks try to physically lift it out of the crate while the rear wheel was still nailed down. (Dave, you might put this on the front page of the manual that you ship out with the keys, because we all read the manual ten times while we're waiting for delivery.)
- 2.) Never, but never start her up without the hand brake locked down, as she takes off like a rabbit.
- 3.) On a rainy day, or in a cold climate, you must have a defroster fan, and probably leave the rear vent windows open too, as the cab is little, and the Lexan windows steam up almost immediately, usually while you are already in motion.
- 4.) Pay close attention to Dave's notes about the unique steering characteristics of the FREEWAY, she shore do turn quick.
- 5.) When braking from highway speeds you can feel the clutch hunting in and out as the engine decelerates, I think that this is normal for this type of drive train, but would appreciate comments from experts on centrifugal drive devices.
- 6.) Like any motorcycle, she doesn't like pot holes or wash boards, speed bumps, or frost heaves. Go real easy.
- 7.) The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles will register your FREEWAY as a motorcycle if they don't see it first, otherwise they will give you a hard time. Mine currently has a motorcycle plate on it, and I am waiting for a ruling from their legal staff as to whether I can continue to drive it as such. I will advise you all as to the outcome of this. But most inspection stations will not give you a sticker, because, in this state at present, a motorcycle cannot have a cab, and an automobile must have two headlights.

- 8) In below freezing weather my vehicle is currently inoperable because the throttle cable freezes. I have not been able to correct this situation with lubricants or moisture inhibiting solvents (such as WD-40) yet, but am still working on a permanent fix and will advise on this also.
- 9) The marker lights which hang upside-down from the front bumper, and also have the directional signals in them, promptly filled up with water on mine, which then froze solid and broke the bulbs. A tube of RTV and two 95 cent bulbs seems to have taken care of this.
- 10.) The door is flexible, and on a bumpy road on a rainy day you are going to have leakage, but I would consider this an endearing idiosyncrasy rather than a problem. Hell my Dodge sedan always leaked and it only gets 17 MPG.
- 11.) For those of you without reverse (another endearing idiosyncrasy) watch out when you use your left foot to back it up, I ran over my toes right away. It didn't hurt much, but was embarrassing.

I have 360 miles on mine to date, and don't have a good solid mileage calculation yet, in other words, I don't trust my own calculations at this point, but figure that I am getting 90.3 MPG. Now Dave, I know that this is not possible with the 450cc engine, so I must have subtracted wrong or something, but will try again if the tank ever runs low enough to fill it again.

The lights are great, she is a beautiful sight at night, and definitely has high visibility. Anyone who doesn't see you with the lights on wouldn't have seen an 18 wheel Peterbuilt either.

If you take her to shopping centers, etc., be prepared to cause a commotion, it is impossible right now to simply park you FREEWAY and walk away from it. People will follow you for miles just to look at it.

On the road, nearly everyone is courteous and polite, in fact, people who would normally cut you off will give you the right of way just to see it go by. Give 'em a beep, the horn is delightful.

Happy holidays all you believers, I just knew there were more of you out there!

Bob Ferris

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P.S. Have any of you picked names for yours? My kids call mine "Space Shot", and I guess it's going to stick.