

Yamaha Raptor 660 Wikipedia

yamaha raptor 660 wikipedia is a popular sport ATV (All-Terrain Vehicle) renowned for its power, performance, and versatility. Since its introduction in the late 1990s, the Yamaha Raptor 660 has become a staple among off-road enthusiasts, motocross racers, and recreational riders alike. This article provides an extensive overview of the Yamaha Raptor 660, exploring its history, specifications, features, performance, and legacy within the ATV community.

Introduction to the Yamaha Raptor 660

The Yamaha Raptor 660 is a legendary quad bike that made significant waves in the ATV industry during the late 1990s and early 2000s. Known for its robust engine, agile handling, and durable build, it quickly became a favorite for both beginners and seasoned riders. The Raptor 660 was designed to offer a balance of power, control, and reliability, making it suitable for a wide range of off-road activities.

History and Development

Origins and Launch

The Yamaha Raptor 660 was introduced in 1999 as a successor to the Yamaha Banshee and the Yamaha Warrior 350. Its development aimed to fill the gap for a high-performance, four-stroke sport ATV that could rival the popular two-stroke models. Yamaha leveraged its extensive experience in motorcycle and ATV manufacturing to craft a machine that combined power with user-friendly handling.

Evolution Over the Years

While the Raptor 660 remained relatively unchanged in its core design, Yamaha made incremental updates to improve its durability and performance. The model was produced until 2005, after which Yamaha replaced it with newer models, such as the Raptor 700.

Yamaha Raptor 660 Specifications

Understanding the specifications of the Yamaha Raptor 660 provides insights into its performance and capabilities.

Engine and Powertrain

- Engine Type: 4-stroke, single-cylinder, liquid-cooled - Displacement: 660cc - Carburetor: 35mm Keihin CV carburetor - Bore x Stroke: 99.0mm x 60.0mm - Compression Ratio: 9.2:1 - Maximum Power: Approximately 33 horsepower - Transmission: 5-speed manual with reverse - Drive System: Chain drive

Chassis and Suspension

- Frame: Steel double-cradle frame - Front Suspension: Independent double wishbone - Rear Suspension:

Swingarm with dual shock absorbers - Front Tires: 22-inch diameter, 7-inch width - Rear Tires: 20-inch diameter, 10-inch width

Dimensions and Weight

- Overall Length: About 84 inches - Overall Width: 45 inches - Overall Height: 50 inches - Seat Height: 30 inches
- Curb Weight: Approximately 410 pounds - Fuel Capacity: 3.2 gallons

Key Features of the Yamaha Raptor 660

The Raptor 660 stands out due to several notable features that enhance its performance and user experience.

Powerful Engine

The 660cc four-stroke engine delivers impressive acceleration and top speeds, making it suitable for racing and trail riding alike.

Durability and Build Quality

- Heavy-duty steel frame for strength - Robust suspension components designed to withstand rough terrains - High-quality plastics and components for longevity

Handling and Control

- Independent front suspension provides stability and comfort - Wide tires offer excellent grip and maneuverability - Low center of gravity enhances stability during aggressive riding

Design and Ergonomics

- Ergonomic seat and handlebar positioning for rider comfort - Compact size for easy handling - Attractive sports design with aggressive styling cues

Performance and Riding Experience

Off-Road Capabilities

The Yamaha Raptor 660 excels in various off-road environments, including trails, dunes, and motocross tracks. Its powerful engine combined with durable suspension allows it to navigate challenging terrains with ease.

Speed and Acceleration

- Top speeds of around 50-55 mph (80-88 km/h) - Quick throttle response, suitable for racing and recreational riding

Handling and Maneuverability

- Precise steering thanks to lightweight design - Capable of sharp turns and quick direction changes - Suspension absorbs shocks effectively, providing a smooth ride over uneven terrain

Rider Experience

The Raptor 660 offers an adrenaline-pumping experience while maintaining control and stability. It's suitable for riders with intermediate to advanced skills but also accessible for motivated beginners willing to learn.

Maintenance and Common Repairs

Proper maintenance is crucial to keep the Yamaha Raptor 660 performing at its best.

Regular Maintenance Tasks

- Oil changes every 10-15 hours of riding - Checking and replacing air filters - Inspecting and tightening bolts and fasteners - Brake system checks - Tire pressure and tread inspections

Common Issues and Repairs

- Carburetor cleaning or replacement due to clogging - Chain tension adjustments - Suspension component replacements after extensive use - Cooling system flushes to prevent overheating - Electrical system troubleshooting Maintaining the ATV according to Yamaha's guidelines ensures longevity and optimal performance.

The Legacy of the Yamaha Raptor 660

Popularity and Community

The Yamaha Raptor 660 remains highly regarded among ATV enthusiasts. Its reputation for durability and power has fostered a dedicated community of riders, tuners, and collectors.

Influence on Future Models

The success of the Raptor 660 influenced Yamaha's development of subsequent models, notably the Raptor 700, which offered improved power and features while retaining the core design principles.

Collectibility and Restoration

Vintage Yamaha Raptor 660 models are now sought after by collectors. Restoring these ATV classics is a popular hobby, with enthusiasts appreciating their nostalgic value and performance.

Comparisons with Other ATVs

Yamaha Raptor 660 vs. Yamaha Raptor 700

- The Raptor 700 features a larger engine (686cc) and updated features - Slightly heavier but more powerful - Similar handling characteristics

Yamaha Raptor 660 vs. Honda TRX450R

- The TRX450R boasts a 450cc four-stroke engine but offers comparable performance - Raptor 660 has higher displacement and torque - Both models are favorites for racing and trail riding

Yamaha Raptor 660 vs. Kawasaki KFX 700

- Kawasaki KFX 700 offers similar power but with different suspension setup - Raptor 660 is often praised for its handling and ease of maintenance

Buying Tips and Considerations

For those interested in purchasing a Yamaha Raptor 660, here are some tips: 1. Inspect for Rust and Damage: Check the frame, suspension, and undercarriage for rust or cracks. 2. Verify Maintenance Records: Ensure the ATV has been well-maintained. 3. Test Drive: Assess handling, brakes, and engine response. 4. Consider Parts Availability: While parts are generally accessible, older models may require specialized sourcing. 5. Budget for Repairs: Older ATVs might need replacements or upgrades.

Conclusion

The Yamaha Raptor 660 wikipedia highlights its significance as an iconic sport ATV that combined power, durability, and rider-friendly features. Its enduring popularity is a testament to Yamaha's engineering excellence and understanding of off-road riding needs. Whether for casual trail riding, competitive racing, or collection purposes, the Raptor 660 remains a beloved machine that has left a lasting mark on the ATV world. As enthusiasts continue to restore and ride these machines, the legacy of the Yamaha Raptor 660 endures for generations to come. Note: For detailed historical data, technical manuals, and community discussions, visiting the official Yamaha website or dedicated ATV forums is recommended.

Yamaha Raptor 660 Wikipedia: An In-Depth Review of the Iconic ATV The Yamaha Raptor 660 stands as a legendary figure in the world of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). Known for its impressive power, rugged durability, and versatile performance, the Raptor 660 has earned a dedicated following among enthusiasts, racers, and casual riders alike. To understand its significance, features, and legacy, we delve into a comprehensive exploration of the Yamaha Raptor 660, examining its design, technical specifications, performance, history, and impact on off-road riding.

Introduction to the Yamaha Raptor 660

The Yamaha Raptor 660 is a sport ATV introduced in the late 1990s, renowned for blending aggressive styling with a potent engine and durable chassis. It was designed primarily for recreational trail riding, motocross, and racing, offering riders a combination of agility, power, and reliability. Its production spanned from 1999 to 2005, during which it solidified its reputation as a formidable competitor in the sport ATV segment.

Design and Aesthetics

Bodywork and Frame

The Yamaha Raptor 660 features a robust, lightweight aluminum frame that provides strength without adding unnecessary weight. Its design emphasizes durability and rider ergonomics, with a streamlined bodywork that enhances aerodynamics while maintaining a rugged appearance. The sharply contoured plastics, combined with bold graphics, give the Raptor 660 an aggressive stance that appeals to sport ATV enthusiasts.

Ergonomics and Rider Comfort

Designed with rider comfort in mind, the Raptor 660 offers:

- Wide, padded seat for enhanced control and comfort during long rides.
- Ergonomically positioned handlebars for better handling.
- Footpegs with textured surfaces for secure footing.
- Adjustable suspension to accommodate rider size and riding conditions.

The overall design promotes rider confidence, especially during high-speed maneuvers and technical terrain.

Technical Specifications and Mechanical Features

Engine and Powertrain

At the heart of the Yamaha Raptor 660 lies a powerful 660cc, liquid-cooled, four-stroke, single-cylinder engine. This engine is renowned for its:

- High torque output, especially in mid-range RPMs.
- Smooth power delivery suitable for both novice and experienced riders.
- Durable construction capable of handling rigorous off-road conditions.

The engine features Yamaha's proven carburetor system, although later models incorporated fuel injection for improved efficiency and performance.

Transmission and Drivetrain

The Raptor 660 employs a 5-speed manual transmission with a manual clutch system, providing riders full control over power delivery. The chain-driven system ensures efficient power transfer from the engine to the rear wheels.

Suspension System

The suspension setup includes:

- Independent double-wishbone front suspension with adjustable shocks, providing excellent handling and shock absorption.
- A solid rear suspension with adjustable shocks, designed for stability during jumps and rough terrain.

This suspension configuration allows riders to navigate challenging trails, jumps, and obstacles with confidence.

Braking System

The ATV is equipped with:

- Hydraulic disc brakes at the front, offering reliable stopping power.
- Drum brakes at the rear in earlier models, later upgraded to disc brakes in some variants.
- A responsive braking system critical for safety during high-speed riding.

Wheels and Tires

The Raptor 660 features: - 22-inch front tires designed for maneuverability and traction. - 20-inch rear tires optimized for grip and acceleration. - Durable rims capable of withstanding impact and rough terrain.

Performance and Handling

The Yamaha Raptor 660 is celebrated for its impressive performance metrics: - Power and Acceleration: The 660cc engine delivers robust acceleration, capable of reaching speeds of up to 50-55 mph depending on modifications and rider weight. - Handling: Its wide stance, responsive steering, and adjustable suspension make it agile on various terrains, from dirt trails to motocross tracks. - Durability: The ATV's components are built to withstand harsh conditions, with a reputation for longevity when properly maintained. Riders praise its predictable handling and forgiving ride characteristics, making it suitable for both beginners and seasoned riders seeking adrenaline-pumping experiences.

Historical Context and Development

Origins and Market Position

Introduced in 1999, the Yamaha Raptor 660 was positioned as Yamaha's flagship sport ATV, competing against models like the Honda TRX450 and Kawasaki KFX700. Its development focused on delivering a high-performance, reliable, and stylish ATV that could excel in recreational riding and competitive racing.

Evolution and Variants

Throughout its production run, the Raptor 660 saw several updates: - Introduction of fuel injection technology in later models to improve fuel efficiency and throttle response. - Minor aesthetic refreshes, including graphics and body panel design. - Upgrades to brakes and suspension components to enhance handling. Despite these improvements, the core engine and chassis remained largely consistent, cementing its reputation for reliability.

Discontinuation and Legacy

Yamaha discontinued the Raptor 660 in 2005, replaced by newer models like the Raptor 700R, which offered increased displacement and technological advancements. However, the 660 remains a favorite among collectors and hobbyists for its raw power and classic design.

Modifications and Aftermarket Support

The Yamaha Raptor 660 has an active aftermarket community, offering: - Performance upgrades, including exhaust systems, carburetor tuning, and engine stroker kits. - Suspension enhancements for better handling and comfort. - Aesthetic modifications like graphics kits, lights, and custom plastics. - Reinforced chassis components for racing applications. These modifications allow riders to tailor the ATV for specific uses, from trail riding to competitive motocross.

Advantages and Limitations

Advantages

- Powerful Engine: The 660cc engine provides ample torque and acceleration. - Durability: Built to withstand tough off-road conditions. - Handling: Responsive steering and adjustable suspension. - Styling: Aggressive appearance with customizable aesthetics. - Community and Support: Extensive aftermarket parts and a passionate rider community.

Limitations

- Weight: Heavier than some modern sport ATVs, impacting maneuverability. - Fuel Efficiency: Less efficient compared to newer fuel-injected models. - Availability of Parts: As it ages, some parts may be harder to find. - Technological Features: Lacks modern features like electronic fuel injection and digital displays.

Impact and Cultural Significance

The Yamaha Raptor 660 is more than just a utility ATV; it symbolizes a period of innovation in sport ATV design. Its aggressive styling, powerful engine, and reliable performance made it a favorite among off-road racers and recreational riders. It played a significant role in popularizing sport ATVs as mainstream recreational vehicles and influenced the design of subsequent Yamaha models. Moreover, the Raptor 660 has a strong presence in off-road racing circuits and is often used in amateur motocross competitions. Its durability and performance have earned it a reputation as a “go-to” ATV for those seeking adrenaline and adventure.

Conclusion

The Yamaha Raptor 660 is an iconic ATV that combines power, durability, and style in a package that has stood the test of time. Whether you're a collector, a seasoned racer, or an off-road enthusiast, the Raptor 660 offers a compelling blend of performance and reliability. Its legacy continues to influence Yamaha’s ATV lineup and remains a beloved model in the history of off-road vehicles. For those considering acquiring a used model, the Raptor 660 offers excellent value, especially when maintained properly and upgraded with modern accessories. Its enduring popularity is a testament to Yamaha’s engineering prowess and the ATV’s timeless appeal. In summary, the Yamaha Raptor 660 exemplifies the spirit of off-road adventure, providing riders with a powerful, reliable, and stylish machine that has left a lasting mark on the world of sport ATVs. Whether exploring rugged trails or competing on motocross tracks, the Raptor 660 remains a symbol of performance and passion in the off-road community.

Questions & Answers About yamaha raptor 660 wikipedia

No	Question	Answer
1	What is the Yamaha Raptor 660 and when was it first introduced?	The Yamaha Raptor 660 is a sport ATV (all-terrain vehicle) produced by Yamaha, first introduced in 1999 as a high-performance quad designed for recreational and racing use.

2	What are the key specifications of the Yamaha Raptor 660?	The Yamaha Raptor 660 features a 660cc, liquid-cooled, four-stroke, single-cylinder engine, a 5-speed manual transmission, and independent double wishbone suspension, making it known for its power and handling.
3	Is the Yamaha Raptor 660 still in production?	No, the Yamaha Raptor 660 was discontinued around 2005, but it remains popular among enthusiasts and collectors due to its performance and reliability.
4	What are common modifications or upgrades for the Yamaha Raptor 660?	Common modifications include exhaust upgrades for increased power, suspension enhancements for better handling, tires suited for different terrains, and performance intake or carburetor tuning.
5	How does the Yamaha Raptor 660 compare to other sport ATVs?	The Yamaha Raptor 660 is renowned for its powerful engine, solid build quality, and excellent handling, making it a competitive choice among sport ATVs of its era, often praised for its durability and performance in both recreational riding and competitive racing.

Yamaha Raptor 660, Yamaha ATV, Yamaha Raptor specifications, Yamaha Raptor 660 review, Yamaha Raptor 660 engine, Yamaha Raptor 660 specs, Yamaha Raptor 660 features, Yamaha Raptor 660 maintenance, Yamaha Raptor 660 performance, Yamaha ATV models