

Kawasaki ZX600 (ZZ-R600 & Ninja ZX-6) Service and Repair Manual

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Models covered

ZX600D (ZZ-R600). 599cc. UK 1990 to 1993
ZX600D (Ninja ZX-6). 599cc. US 1990 to 1993
ZX600E (ZZ-R600). 599cc. UK 1993 to 2000
ZX600E (Ninja ZX-6). 599cc. US 1993 to 2000

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LIVING WITH YOUR KAWASAKI ZX600

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Frame and engine numbers

The frame serial number is stamped into the right side of the steering head and the engine serial number is stamped into the right engine case. Both of these numbers should be recorded and kept in a safe place so they can be furnished to law enforcement officials in the event of theft.

The frame serial number, engine serial number and carburetor identification number should also be kept in a handy place (such as with your driver's license) so they are always available when purchasing or ordering parts for your machine.

The accompanying table gives a breakdown of the initial frame numbers for each model and year of production.

Buying spare parts

Once you have found all the identification numbers, record them for reference when buying parts. Since the manufacturers change specifications, parts and vendors (companies that manufacture various components on the machine), providing the ID numbers is the only way to be reasonably sure that you are buying the correct parts.

Whenever possible, take the worn part to the dealer so direct comparison with the new component can be made. Along the trail from the manufacturer to the parts shelf, there are numerous places that the part can end up with the wrong number or be listed incorrectly.

The two places to purchase new parts for your motorcycle - the accessory store and the franchised dealer - differ in the type of parts they carry. While dealers can obtain virtually every part for your cycle, the accessory dealer is usually limited to normal high wear items such as shock absorbers, tune-up parts, various engine gaskets, cables, chains, brake parts, etc. Rarely will an accessory outlet have major suspension components, cylinders, transmission gears, or cases.

Used parts can be obtained for roughly half the price of new ones, but you can't always be sure of what you're getting. Once again, take your worn part to the wrecking yard (breaker) for direct comparison.

Whether buying new, used or rebuilt parts, the best course is to deal directly with someone who specializes in parts for your particular make.

UK ZZ-R600 models:

Year	Model	Initial frame number
1990	ZX600-D1	ZX600D-000001
1991	ZX600-D2	ZX600D-014001 to 028000
1991	ZX600-D2A	ZX600D-600001 to 602500
1992/3	ZX600-D3	ZX600D-028001 on (Japan manufacture)
1992/3	ZX600-D3	ZX600D-602501 on (USA manufacture)
1993	ZX600-E1	ZX600E-000001 to 020000
1994	ZX600-E2	ZX600E-020001 to 032000
1995	ZX600-E3	ZX600E-032001 on
1996	ZX600-E4	ZX600E-038001 to 045000
1997	ZX600-E5	ZX600E-045001 on
1998	ZX600-E6	ZX600E-050001 on
1999	ZX600-E7	JKAZX600EEA057001 on
2000	ZX600-E8	Not available

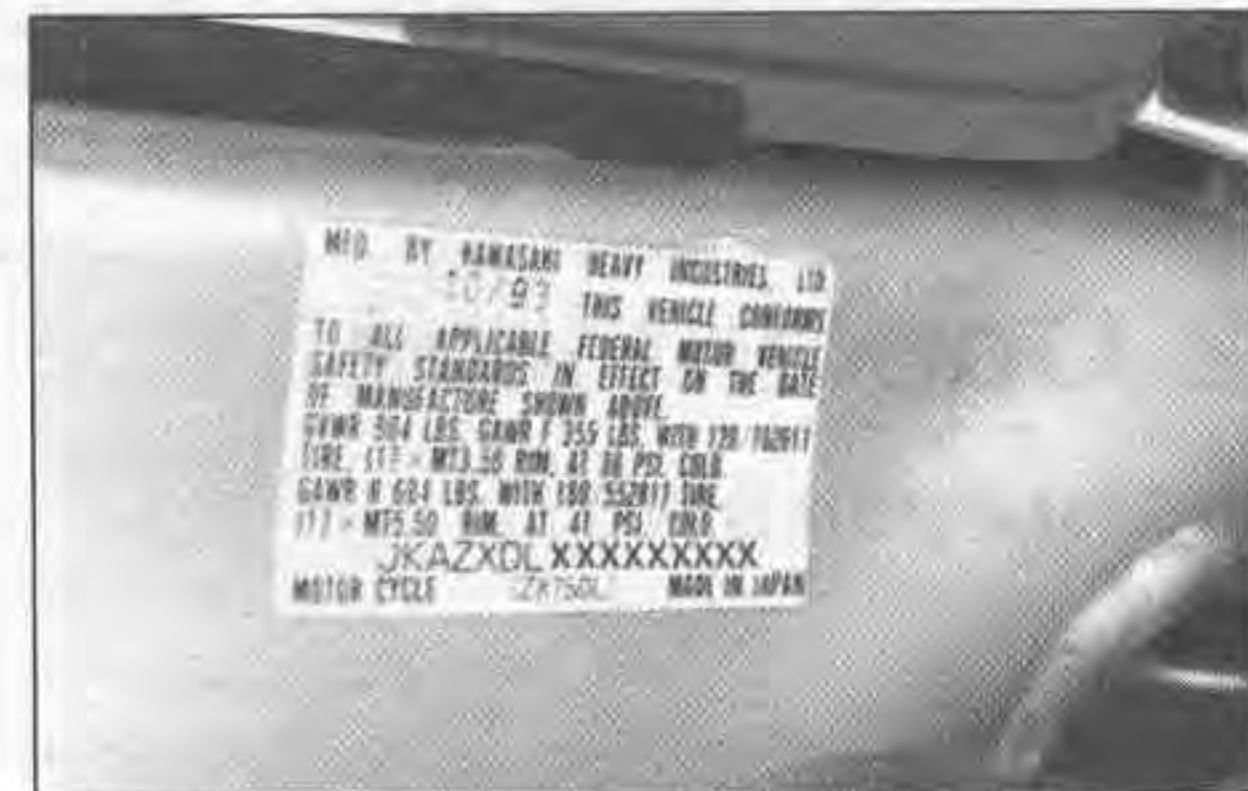
US Ninja ZX-6 models:

1990	ZX600-D1	JKAZX4D1*LA000001 on, or JKAZX4D1*LB500001 on
1991	ZX600-D2	JKAZX4D1*MA014001 on, or JKAZX4D1*MB502201 on
1992	ZX600-D3	JKAZX4D1*NA028001 on, JKAZX4D1*NB505201 on, or ZX600D-028001 on
1993	ZX600-D4	JKAZX4D1*PB508301 on
1993	ZX600-E1	JKAZX4E1*PA000001 on, or JKAZX4E1*PB500001 on
1994	ZX600-E2	JKAZX4E1*RA020001 on, or JKAZX4E1*RB503201 on
1995	ZX600-E3	Not available
1996	ZX600-E4	JKAZX4E1*TA038001 on, or JKAZX4E1*TB510151 on
1997	ZX600-E5	JKAZX4E1*VA045001 on, or JKAZX4E1*VB511801 on
1998	ZX600-E6	JKAZX4E1*WA050001 on, or JKAZX4E1*WB513101 on
1999	ZX600-E7	JKAZX4E1*XA057001 on, or JKAZX4E1*XB514301 on
2000	ZX600-E8	JKAZX4E1*YA065001 on, or JKAZX4E1*YB515601 on

* This digit in the frame number changes from one machine to another.



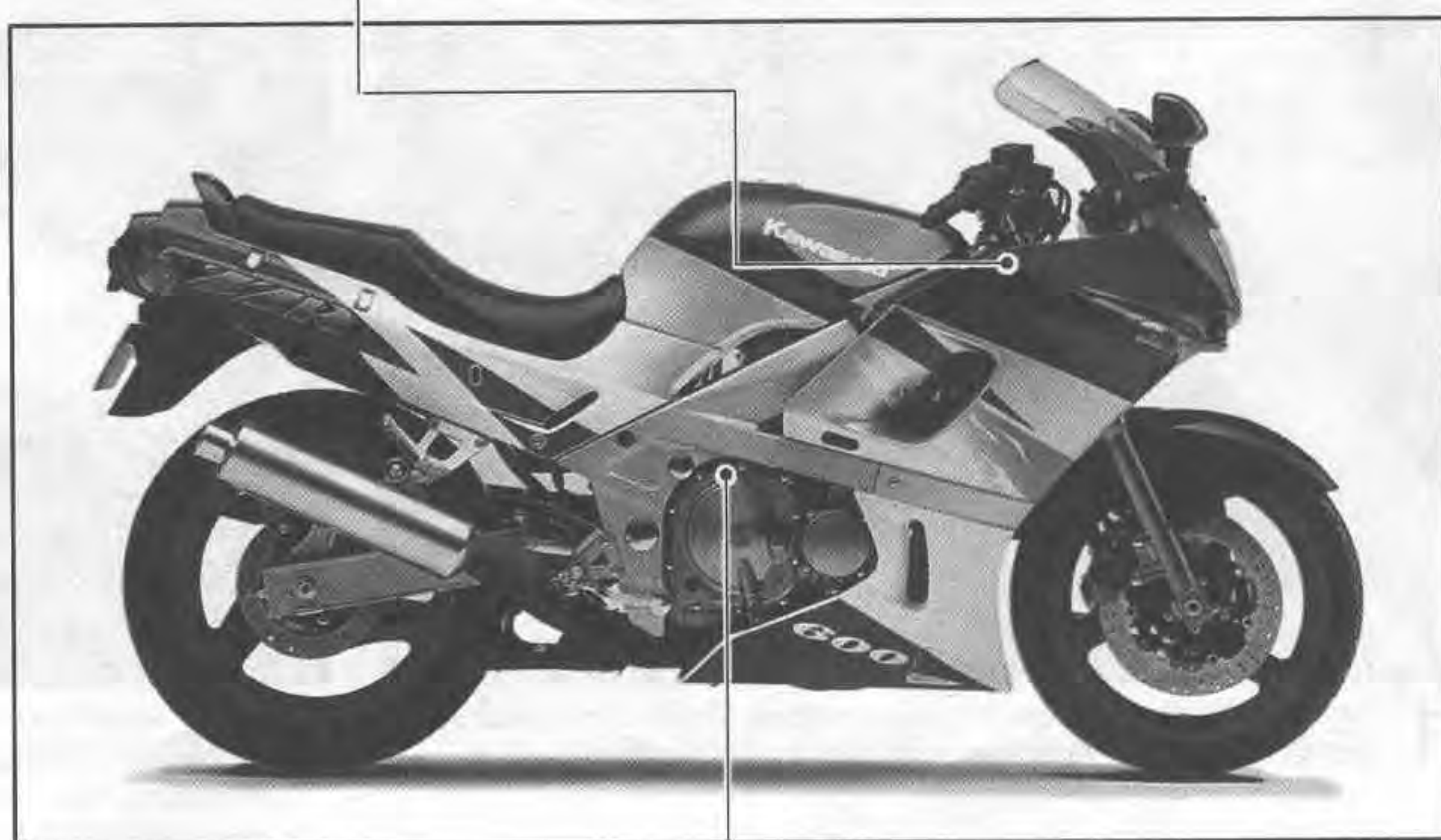
The frame number is stamped on the steering head . . .



. . . and may also be displayed on decals



The engine number is located on the right side of the crankcase



1 Engine/transmission oil level

Before you start:

✓ Place the motorcycle on the centerstand, then start the engine and allow it to reach normal operating temperature.

Caution: Do not run the engine in an enclosed space such as a garage or shop.

✓ Stop the engine and allow the machine to sit undisturbed for about five minutes.

Bike care:

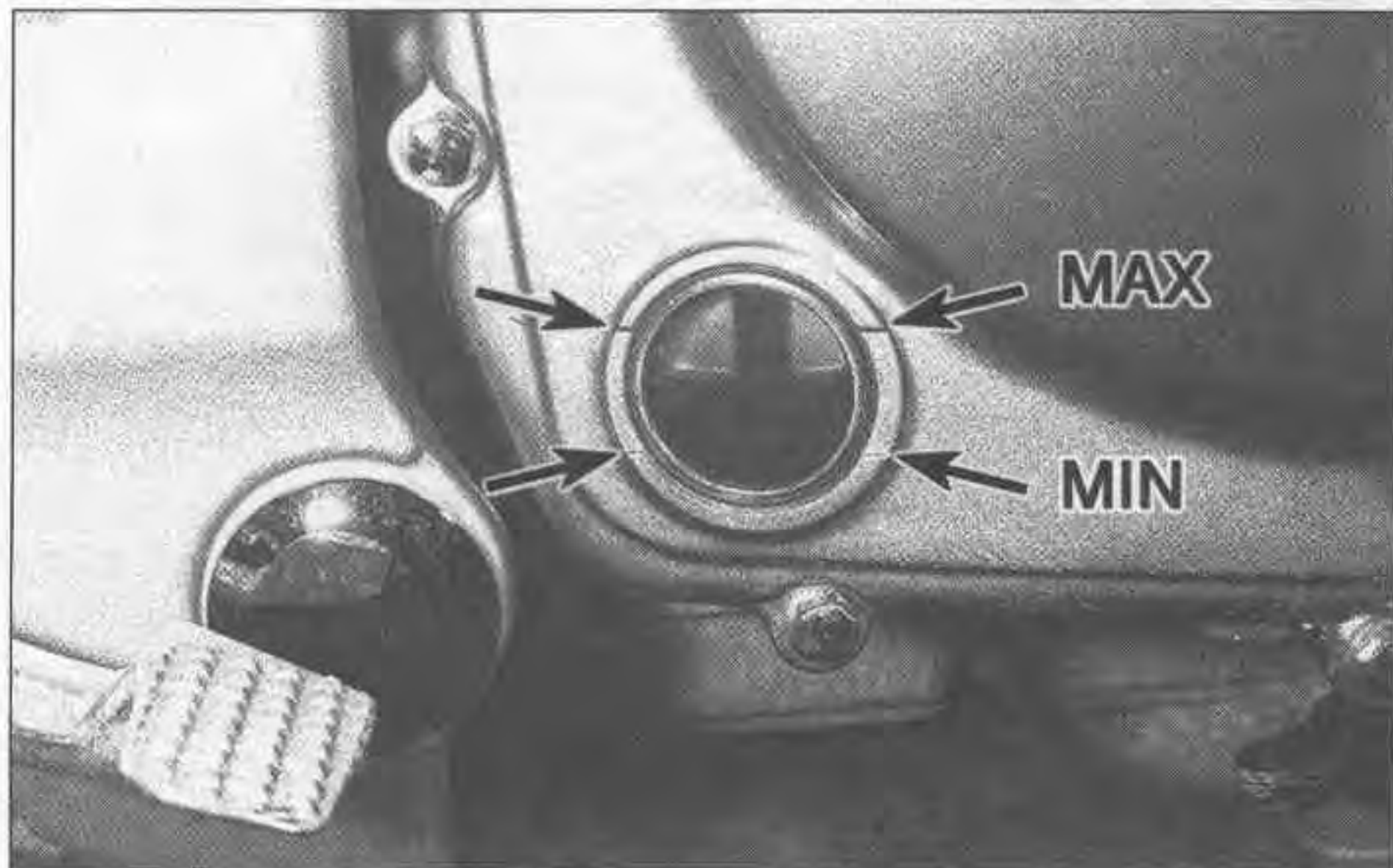
● If you have to add oil frequently, you should check whether you have any oil leaks. If there is no sign of oil leakage from the joints and gaskets the engine could be burning oil (see **Fault Finding**).

The correct oil

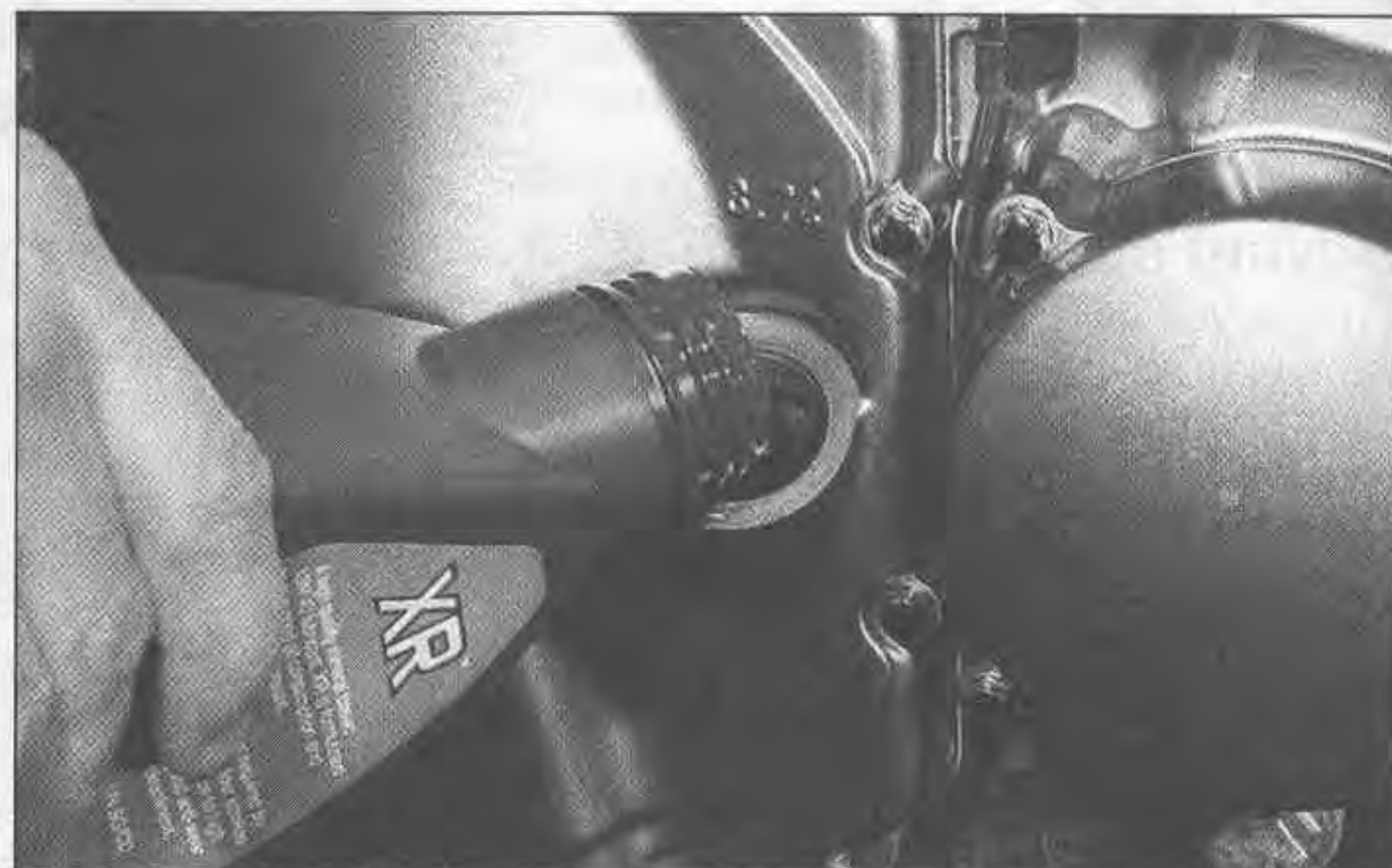
● Modern, high-revving engines place great demands on their oil. It is very important that the correct oil for your bike is used.

● Always top up with a good quality oil of the specified type and viscosity and do not overfill the engine.

Oil type	API grade SE, SF or SG
Oil viscosity	
Cold climates	SAE 10W40 or SAE 10W50
Warm climates	SAE 20W40 or SAE 20W50



1 With the engine off, check the oil level in the window located at the lower part of the right crankcase cover. The oil level should be between the Maximum and Minimum level marks on the window.



2 If the level is below the Minimum mark, remove the oil filler cap from the right crankcase cover and add enough oil of the recommended grade and type to bring the level up to the Maximum mark. Do not overfill.

2 Coolant level

Before you start:

✓ The engine must be cold for the results to be accurate, so always perform this check before starting the engine for the first time each day.

✓ Place the motorcycle on the centerstand. Make sure the motorcycle is on level ground.

Bike care:

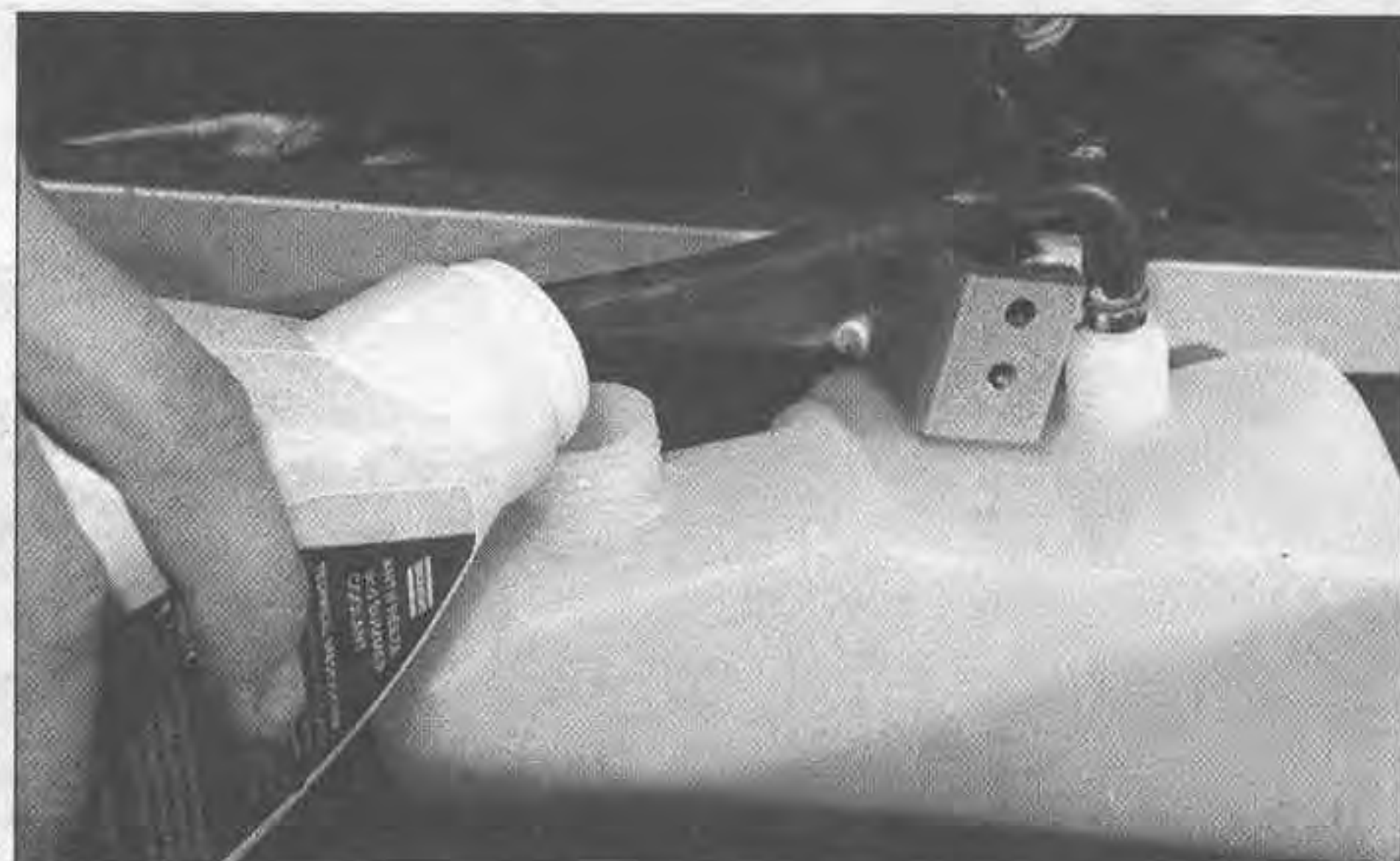
● Use only the specified coolant mixture. It is important that antifreeze is used in the cooling system all year round, not just during the winter months. Don't top-up with water alone, as the antifreeze will become too diluted.

● Do not overfill the coolant reservoir. The coolant level is satisfactory if it is between the Low and Full marks on the reservoir.

● If the coolant level seems to be consistently low, check the entire cooling system for leaks.



1 Remove the seat to view the coolant level. The coolant reservoir is located under the right frame rail of the seat subframe.



2 If the level is at or below the Low mark, remove the right side cover (see Chapter 8), unscrew the reservoir filler cap and add the recommended coolant mixture (see Chapter 1 Specifications) until the Full level is reached.