If upper or lower triple tree, the stem or bearings are worn or damaged in any way, the unit can be disassembled and parts replaced as required.

Upper triple clamp

REMOVAL

1. Place motorcycle on lift with rear wheel in vise/wheel chock
2. Support bike to raise front of bike off the ground
3. Remove Head Lamp Bezel. See head lamp bezel removal
4. Remove Front Forks. See Front Fork Removal
5. Remove Handlebars/ Risers. See Handlebars/
6. Bend tab on stem fastener to allow fastener removal
7. Remove stem fastener and lock washer
8. Remove upper triple clamp
9. Remove steering stem adjuster nut, cover and upper dust shield
10. Remove lower triple tree/ steering stem from motorcycle
11. Remove Front Brake “T” from lower triple tree
12. Remove fork leg cover from upper triple tree if necessary.

13. Clean the lower fork bracket.
14. Inspect the upper and lower bearings for wear or other damage. Replace as *necessary*.
15. Use special tool to remove lower bearing.
16. ***Note:*** *A suitable remover/installer can be obtained from a tool supplier or the bearing manufacturer. These may be multi-piece units with collets that lock onto the race.*
17. Pack the upper and lower bearings, using a high quality waterproof grease.
18. Clean the upper and lower bearing races in the frame stem tube, using suitable solvent. Clean the upper and lower bearing races to remove the solvent, using a lint-free shop towel.
19. Inspect the upper and lower bearing races for wear or damage.
20. Thoroughly grease the upper and lower bearing races.
21. Clean and inspect the upper bearing dust cover.

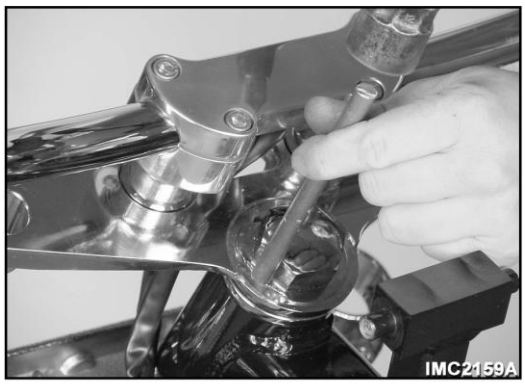
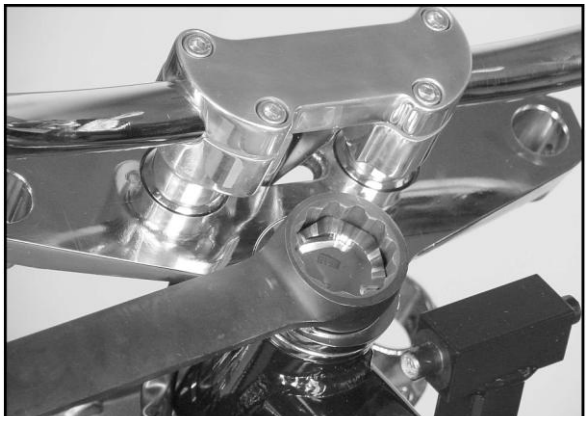


Figure 72 — Flattening the tab washer



Stem Bearing Replacement

If any bearing or race requires replacement, replace both the upper and lower bearing and race sets. Matched bearing and race sets are available for service replacement.

Bearing Race Removal

To remove the upper race from the frame stem tube, place a suitable bearing race remover in position on the upper race. Then, insert the driver handle from the bottom of the stem tube and seat it against the remover.

Note: *A suitable remover/installer can be obtained from a tool supplier or the bearing manufacturer. These may be multi-piece units with collets that lock onto the race.*

With the remover tool and driver handle in position on the upper race, drive the race out through the top of the stem tube.

Remove the lower bearing race using the same method, but driving it out through the bottom of the tube.

Bearing Race Installation

Apply a light coat of clean engine oil to the outside of the new bearing races.

Place a new race in position at the top of the stem tube with the tapered bearing surface facing up. Use care to ensure that the race is set square with the tube.

Using a suitable installer and handle, drive the race in until it is seated against the shoulder in the tube.

Place a new race in position at the bottom of the stem tube with the tapered bearing surface facing down. Again, seat the race square and against the shoulder in the tube, using the installer and handle to drive it into

Fork Bracket Installation

Place the lower bearing over the stem and seat it against the lower fork bracket.

Slide the lower fork bracket and bearing assembly into the frame stem tube.

Install the upper bearing and bearing dust cover over the stem and into position on the upper bearing race

Place adjuster nut (shoulder side down) on the shaft and tighten to 29 Ft#.

Turn lower triple clamp from left to right several times.

Loosen adjuster nut ~ ½ turn.

Torque to 15 ft #.

Install upper fork leg covers (if removed). Torque to 105 in-#

Install the upper fork bracket onto the stem. Install the tab washer and stem nut to secure the upper fork bracket. DO NOT tighten the stem nut at this time.

Install the front suspension fork tubes and the front wheel. Refer to the FRONT SUSPENSION SERVICE section for the procedure.

Install the front wheel following the procedure in the WHEELS AND TIRE SERVICE section.

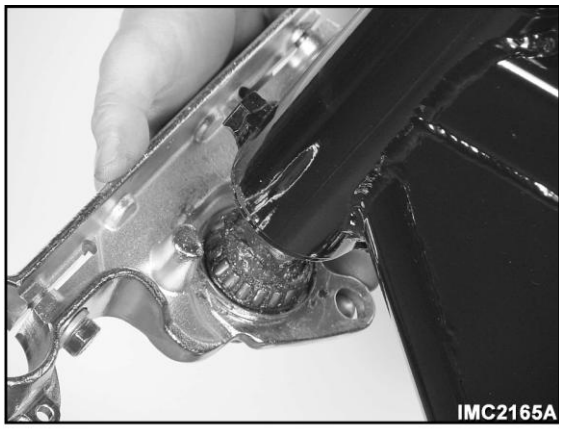
Tighten the stem nut to 27-31 FT # and bend the washer tab up to lock the nut in place.

Fork Seating

Press down on the handlebar several times to compress and release the forks. This is done to seat the axle at the bottom of the fork sliders and the fork tubes in the upper and lower fork brackets.

Tighten the two fork tube pinch screws at the back of the lower fork triple tree; tighten the screws to 63-67 FT #.

Press down on the handlebar a few more times to seat the front wheel axle.

Tighten the axle nut to 53-57 FT #.

Apply blue loctite (243) to axle pinch bolt. Tighten the right-side axle pinch bolt to 18-22 FT #