

THE HEAVY-DUTY KDX 200

How to laugh at bumps & pokey 250s



The most noticeable change on our wrenched-on 200 is the Kannon pipe and Answer Equalizer silencer. The silencer is quite long, but at least it is quiet and doesn't burn the back fender. Shortening the kickstarter is a good idea by itself—there's no way you can hurt your foot kicking this KDX.

By Paul Clipper

We would never have named the KDX-200 the best 200 class machine for '84 without good reason. The bike handles well, has a good suspension, and has an excellent spread of power for just about every use. But, we never said that it couldn't be improved, so soon after our testing was completed we went searching for ways to smooth over the rough parts of the bike, and maybe even find a little more horsepower. And this is what we learned.

BETTER BOUNCERS

The stock rear shock works well at first, but it wears down quickly. We started out at the #2 damping setting, and 500 miles later we were using #4. Just like a cylinder re-bore, after number four you should start looking for another shock, or at least a rebuild.

There are a number of people offering rebuild jobs on these shocks. We went for the Works Performance Heart Transplant, mainly because we were familiar with Works' product and knew that it would do the job. We also used the stiffer Kawasaki accessory spring, with the preload set at 9⁷/₈ inches of spring length.

The forks received the same heavier spring treatment in an effort to reduce the harsh bottoming on deep, square-edged holes, but new springs just weren't enough.

The stock forks don't use bottoming cones at the bottom of the damper rods; Terrykit fork kits do. In went the Terrykit for the KDX200, along with 7.5-weight oil set at 5½ inches from the top, forks compressed. Hey presto—no more clanking!

HORSEPOWER HUNT

Who could resist the power search? Guessing that the stock carb was rather small (32mm) for a heavy-breathing engine, we took a long shot and tried out the 34mm carb from a KX125. Three revelations: the carb bolts right on; the stock KX125 jetting is sea-level perfect; there is an overall increase in power, with no losses anywhere in the rev range.

With no losses from the bigger KX carb, we naturally wondered whether a 36mm carb would help out even more. Alas, the lack of a commercially prepared 36 for the KDX and limited time before going to press kept us from putting together such a test. We'll try it, though—keep your eye on "Bits and Pieces" for our results.

Krause Racing makes a Kannon Pipe for the KDX200, so we tried it out and wound up with another slight power increase. The pipe gives a quicker surge of torque right off the bottom and stronger pulling in the mid-range. The Kannon pipe had no effect on top-end power. If you want a KDX to rev further, you'll have to have it ported.



The stock KDX liked to stand up out of a turn, but the modified one may just leap out from under you. The bike gained better power on the bottom and in the mid-range, and now has a beefed-up suspension to handle it.

To keep the pipe from burning the side panel, we applied a 100% Moto Tile to the underside of the plastic.

Keeping the sparks at bay is an Answer Products oval Equalizer muffler with the bolt-on accessory spark arrester. This is the quietest combination we've used on any bike, and it doesn't look bad, either.

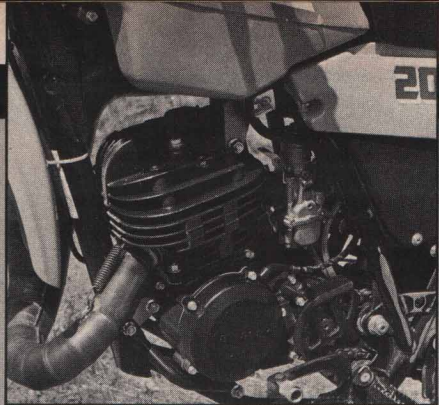
LITTLE DETAILS

The stock KDX fork boots ripped during the first excursion into heavy brush, so when we finished monking on the forks, we slipped on a set of Gator fork wipers. Very stylish, and they pop on with no hassles.

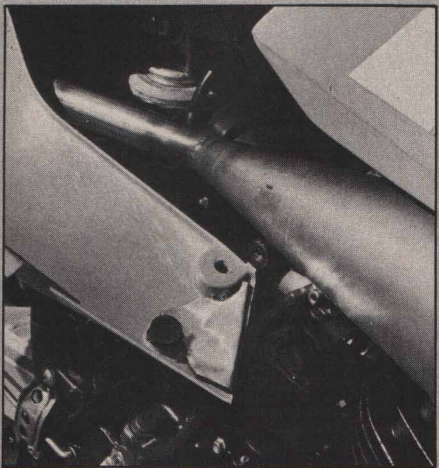
Terry cables took the place of all the stock cables, after the stockers did their best to kink in every unwanted direction. We kept the stock levers, having grown very attached to the easy cable adjusters. They are bolted to a set of Answer RH-Z chromoly bars, and the new Oakley B-2 grips cushion each end.

The stock KDX kickstarter is more than eight inches long, which, if you think about it, is kind of excessive for a small-displacement bike. We cut 2¾ inches out of it and then had the pieces heli-arc'd together. The shortened kicker is easier to get your foot on, and no longer need you worry about smashing the top of your foot into the footpeg.

Wheel department: The stock wheels are



The Krause pipe seems to stick out a bit, but it isn't much worse than the stocker. Heavy gauge steel helps fight off the dents. A 34mm KX carb helped out the mid-range; we're going to check out a 36 and see if it'll put fangs on the KDX.



Fatter pipe will burn plastic without some sort of a heat shield. 100% Moto Tiles do the trick and stick on with no hassle.

holding up fine. For rubber we used the best combination we know of—Dunlop K139 in the front and Metzeler 4.50 x 18 four-ply in the rear. The perfect set of tires for flat protection and maximum traction. A Side-winder sprocket connects the chain to the rear wheel; it's much stronger than stock and should come in handy if it ever rains out here again.

AND YOU WIND UP WITH...

... a KDX200 that will pound through rough terrain much easier than a stocker, that will grunt up even nastier hills, and snarl past most 250s with incredible ease. It will be easier to ride, quieter, and will do wheelies with a flick of the wrist. What could be better than that? □

KDX200 PRICE LIST

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Terrykit fork kit | \$65.11 |
| Kawasaki optional fork springs | 14.32 |
| Gator Moto-X S'wipers | 9.95 |
| Works Performance Heart Transplant | 175.00 |
| Kawasaki optional shock spring | 89.00 |
| Kawasaki KX125 carburetor | 99.70 |
| Krause KDX200 Kannon pipe | 139.95 |
| Answer Equalizer muffler | 56.95 |
| Answer Add-On spark arrester | 32.95 |
| Sidewinder rear sprocket | 39.95 |
| Answer RH-Z handlebars | 27.95 |
| Terry cables | (each) 11.95 |
| Oakley B-2 grips | 5.00 |
| Metzeler 4.50 x 18 4-ply | 70.00 |
| Dunlop 3.00 x 21 K139 | 60.00 |
| 100% Moto Tile | 6.95 |

See your local dealer for ordering or more information, or contact the companies listed above.

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DUNLOP

K690A-Soft terrain
 510-18 **\$49.69**
 400-18 **40.68**
 500-17 **48.97** **K490 K138HT K139**

K490 - Soft/Intermed terrain
 140/80-18 **\$36.81** 510-17 **\$52.62**
 130/80-18 **36.75** 275-17 **21.52**
 120/80-18 **35.41** 410-14 **23.52**

K138HT-Hard terrain
 510-18 **\$59.20** 410-18 **\$49.69**
 450-18 **55.92** 300-21 (K139) **49.88**

METZELER

Perfect Cross -
 Soft Terrain or
 Hard Terrain

120/90-18 **\$65.67** Metzeler Moto
 460-18 **60.82** and Multi-Cross
 510-18 **62.91** tires also avail-
 140/80-18 **68.77** able - call for
 300-21 **45.89** prices.

CHENG SHIN

C-703/C-183D-
 Soft terrain

530-18 **\$41.73**
 500-18 **34.30**
 500-17 **35.39**
 460-18 **34.23**
 410-18 **26.77**
 360-18 **22.63**
 250-16 **11.88**
 385-14 **20.44**
 300-21 **21.50**
 300-23 **24.97**

S-760 -
 Hard terrain

530-18 **\$35.88**
 460-18 **32.59**
 410-18 **26.55**
 350-18 **22.96**
 530-17 **36.84**
 300-16 **17.52**
 410-14 **21.24**
 300-21 **21.76**

560-18 **\$44.73**
 560-17 **43.57**
 325-21 **29.92**

IRC, Bridgestone tires available - call for our discount prices.

HOOKER EXHAUSTS

Save 40%
 Manufacturer's Giant Overstock Sale of complete exhaust systems with mufflers! Save an incredible **40%** off suggested list prices! This is **10% below** dealer prices. Extra bonus - free shipping included. Sale limited to quantities on hand.

| Model | Year | List Price | Save 40% |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| XR500R | 61-82 | \$130.50 | \$78.30 |
| XR/XL500 | 79-81 | 130.50 | 78.30 |
| XR200/R | 81-82 | 168.00 | 99.80 |
| XR200R | 81-82 | 120.00 | 72.00 |
| XR/XL80/100 | 79-82 | 99.25 | 59.55 |
| ATC110 | 79-83 | 82.25 | 49.35 |
| ATC90 | 70-78 | 63.75 | 38.25 |
| ATC70 | 78-83 | 85.25 | 51.15 |
| MT250 | 74-76 | 121.00 | 72.60 |
| KS/KE/KD125/74-79 | 96.50 | 57.90 | |
| DR/SP370/ SP400 | 78-80/118.00 | 69.80 | |
| TT/XL500 | 77-81 | 124.25 | 74.55 |
| TT/XL250 | 80-82 | 100.25 | 59.80 |

Supertrapp, Bassani, Kerker, DG, Answer off-road, ATV and street exhausts also available - call for discount prices.

ANSWER SILENCERS/ SPARK ARRESTORS

Rebuildable. In lightweight aluminum. Individually tuned - insures low and mid-range torque increases. U.S. Forestry-approved spark arrester. Fit stock exhausts only. All 84 silencers are oval. For **79-84 CR/KX/KDX/RM/PE/YZ/TT**. Prices from **\$42.46 to \$59.46**. Call or write for specific applications.

WISCO PISTONS

Replacement hi-performance superlight forged pistons and rings in six oversizes up to .80". Available for most bikes - Call for info and prices.

Dehandlers (Sunline): Plastic **\$8.12/pr.** Aluminum **\$12.92/pr.** PRO levers **\$13.47/pr.** **Silver perches** (Sunline): Clutch or brake **\$6.88** each. XR/XL **\$7.88** each. **Gunnar Gasser**: The original Whirrpull throttle **\$17.80** each.

CONTROL CABLES - available for most dirt bikes. All Terry cables **\$10.50 ea**

SPROCKETS

Replace worn-out sprockets with our high quality front case-hardened steel and rear hardened aluminum sprockets. Available for most 1976-84 models Honda, Kawasaki, Suzuki, Yamaha, Husqvarna, KTM and Maico.

Chain Size
 420/428 520

Rear 30-39 **\$16.28 ea** **\$20.35 ea**
 40-48 **20.86** **23.28**
 49-53 **23.57** **26.90**
 54-60 **24.82** **29.93**
 Front 10-17 **6.86** **8.96**

Call or write for specific sprocket sizes to fit your bike. Remember - for best performance also replace your chain when replacing sprockets.

DRIVE CHAINS

We offer the best selection and prices. Chain shipped pre-cut to desired length. One masterlink included with chain. Include masterlink when counting number of links on chain to be replaced. **Price per link**

RK520-SO (O-ring) -
 the best) **39¢**
 Tsubaki 420 QR **12¢**
 Tsubaki 428 QR **14¢**
 Tsubaki 520 QR **25¢**
 Diamond 428 HD **23¢**
 Diamond 520 MS **26¢**
 D.I.D. 428H **15¢**
 D.I.D. 520G **33¢**
 D.I.D. 428V (O-ring) **39¢**
 D.I.D. 520V (O-ring) **44¢**
 EK/TK 428 STD **12¢**
 EK/TK 520 STD **14¢**

MULHOLLAND SHOCKS

New P-series low pressure freon gas shock with 3-stage adjustable damping and nine-stage valving. In eye-to-eye lengths 12 1/2", 13", 13 1/2", 15", 16", or 17". Choice of dual rate springs: 65/130, 75/150, 90/175 or 100/200 lbs. **\$108/pair incl. springs.**

S&W and Works Performance shocks also available. Call for info.

BOYSEN REEDS

Dual stage reed valves for better low and mid-range performance, quicker throttle response, better fuel efficiency. Easy to install. Specify make, model, year. Prices from **\$10.40 to \$29.80.**

OEM REPLACEMENT FENDERS

Exact replicas of stock fenders in unbreakable team color-matched plastic. Offers substantial savings over stock OEM fender prices. Available for **CR/KX/RM/YZ/Husky/Maico 78-84**. Front fenders from **\$10.50 to \$21.00**. Rear fenders from **\$9.45 to \$15.50**. ATC/Teacote/YT fenders also available.

HEAVY-DUTY CLUTCH PLATES & SPRINGS

Replace worn-out stock plates and springs with these hi-performance, bonded friction plates and springs from Barnett. **Very important: specify make, model and year of manufacture and quantity of friction plates and springs needed** (see bike's instruction manual, if in doubt). Available for most dirt bikes - call or write for specific applications.

Bonded friction plate. **\$4.88** each
 Clutch springs **\$1.63** each

RIDER WEAR FULL-FACE HELMETS

All have built-in, vented chin guards. Visors included.

Lazer MX: New from Belgium! A best buy. Weighs 1/2 lbs. less than Bell Moto 3. Includes European style visor. Has built-in pivot pins to convert helmet for use with face shield (included) for riders preferring a shield rather than goggles for off-road riding. D.O.T. White, red, blue, yellow, green or black **XS, S, M, L, XL**. Reg. **\$89.95**

Bell Moto 4: Snell 80, white, red, blue, yellow, 6 3/4 thru 7 3/4. Reg. **\$184.95** **\$139.50**

Bell Moto 3: Snell 80, white, red, blue, yellow, or black **6 3/4 thru 7 3/4**. Reg. **\$149.95** **\$99.50**

Simpson 52: Snell 80, white, red, or yellow **6 1/8 thru 7 3/4**. Reg. **\$139.95** **\$99.50**

Bell Trailstar: D.O.T. white, red, or blue **XS** (for children), **S, M, L, XL**. Reg. **\$119.95** **\$84.50**

Maxon ATV: D.O.T. white, red, or yellow **S, M, L, XL**. Reg. **\$69.95** **\$49.88**

NAVA VIP: D.O.T. red or yellow **S, M, L, XL**. Reg. **\$99.95** **\$74.43**

OPEN FACE HELMETS

Use with goggles/face mask combination. Visors included.

Marushin MZ-GX II: Has removable chin guard - converts to street model. Snell 80, white, red, yellow or blue **XS, S, M, L, XL**. Reg. **\$99.95** **\$84.91**

Simpson 72: New, ultra-light carbon fiber open face helmet. Snell 80, white, yellow, red, black **6 1/8 thru 7 3/4**. Reg. **\$136.00** **\$124.40**

JERSEYS

Long-sleeved, **50/50%** cotton/polyester blend. LaCoste knit type weave. With bold team graphics. **Sizes: adult S, M, L, XL. Kids S, M, L.**

O'Neal Ultra-Lite, adult **\$14.39**
 O'Neal Ultra-Lite, kids **12.50**
 Hallman World Class, adult/kids **16.86**
 Fox, vented mesh, adult only **17.70**
 Answer World, regular adult only **15.59**
 Answer World, vented, adult only **17.70**

Hi-Point, Sinisalo, Malcolm Smith jerseys also available. Call for info. **KIDNEY BELTS** Goldbelt std **\$18.49**, vented **\$17.16**. Answer std **\$16.25**, vented **\$16.76**. Hallman std **\$13.88**, vented **\$15.25**.

BOOTS

All boots available in full sizes 5 thru 13. Sizes run large - order one size smaller than dress shoe size. All have new style wedge (directional) sole.

O'Neal Ultra-Lite II: in wht/blue, red/blue, blue/red, yellow, blk/yel. **\$119.40/pr.**

Hi-Point Pro: New '84 model, in blk, red/wht, blue/wht. **\$143.43/pr.**

Hi-Point "Alpine Stars": new - economy priced leather boot. Black only **\$109.80/pr.**

SuperFox: in blk/yel, blue/yel, red. Enduro sole in blk/red (size 5 not available). **\$128.70/pr.**

AXO Matherbe, Gaerne, Hallman/Sidi and Nava/M Robert plastic boots also available. Call for info.

GLOVES

O'Neal, Hallman, Fox, Oakley, and Sinisalo gloves available in all sizes and colors. Call for info.

PANTS

Features include Spandex elastic side panels for improved fit, leather inside knee area. Knee/shin guards included. Specify team name on legs or plain leg (solid red, blue or yellow) in sizes **adult 28", 30", 32", 34", 36", or kids 24", 26"**.

O'Neal Ultra-Lite team **\$79.95**
 O'Neal Ultra-Lite, plain leg **74.95**
 O'Neal Ultra-Lite, kids, team only **69.95**
 Hallman Super Pro-GP team (also 38") **97.16**
 Hallman Pro GP plain leg (no yel, also 38", 40", 42") **89.55**
 Hallman Stadium, team **74.95**
 Answer Racing, team (also 38") **89.55**
 Answer Front Vented, team **98.88**
 Answer Econo pants (red/blue, green/blue, yellow/blue, yellow/blk) **55.00**
 Answer Mud pants **32.00**

Hi-Point, Sinisalo, Malcolm Smith, Chuck Sun, Yoko pants also available. Call for info.

GOGGLES/FACEMASKS

Goggles #89 **\$16.88**, Scott facemask **\$5.95**, Scott Roll-off-system **\$26.50**, Oakley O/20 **\$18.50**, O/21 facemask long **\$6.80**, short **\$4.80**. Smith SMX **\$18.50**. Jones **\$16.88**. All repl. lenses available.

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