

Ride West BMW - Important Service Bulletin

Proper procedure for charging your Installed battery for all CAN-BUS BMW Motorcycle Owners

1. Turn the ignition of the motorcycle to “ON”.
2. Connect the battery charger to the “On Board Socket” first, then connect the charger to a 110 volt outlet.
3. Turn the ignition key to the “OFF” position.

Important Information:

- The battery cannot be charged using the On Board Socket if the battery has less than 7 volts present
- Only one battery charger, available from BMW, can be used to charge the bike via the On Board Socket.
- If you are going to use a commercially available battery charger (any charger other than listed above), or the battery voltage is less than 7 volts, the battery will need to be disconnected from the vehicle. ****Commercially available chargers connected via the On Board Socket can damage both the charger and the ZFE control unit. Commercially available chargers must not exceed a charging voltage of 14.4 volts or be designed to run desulphurization cycles.*****
- Batteries stored for long periods need to be charged once a month.
- On all CAN-Bus bikes, except the R1200RT, the On Board Socket’s circuit is designed to shut-down if more than approximately 5 amps are present (R1200RT – apx. 10 amps).

Battery Types:

- FLA = Flooded Lead Acid Battery. Traditional engine start battery design with liquid electrolyte free to move in cell compartments. User adds distilled water as battery dries out.
- AGM = Absorbed Glass Matte Battery. Maintenance-free sealed design with liquid electrolyte suspended in glass fiber mats.
- GEL = Gel Battery. Maintenance-free sealed battery design utilizes an electrolyte ‘gel’.

Battery Chargers:

- The chargers noted below can safely charge *installed* FLA, AGM, and GEL *uninstalled* batteries.
- 71 60 7 688 865 – BMW Motorrad Maintenance Charger. Capable of charging installed batteries through the accessory socket of all BMW motorcycles, including ‘CAN-BUS’ models (05 and later)
- 99 99 0 005 370 – Five –Pole Shop Gel Battery Charger. Safely charges 2004 and earlier motorcycles through the accessory socket. **NOTE: Remove battery from CAN-BUS bikes before charging.**
- 99 99 0 005 656 – Generation II Personal Gel Battery Charger. Cost effective, Safely charges 2004 and earlier motorcycles through the accessory socket. **NOTE: Remove battery from CAN-BUS bikes before charging.**
- 90 88 6 611 590 – BMW Motorrad Charger/Tester Shop Tool. Charges all batteries through the accessory socket, including CAN-BUS motorcycles. Also capable of performing certain battery and electrical system tests.

Winter Storage:

- Information on charging motorcycles placed in winter storage with the battery removed: Vehicles not used for long periods of time, need to have the battery charged. If the battery charger is connected to the **On Board Socket** you can only use the BMW Charger recommended for ZFE control units; **P/N 71060706880865.**
- A battery disconnected from the vehicle can be charged using a commercial available charger with a maximum charging of 14.4 volts. Store a battery in a cool place approximately 41°F to 60°F. Batteries stored for long periods of time need to be charged once a month. Batteries need to be fully charged before installation in a vehicle.

Attention: Do not use a commercially available charger that runs desulphurization cycles. Max voltage is 14.4 volts DCV.