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HODAKA for 1978

There are still
bargains around



Hodaka's top of the line 250 SL. Fully equipped for both on- and off-road use with street-legal lighting, horn, trials tires, efficient muffler, long travel forks, gas/oil shocks, 4.1 gallon gas tank and palatable \$1095 price tag.

Next in line is the SL175, also street legal, also very capable in the dirt. Has Preston Petty fenders, street-legal lighting, up-to-date suspension, 2.9 gallon tank, and Skyway silencer. Transmission is five speed with wide ratio spacing. Price tag reads \$995.





Hodaka's first effort for the mini set is the Dirt Squirt 80, pure off-road machine. Their press release says that somebody got into the warehouse and sprayed a bunch of bikes with a trick concoction and shrunk every Dirt Squirt in the joint. Anyway, this is a nifty little motorcycle for the kids. Price is \$495.



What you're looking at is the newest version of the legendary Wombat 125. It's street legal, dirt proficient. Rear shocks are gas/air, forks off the 250 give 7 1/4 inches of travel. Other trick goodies include folding shift lever, conical front hub, Preston Petty fenders, new tank design and \$675 price listing.



Here, an updated version of the original 100cc Road Toad, which in turn was an updated version of the old, old Ace 90, the original Hodaka. This 'un has most of the goodies of the rest of the lineup and is just as much a bargain at \$595.

You wouldn't exactly call Hodaka a major Japanese manufacturer, would you?

Well, no but the bikes turned out by Hodaka and marketed exclusively through the Pacific Basin Trading Company (PABATCO) are nevertheless quality motorcycles, and perhaps most significant, extremely pleasantly priced and full of up-to-date features.

Hodaka started out years ago with a little 90cc trail bike. And after all these years, they've grown, but you still think of the Pabatco folks as those nice guys in Oregon who sell neat little trail bikes.

The Pabatco guys also have a great sense of humor, as the names given to their models indicate. How about such handles as Road Toad, Wombat, and Dirt Squirt? (They gave up on Thunderdog early.)

When a press release package arrived the other day, we anxiously ripped the envelope open to see (1), what Hodaka had new (2), what new, funny names they'd come up with, and (3), what else might be in the package to bring a laugh.

Basically, here's what Hodaka is up to for 1978: In addition to the 100cc Road Toad (street legal) and 125cc Wombat, which were available last year, Hodaka is introducing three new models. They are the little 80cc Dirt Squirt minicycle, a street legal (dual-purpose, actually) 175 designated the SL and a 250 street/off-road bike also called an SL. There is no official name for the 175 or 250, but Hodaka propaganda designates them as Samuel Lipschitz Replicas (hence the SL).

This is the first time that Pabatco (Hodaka) has been able to offer a complete line of trailbikes in all displacement classes from 80 to 250cc, and they're excited about the future for the bikes. And well they should be, for each model carries a suggested retail price considerably lower than anything the bikes are competing against. And even with lower prices, you still get a lot of bike.

Such features as Preston Petty fenders, Skyway spark arrestor/silencers, Mikuni carbs and modern suspension components are standard. The 175 and 250 SL models both have gas/oil shocks, long travel forks, speeds with trip reset, quick remove wheels and a lot of other features normally found only on higher priced models.

A lot of people don't know much about Hodaka motorcycles, because the company doesn't have huge, multi-million dollar dealer networks, television advertising or large numbers of bikes for motorcycles for magazine road tests. What they DO have are low prices and quality motorcycles. What more could you ask for?

Check 'em out, if you're interested in one of the last remaining bargains around.