

TIRE CARE

The Honda ATC is equipped with 22 x 11—3.5, low pressure, tubeless tires. For normal use, they should be inflated to a maximum pressure of 2 p.s.i. A manually operated tire pump should be used rather than the high pressure systems found in service stations. This will lessen the chance of accidentally damaging the tires through overinflation.

If no air pressure gauge is available to accurately measure 2 p.s.i., this value can be obtained by measuring the circumference of the tires with a measuring tape. The tires will increase in circumference as air pressure is added. When inflated to 2 p.s.i., the maximum tire circumference, measured over the tread ribs, will be approximately 72 to 73 inches. The relationship between tire pressure and actual circumference varies slightly with factors of wear and stretching that occur through use.

To increase traction for use in deep snow, the tires may be deflated and run with neutral pressure (0 p.s.i.). The tires can be quickly depressurized by removing the valve cores

from the tire valve stems. As soon as all air under pressure has escaped, replace the valve cores. The air remaining in the tires at atmospheric pressure will be sufficient to support the weight of the ATC while ridden in deep snow. Be sure to reinflate the tires to 2 p.s.i. before riding the ATC on firmer terrain.

Be especially careful to inflate both rear tires, equally. If the ATC is operated with unequal tire pressures, the resultant difference in tire circumference will cause the ATC to tend to run toward one side and will affect handling adversely.

If these tires sustain a puncture, they may be repaired by applying an automotive inner tube patch to the outside surface of the tire. The procedure for applying a patch is the same as that used in patching automobile inner tubes. Any tire that is severely damaged or damaged in a position that will not hold a patch must be replaced.

Whenever the ATC is to be operated far from service facilities or available transport, we recommend that the rider carry with him a tire pump and a suitable tire patch kit.