







I called Works Performance for price info. I was stunned! They have two shocks for the ST: a steel body shock \$440 and the better aluminum body \$540. Both have an external reservoir. The aluminum has more adjustability. I think I'll just investigate having my old shock re-built later.

I also found out the '94 ST's have a different shock! The rider I talked to traded in his '92 for a '94. He used to ride with the shock set "hard". He has the new shock set 'soft' for the same kind of ride as the old (wish I knew this before ordering a shock!!). He also says Honda changed the forks a bit. They changed the valving a bit and did something to the springs for a firmer ride (he suspects same springs, different spacers). He had Progressive Suspension springs in his '92 ST and is happy with the new fork set-up in the '94, he's not planning on putting in the Progressive springs.

<><><><><><><><><>Tank bags and the ST1100

From: gpwilhel@silver.ucs.indiana.edu (Greg Wilhelm)

>Thomas Wolf <wolf@merlin.mt.att.com> wrote:

>Anyway, does anyone have any recommendation for a small (big enough to >hold maps, camera, extra gloves, and a rain suit) tank bag for the >ST1100? I visited the local Honda store and they didn't have anything >appropriate. I have one that I used on my previous bike, but it doesn't >seem to fit on the ST's fake tank. Also it required unhooking lots of >buckles and hooks to remove/install - I'd like something that's easily >put on & taken off.

I've had good luck with two tank bags. The first, an Eclipse Sportpack Mini Tank Tote was originally mounted on the PC800 I traded-in. It was the only tank bag I could find which didn't interfere with the PC800's steering lock. I had to go to an outfitters and buy several more feet of 1" nylon webbing strap to make it work right. Bag is small, though. So. . .

The current bag I'm using, which I am pleased as punch with, is a Chase Harper 750 bag in black. It mounts using straps, and includes attachment buckles at the correct four corners to allow it to use the four wire mounting points built into the ST1100. It's as if this bag were designed for this bike. The bag is 10"L x 8"W x 9"H, includes two zippered compartments, has a decent-size velcro map pouch and an adequate "non-scratch" pad underneath. It can be mounted so that it in no way interferes with the steering lock, yet also need not be removed in order to gas up. The bottom compartment is 3" high; the upper accords to 6" high and includes internal stabilizing cords w/cordlocks to cinch down the top load. The bag does not include a rain cover, but from the fold-over rain flaps it may not need one. Velcroed down the entire bag can compact to a sleek 3" high package. Of particular interest to me when purchasing this bag was the ability to carry a box 7"W x 2.25"H x 6" deep - a DIN chassis removable-face car stereo unit. I've developed a one-off system mounted onto a piece of plexiglass/foam, wired into the bike, and carried in the bag. Beats the hell out of a walkman!!!! I'll have to write about it someday. . . .

Anyway, go for the Chase Harper 750. Don't use the larger Chase Harper's, as they are 9" wide and may interfere with the steering lock. The bag will mount with the supplied hardware, but I didn't care for their use of "quick-clips" on the plastic tank. I purchased

additional webbing strap and tri-Ys from an outfitters and mounted it properly. I paid about \$60 mail order for my bag and about \$5 for the additional supplies.

The four "wire mounting points" I speak of are the two loops welded into the steering head brace and the two larger loops welded into the side of the gas tank under the front of the seat. From what I can tell, all STs have them. Their location and design makes it very clear that they were intended for tank bag mounting straps. This is strange, since the Hondaline tank bag appears to use the less stable three point system. This system would require either a special adaptor strap, or Y-ing the straps into each side. The center seat post is very difficult to use for a strap point and also allow easy seat replacement.

Greg Wilhelm            DoD#905  
gpwilhel@ucs.indiana.edu  
Bloomington, IN  
\_\_\_\_\_more tank bag comments\_\_\_\_\_

>From Derek Catt

For those of you interested in the expensive route, the FAQ mentions the tank bra and tank bag combination by Bagstar (European import).

I happen to be using an old Nelson-Rigs tank bag. It originally had a 5 point mounting system -- the two side mounts won't work on the ST. Only using three points proved un-satisfactory -- the bag wouldn't remain stable. I finally took it to a shoe repair shop. He relocated the two side buckles to the rear of the bag and now it has four mounting points -- two in the front (straps wedged under the fake tank) and two in the back (straps hooked to the fake tank). Very stable. To protect the tank I glued high density foam on the bottom of the buckles. The bag is narrow enough for ST duty. I thought an \$8 investment at the shoe shop was better than buying a new, unnecessary bag.

My father is using a small, cheap tank bag he ordered from J.C. Whitney and Company. It sits very far back on the tank so it doesn't interfere with the handlebars. Its limited in size but does what he wants -- place for maps and rain gear. (e-mail gac@intgpl.att.com for more info about this option)

I've seen many STs with RKA Accessories tank bags. They seem to mount okay and are stable enough, but they are very wide bags (at least certain models are). Everyone I know with an RKA bag swears by it.

I suppose someone that was REALLY motivated could install a steel plate under the fake tank and use a magnetic bag. . . . <grin>

The End.