Shifting Gears

Recommended Shift Points

Ride in the highest gear that lets the engine run and accelerate smoothly. This will give you good fuel economy and effective emissions control. When changing gears under normal conditions, use these recommended shift points:

Shifting Up:

From 1st to 2nd: 12 mph (20 km/h)
From 2nd to 3rd: 19 mph (30 km/h)
From 3rd to 4th: 25 mph (40 km/h)
From 4th to OD: 31 mph (50 km/h)

Shifting Down:

From OD to 4th: 22 mph (35 km/h) From 4th to 3rd: 16 mph (25 km/h)

Pull the clutch lever in when speed drops below 12 mph (20 km/h), when engine roughness is evident, or when engine stalling is imminent; and shift down to 1st gear for acceleration.

While You Are Riding

While you are riding, occasionally check your gauges and indicators. Continuing to ride with the low oil pressure indicator (red) on or the coolant temperature gauge needle at the H (hot) mark can cause serious engine damage. Also keep an eye on the fuel gauge and the low fuel indicator.