



BABY POWDER & UNDERARM DEODORANT

Well, this should be more like it! Warmer weather, places to go, stuff to see, new roads to ride. Here's the monthly dose of Touring Tips. Send us your tips; share with your fellow enthusiasts! Hey, guys and gals - be sure to include your MOA membership number, your full name, and state or province!

Here's another alternative to motorcycle-specific riding gloves; try football 'Wide Receiver' gloves. The palms are quite 'sticky,' and provide excellent feel and dexterity to operate your controls. Both hot- and cold-weather models are available. Padding is added for protection. Prices range from US \$15 to \$79. I got mine at www.nflshop.com. Duane Woerman, #102574, AZ.

Here are two Tips that help me put on more miles each day. First, get a comfortable seat; there are quite a few seat-makers out there. If your stock seat makes you hang it up early each day, spending the money on a custom seat will be well-worth it. Secondly, wear good-quality ear-plugs. These will attenuate the wind-noise, which wears me out throughout the day. Tom Shader, #89368, CO.

Those plastic male Euro-plugs that fit in BMWs' accessory socket can break, especially if the screw in the middle is over-tightened. It's not good to be far from home on a cold, dark night with no heated clothing! I protect mine with two or three turns of black electrical tape. It seems to do the job. Richard McKinley, #39228, MO.

For those of us who use radios and navigations units - and wish we had a hard, pointy finger on the end of the glove, try this: tape a short, unsharpened stub of pencil, eraser-end forward,

to your glove's index finger. I use this digit-extension to operate my XM radio; I'm sure it will work on other gizmos, too. Phil Albritton, #106438, GA.

From an old Road King rider, more on butt-burn: Sprinkle baby powder on a sanitary napkin, and place it between your buns. Then, wear two pairs of cotton boxer shorts. Works for me! Steve Vincent, #128548, OR

Do you or your passenger slide around on the seat? Does the tank-bag slide around, no matter how tight the cinch-straps are? I use waffle-weave non-slip material as a seat-pad for both rider and passenger; I place it under the tank-bag, too. It cures the problem. The material comes in several colors, and is sold in big-box store and RV supply houses. Larry Friedman, #29490, MA.

I keep track on maintenance items like oil-changes, tire-replacement dates, and more, by writing the information on individual pieces of duct-tape, and fastening them under the seat. When I do a maintenance item, I write the new info on a new piece of tape and place it over the old one. It saves trying to keep track of a logbook. Kevin Kiene, #4117, IA.

Running out of fuel can ruin a ride. I made up an emergency siphon, using gasoline-rated fuel-hose, 3/8" OD, with an outboard-motor priming-bulb; the suction side of the hose is about 10 feet long, and the discharge side is 2 feet. I measured one gallon from a bucket of water, and found that 60 pumps on the bulb produced one gallon. This emergency tool weights less than one pound and takes up almost no space. Don't get caught without one! Doug Wilson, #103927, TX.

Here's another 'personal' Tip: Underarm deodorant can not only make you socially more pleasant on a long ride, but can also alleviate butt-burn. Apply liberally to the crotch. It will last two to three days, and make you much more comfortable, without the mess that powders make. Underarm deodorant is useful for easing minor itching of unbroken skin, too. Frank Yuhas, #68216, IN.

Here's Wally's 'Spring Pre-Ride Checklist:' 1) Check your tires, wheels and air-pressure. 2) Charge the battery slowly, and be sure the acid-level is correct. 3) Check all light-bulbs, fore and aft. 4) Change the oil, even if you did it in the fall before storage. 5) Check all other lubricants' levels, too. 6) Check brake fluid and pads or shoes for wear. 7) Replace the plugs with new, correctly-gapped plugs. 8) Check and lube all other cables and controls, and top off other fluids. Now, take a short ride. Be sure that your skills are refreshed, and then ride safe and enjoy! Wally Wersching, #85946, NC

"Touring Tips" is a monthly column in the 'Owners News' which allows each of us to learn something new from the collective wisdom of the BMW moto-touring family. Contributions are welcome from all BMW MOA Members. Maybe you've learned how to conquer 'Butt-Burn,' or solve a roadside problem quickly and easily. "Touring Tips" can include technical information related to "Kluge Repairs" and quick fixes - however, we don't deal with technical stuff inside the engine or drive-train. Send your Touring Tips to the TT Editor, Roger Wiles (32797) at: roger@rogerwiles.com or 9223 Hill Street, Blairsville, GA 30512. If your submission is published, the ON Editorial Offices will send you a nice 'thank you' gift.