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**How to find the year of manufacture of your bike.**

Look for the VIN plate on the frame of the bike.

NOTE: If it was made before 1981 look for the frame or chassis number a different system was used.

(For Honda it will comprise a model code and a sequential number).

The VIN plate gives a 17 alpha numeric number. Find the tenth letter or number and see below for the year.

If the VIN plate is missing look in the registration document.

If you are buying a bike and it does not have a VIN plate - proceed with caution.

VIN 10th Character	Year Manf.
A	1980
B	1981
C	1982
D	1983
E	1984
F	1985
G	1986
H	1987
J	1988
K	1989
L	1990
M	1991
N	1992
P	1993
R	1994
S	1995
T	1996

VIN 10th Character	Year Manf.
V	1997
W	1998
X	1999
Y	2000
1	2001
2	2002
3	2003
4	2004
5	2005
6	2006
7	2007
8	2008
9	2009
A	2010
B	2011
C	2012
D	2013

**The model year runs from September 1st of the previous year to August 31st of the**

A	1980 2010	L	1990 2020	Y	2000 2030
B	1981 2011	M	1991 2021	1	2001 2031
C	1982 2012	N	1992 2022	2	2002 2032
D	1983 2013	P	1993 2023	3	2003 2033
E	1984 2014	R	1994 2024	4	2004 2034
F	1985 2015	S	1995 2025	5	2005 2035
G	1986 2016	T	1996 2026	6	2006 2036
H	1987 2017	V	1997 2027	7	2007 2037
J	1988 2018	W	1998 2028	8	2008 2038
K	1989 2019	X	1999 2029	9	2009 2039

- the pattern repeats itself every 30 years.

**Examples**

VIN starts	Country	Manufacturer
JH	Japan	Honda
JK	Japan	Kawasaki
JS	Japan	Suzuki
JY	Japan	Yamaha
WB	Germany	BMW

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
World Manufacturer Identifier			Vehicle Descriptor Section						Vehicle Indicator Section							
W	B	1	0	5	4	4	A	X	Y	Z	A	3	2	5	2	0

This is a BMW K1200RS model type 544 built in Germany in 2000

A–H = Africa

**AA-AH** South Africa

**AJ-AN** Ivory Coast

**AP-AO** not assigned

**BA-BE** Angola

**BF-BK** Kenya

**BL-BR** Tanzania

**BS-BO** not assigned

**CA-CE** Benin

**CF-CK** Madagascar

**CL-CR** Tunisia

**CS-CO** not assigned

**DA-DE** Egypt

**DF-DK** Morocco

**DL-DR** Zambia

**DS-DO** not assigned

**EA-EE** Ethiopia

**EF-EK** Mozambique

**EL-EO** not assigned

**FA-FE** Ghana

**FF-FK** Nigeria

**FL-FO** not assigned

**GA-GO** not assigned

**HA-HO** not assigned

J–R = Asia

**JA-JO** Japan

**KA-KE** Sri Lanka

**KF-KK** Israel

**KL-KR** Korea (South)

**KS-KO** not assigned

**LA-LO** China

**MA-ME** India

**MF-MK** Indonesia

**ML-MR** Thailand

**MS-MO** not assigned

**NA-NE** Iran

**NF-NK** Pakistan

**NL-NR** Turkey

**NS-NO** not assigned

**PA-PE** Philippines

**PF-PK** Singapore

**PL-PR** Malaysia

**PS-PO** not assigned

**RA-RE** United Arab Emirates

**RF-RK** Taiwan

**RL-RR** Vietnam

**RS-RO** Saudi Arabia

S–Z = Europe

**SA-SM** United Kingdom

**SN-ST** Germany

**SU-SZ** Poland

**S1-S4** Latvia

**TA-TH** Switzerland

**TJ-TP** Czech Republic

**TR-TV** Hungary

**TW-T1** Portugal

**T2-T0** not assigned

**UA-UG** not assigned

**UH-UM** Denmark

**UN-UT** Ireland

**UU-UZ** Romania

**U1-U4** not assigned

**U5-U7** Slovakia

**U8-U0** not assigned

**VA-VE** Austria

**VF-VR** France

**VS-VW** Spain

**VX-V2** Serbia

**V3-V5** Croatia

**V6-V0** Estonia

**WA-W0** Germany

**XA-XE** Bulgaria

**XF-XK** Greece

**XL-XR** Netherlands

**XS-XW** USSR

**XX-X2** Luxembourg

**X3-X0** Russia

**YA-YE** Belgium

**YF-YK** Finland

**YL-YR** Malta

**YS-YW** Sweden

**YX-Y2** Norway

**Y3-Y5** Belarus

**Y6-Y0** Ukraine

**ZA-ZR** Italy

**ZS-ZW** not assigned

**ZX-Z2** Slovenia

**Z3-Z5** Lithuania

**Z6-Z0** not assigned

1–5 = North America

**1A-10** United States

**2A-20** Canada

**3A-37** Mexico

**38-30** Cayman Islands

**4A-40** United States

**5A-50** United States

6–7 = Oceania

**6A-6W** Australia

**6X-60** not assigned

**7A-7E** New Zealand

**7F-70** not assigned

8–9 = South America

**8A-8E** Argentina

**8F-8K** Chile

**8L-8R** Ecuador

**8S-8W** Peru

**8X-82** Venezuela

**83-80** not assigned

**9A-9E** Brazil

**9F-9K** Colombia

**9L-9R** Paraguay

**9S-9W** Uruguay

**9X-92** Trinidad & Tobago

**93–99** Brazil

**90** not assigned