

Year	1952 K	1953 K	1954 K	1955 K	1956 K	1957 XL	1958 XL	1959 XL	1960 XL	1961 XL	1962 XL	1963 XL	1964 XL	1965 XL	1966 XL	1967 XL	1968 XL	1969 XL	1970 XL	1971 XL	1972 XL	1973 XL	1974 XL	1975 XL	1976 XL	1977 XL	1978 XL	1977 XLCR	1979 XL	1980 XL	1981 XL	1982 XL	1983 XL	1984 XL	1983/4 XR-1000	Year		
Engine	740cc 45cid flat head no trap door		900cc 55cid flat head			900cc 55cid OHV										900cc 55cid OHV elect start					1000cc 61cid OHV, electric start except XLCH models. 1972 1-year-only heads and cylinders. 1974 speedo drive from tranny to front wheel. 1977 major case change, 1981 electric starter mounting changed, no kickstarter possible. 1985 not shown since alternator is behind clutch.										1000cc 61cid OHV elect start alum heads		Engine					
Engine XLCH	NA					Same case 900cc 55cid OHV										Same case, no elect												Engine XLCH										
Front Brake	Side drum										Hub drum										Bana disk	single disk					Dual disk rattler					modern single disk		Front brake				
Rear Brake	Drum rod										Drum cable										Disk rattler					Disk modern					Rear brake							
Shifter	Right side										Left side kludge										Left side								Shifter									
Frame	Cast joints, no dent in under side of top tube					Cast joints, dent in under side of top tube										Cast joints, dent in under side of top tube, angled rear tubes					Welded joints, dent in under side of top tube, angled rear tubes					Triangle			Modern loop				Frame					
Gear case	Mount distrib and magneto										Cone, old pinion shaft										Cone, new pinion shaft								Gear case									
Primary	Single rib aluminum					Sportster logo XLH, Tin XLCH 1958-1969										Hump aluminum (other than 67-69 XLCH)										Hump aluminum new case								Primary				
Gen	6-volt										12V Prestolite										12-volt Hitachi								Gen									
Starter	NA										Prestolite										Hitachi					Back to Prestolite			Nippon denso planetary					Starter				
Gas XLH	Large flat- bottom					Large dented bottom					Turtle										Peanut	CR tank	Peanut new mount		Peanut yet a new mount		Peanut, yet a different mount			Gas Tank								
Gas XLCH	NA					Peanut										CR tank	NA	XLS:Large maybe gage		XLS: rubber mount		XLS: Dash		NA		Gas XLCH												
Front fender	Struts, rear flair			Struts, no flair			Valenced					Struts, no flair			Top mount, braces; 1983 XLXTop mount one off 59031 -83										Top mount 59007-84				Front fender									
Front fender XLCH	NA					Struts, no flair																				Top mount 59007-84				Front fender XLCH								
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Oil tank K, XLH	Kidney										Triangle										Loop								Oil tank K, XLH									
oil tank XLCH	NA					Horse shoe					Lunch box																		oil tank									
Battery	6V										Two 6V					12V H12 28AH 28AH										YB16-B fact 65991- 75C								YB16-B fact 65991- 82A				Battery
Battery XLCH	none										12V 7AH																						Battery XLCH					
Tail lamp	Hood			Hole in fender, two lenses										One piece lens										Tail lamp														
Rear shocks	Early										middle										Showa					12.7 13.5 opt		12.5		late				Rear shocks				
Exhaust	Single, separate front and rear pipes					Single comb front and rear pipes		Inter connected duals, short mufflers, high pupe XLCH 1959			Staggered duals, many others fit or were optional					integrated quiet	Staggered duals		Staggered dual with crossover		Single muffler		Dual both sides will fit 54-78		staggered duals new mount			left side		Exhaust								
Headl lamp	Bottom mount					Eye brow XLCH, New bot mount XLH with nacelle										Eye brow										Head lamp												
Clutch	Dry										Wet, 1980 and later has diff ring gear										Clutch																	
Kick starter	Yes										No										Kick starter																	
Carb	Linkert					L-carb										Tillotson					Bendix					Keihin butterfly								del orto dual		Carb		
Front end	Cow bell			Gator, axle fender mount										Top mount fender					Kaya	Showa single disk					Showa dual disk					Modern single disk				Front end				
Trans mission	4-spped crash box																												Trans mission									
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Major components. many variations within one type, see detailed BOM for part numbers. (Revision 4)