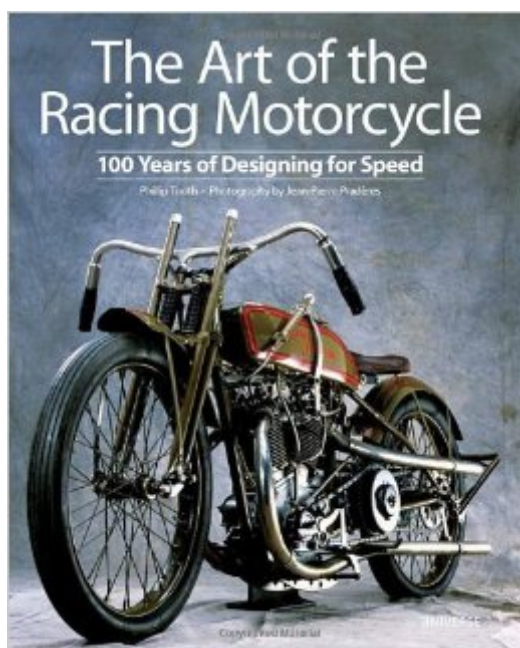


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# The Art Of The Racing Motorcycle: 100 Years Of Designing For Speed



## Synopsis

A lavishly illustrated and definitive look at the design evolution of the racing motorcycle. The dynamic between competition and design has always fueled the evolution of racing motorcycles and inspired astonishing feats of design and engineering. This book traces the development of the sport bike, from the earliest French motorcycles to the dominance of British machinery in the 1930s, the exotic Italian motorcycles of the 1950s and 1960s, the influence of American racing in the 1970s and 1980s, and today's Japanese superbikes. More than fifty classic motorcycles "from Harley-Davidsons to Peugeots, Velocettes, Moto Guzzis, BMWs, Kawasakis, and Ducatis" are presented chronologically illustrated with stunning studio photographs that present the machines as works of art and wonders of design in themselves, accompanied by rare and beautiful archival images that place the subjects in the contexts of classic races, rallies, and motorcycle shows, and accompanied by essays revealing the legends behind the machines. Some of the championship motorcycles featured include the 1902 Manon, the 1922 Harley Davidson 8-valve, the 1935 Terrot 500, the 1948 AJS Porcupine, the 1954 Moto Guzzi V8, the 1965 Honda GP 250, The 1976 Suzuki RK67, the 1986 Cagiva GP, and the 1990 Ducati Supermono.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

My son, the motorcycle enthusiast in our family, couldn't say enough about this book. Apparently the book has captured all kinds of wonderful information and especially photographs of cycles, engines, etc., etc. He has never before been so enthusiastic about any other book I've given him. Get it!

This book is very well executed. The photography is amazing and there is much to read on each one. The text is not just the usual stuff. The author shows the depth and breadth of his knowledge to bring out some little-known and relevant facts about each bike. I am an old hand at this, have been following motorcycle racing for over 40 years and have learned many interesting facts. The selection of bikes the book covers is interesting. Of course we have the Norton Manx, Britten, Guzzi 8 Cylinder, MV Augusta 500/3; but there are some surprises like a Manon, Ollearo, even a couple of Harleys. The author provides sufficient justification for the significance of each bike covered in the book. I am a little surprised that no Triumphs made the book. maybe he's saving them for a sequel. I'll be interested to see if he writes one.

This is a big, pretty book. I've been an avid study of motorcycles for about 15 years, and there were plenty of bikes in here that were completely new to me. I like how the descriptions contain interesting real-world info, not just the same old statistics.

Fans of motorcycling, racing or history will be intrigued and intellectually satisfied by this read. I am rarely surprised with fun(ctional) facts, previously unknown to me. This book by motorsport historian/writer Phillip Tooth, hits the mark. Eye catching pictorials and interesting back stories make this hard to put down.

Love this book. Saw it at my barbershop and I had to have it. If you are a motorcycle racer, or motorcyclist then you will appreciate both the fotography and the background stories and info on these milestones of racing.

This book is a work of ART!!! It has beautiful pictures of many unique motorcycles from around the world and across the decades. Well written and full of interesting facts. If you like fast old motorcycles you will love this book!!!

If you are an enthusiast of vintage motorcycles that were designed to go fast then this is the book for you. I thought hard before spending my money on buying this book and I am glad that my money did not go waste. Most people may regard this as a coffee table book. But this is a valuable asset for you if you are planning to design or build your own motorcycle or café racer. The photos in this book are of very high quality and shows the design details very nicely. This book is not about

engineering design. This is all about how the designers back in the day have achieved a winning compromise between form and functionality that not only looks beautiful but also are race winning designs. As you go from the first photo (page) to the last one in the book, you can very clearly see how the design evolution has happened all with the increasing need for speed and handling. I have "The Art of The Motorcycle" from the Guggenheim Museum and I feel the photos in this book are much better than the Guggenheim book.

The Art of the Racing Motorcycle follows the growth of the sport bike, from early French designs to the uprising of brilliant British machines in the 1930s. The 1950s and 1960s are the domain of Italian motorcycles, and then the influence of American racing in the 1970s and 1980s takes precedent until we finally arrive at today's Japanese superbikes. Written by Philip Tooth: The Art of the Racing Motorcycle, gives us a definitive look at the design evolution of the racing motorcycle. It covers the technology, design, companies, and people. I particularly enjoyed the discussion of how competition between companies pushed the envelope of design and engineering, giving rise to the racing motorcycle. In chronological order, you learn about the major players like Harley-Davidson, Peugeot, Velocette, Moto Guzzi, BMW, Kawasaki, and Ducati. The photographs that fill this book are either archival images that give the subject matter scope within the context of classic races, rallies, and motorcycle show or are contemporary portraits that present the machines as works of art. Its really exciting to see up-close the milestone bikes like 1902 Manon, 1922 Harley 8-Valve, 1948 AJS Porcupine, and 1954 Moto Guzzi, just to name a few!

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