

Converting an Off-Road Motorcycle for Street Use

Can an off-road motorcycle be made street legal?

Before you convert an off-road motorcycle to ride on the street, there are some issues you should be aware of. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has two sets of emission standards for vehicles, including motorcycles. The two standards are: 1) vehicles for street use and; 2) off-road vehicles (this includes dirt bikes, ATVs, UTVs, etc.). Your motorcycle must meet emission standards for street use (not off-road) before you can register it in Oregon.

How can I tell if my motorcycle meets emission standards?

There should be an emission label on your motorcycle. You will need to read the wording carefully. If it states “for off-road” or any other similar wording you will not be able to register your motorcycle. You can also check with a motorcycle dealer that sells your make and model of motorcycle. ODOT does not have this information.

What can I do to get my motorcycle emission certified?

First Step: Contact the manufacturer (not the local dealership) or the U.S. Distributor of the motorcycle, such as Honda or Yamaha, and find out if the engine has been certified through the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to meet emission standards for street use. **If the engine has not been certified for street use, you cannot make the motorcycle street legal. You cannot take your motorcycle to an Oregon DEQ testing station to get certified.**

Second Step: If the engine does meet street standards, get a letter from the manufacturer stating that it does. The letter must be specific to your motorcycle and include the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). It needs to include any modifications to bring the motorcycle up to street standards such as lighting equipment (includes all lights, turn signals, reflectors, high/low beam indicator), speedometer, rear view mirror, rims, tires, exhaust, carburetor, etc.

Third Step: Keep all receipts for modifications. You will need the Manufacturers' Certificate of Origin (MCO), a receipt of ownership (bill of sale), and all your receipts for modifications, plus the letter mentioned above from the manufacturer.

Fourth Step: Take the original letter and other documents to your local DMV field office to register the motorcycle. You may wish to call first to see if they want to visually inspect the vehicle for a vehicle identification number (VIN) at the time you register the vehicle.

- For more information on U.S. EPA Emission standards:
</ODOT/TS/docs/VehEq/Emissions.pdf>
- There are more answers to Frequently Asked Questions about vehicle safety requirements in Oregon at: http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS/Veh_Equipment.shtml
- For information on registering a vehicle, contact DMV at www.oregondmv.com