

AMERICAN IRON LIBRARY BY GENEVIEVE SCHMITT

# AMERICAN V-TWIN MOTORCYCLES

Smart, serious, and helpful advice



WHAT A GREAT TIME FOR A BOOK LIKE THIS TO be published. With more riders owning a one-off custom V-twin motorcycle, there's a need to learn about the repair and maintenance of that motorcycle. Sara Liberte is one of the few female wrenches who really knows her stuff.

Gender aside, those who have the desire to roll up their sleeves, set up a serious motorcycle garage, and get some grease on their hands will have fun applying what's taught in this 160-page, soft-cover manual from Motorbooks (\$24.95).

Liberte starts with the notion that part of the pleasure of owning a motorcycle is knowing how it works, and how to repair it, should the need arise. Some of the book is very basic; she writes about selecting proper riding gear, telling a softail-style chassis from a hardtail, and cleaning your bike. She also explains what tools a home mechanic should own, and includes good color photographs of them.

From there, the book is part informational, part know-how. The chapter on fluids explains what the motor oil, transmission fluid, brake fluid, and fork oil do, and then proceeds to show, step-by-step, how to change all of those fluids. Even though Liberte lists the skill level for these procedures as beginner,

I still hesitate to fool around with this kind of stuff on my Dyna Low Rider. I'd be nervous that I'd screw something up. Hats off to Liberte, who has no qualms about getting the job done all on her own.

Riders with some technical brainpower will appreciate the 21 project descriptions that include how to change a tire, how to install an upgraded starter, and how to install a performance exhaust. Riders like me, who'd rather leave it to the experts, will still learn a thing or two from this book about the workings of their motorcycles. AIM



## SOURCES

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