

No Longer Content Climbing On Back?

What To Do When You Decide "I WANT MY OWN HARLEY"

Pfat Daddy



My Best Advice

3 Easy Steps

If I had a dollar for every time I've seen a woman on the back of a motorcycle. I'd probably be able to afford a new bike.

But it's changing! Today more women are riding motorcycles, and as **the driver**, not the passenger. And if the truth were known, a lot more women - a lot more - would be tooling down the road behind the controls of their own Harley.

I'll get to the 3 Steps involved in learning to ride in a moment. But first, a few important issues need to be addressed.

Like, what are the obstacles confronting any woman who wants to ride their own bike? Does it have to do with strength, or balance? How about fear?

Sure, to some extent most women worry about having the strength, or a good sense of balance to handle a motorcycle, or maybe secretly harbor fears. But I don't think there is anything really that big that would prevent any woman from learning to ride. And eventually ride the big one - a Harley of their own.

Well, maybe there is this one little thing..... it has to do with throwing baseballs.

No, no! I'm not going whacky on you. Men have always laughed at the way women throw a baseball. It's hilarious, really! But what does that have to do with riding a motorcycle?

Women face the same problem learning to ride a motorcycle as when they try to throw a baseball. It's called the 'center of gravity', and a woman's center of gravity is different - very different - from a man's.

Women have a lower center of gravity than men, due mainly to having a longer body trunk. This is easy to see by watching each throw a baseball. Men throw a baseball using their shoulders and chest. And guys that are really good at it are called 'pitchers' or 'quarterbacks'.

Women study the way men throw a baseball, and then they try to repeat what they see - but they can't. Women throw a baseball using their stomach and buttocks. They have a different center of gravity. This is the major obstacle for women - to learn where their center of gravity is, and how to compensate.

You see, riding (driving) a motorcycle is NOT like riding a bicycle, so don't believe anyone who tells you this. **Motorcycles are designed and built with men - and their center of gravity - in mind.** To my knowledge no motorcycle has ever been built that is designed with a woman in mind.

So women have a few extra things to learn before they can even think of crawling on top a Harley and driving away. And learning these things may make all the difference in the world.

Here then, are the 3 steps to learning how to ride (drive) a motorcycle.

STEP 1

Learn how to drive a moped. (head for the beach and rent one)

This is especially important for a woman, since you will have to learn all about your center of gravity - and how to compensate.

A moped becomes top-heavy with someone on the seat, and you'll probably start off by wobbling, and jerking the handlebars. You'll find that you have more than enough strength to handle the controls, and you'll learn how to use the throttle and the hand brake. Mopeds usually can't go too fast, but you'll still have to learn how to 'lean' to make a turn.

Learning this one simple skill is the key. You can't learn this without learning to adjust for the center of gravity for both you and the moped. Get at least 15 actual

Any Woman Can

LEARN TO

RIDE



riding hours with a moped under your belt. You'll know you're ready- when you no longer wobble - and when you lose your natural fear of riding on 2 wheels.

STEP 2 Take the Motorcycle Rider Safety Course.

(costs about \$200, and you need to expect bootcamp conditions) The course is tough, and extremely valuable for any rider, especially if you're not comfortable on 2 wheels. You'll be using a 250cc-400cc motorcycle weighing about 150 to 300 lbs, and you'll learn how to make turns, and how to make emergency stops using both brakes.

By the end of the course you'll know how to ride, and you'll have your coveted motorcycle endorsement on your drivers license. But you will realize that you need more practice. The solution here is to rent a nice Honda or Kawasaki that's about the same as the one you learned on. These days, renting a small motorcycle is a lot like renting a car, and is pretty inexpensive (about \$40 to \$60 per day).

STEP 3 Time to shop for just the right bike!

By this time you'll know if you're ready to ride with the boys. If you are, I can recommend 3 bikes.

The Huger 883 by Harley is considered the perfect Harley for a woman. It's also the least expensive. Slightly higher in price is Honda's VLS 1300, a very nice cruiser. **But the most in-demand bike for women is the Fatboy from Harley.**

Here again, the best way to shop is to rent first, and try them out. It's the smart thing to do before spending \$10-\$20,000. **And you might have a whole lot of fun!**