SOFTWARE & TECH

1999 Bmw K 1200lt Manual

PUBLISHED
November 25, 2026

REFERENCE
#1795582380181205

Introduction: The Legacy of the 1999 BMW K1200LT

The 1999 BMW K1200LT occupies a special place in the history of luxury touring motorcycles. With its massive fairing, electronic cruise control, optional reverse gear, and a smooth 1171cc inline-four engine, it was designed to eat up highway miles in supreme comfort. For owners and enthusiasts, understanding this machine goes beyond knowing its specs—it requires a deep familiarity with its systems, maintenance schedules, and troubleshooting procedures. That is where the **1999 BMW K1200LT manual**becomes an indispensable companion. Whether you are a first-time owner, a seasoned mechanic, or a collector looking to preserve a piece of BMW motorcycle history, having the correct manual is the foundation of a successful ownership experience.

In this article, we will explore everything you need to know about the 1999 BMW K1200LT manual: what it contains, why it is critical, where to find authentic copies, and how to use it effectively. We will also touch on common maintenance issues and how the manual addresses them, ensuring that your K1200LT remains a reliable touring partner for years to come.

What Is the 1999 BMW K1200LT Manual?

The term **1999 BMW K1200LT manual**can refer to several different documents, each serving a distinct purpose. At its core, the manual is a comprehensive guide provided by BMW Motorrad to help owners operate, maintain, and repair the motorcycle. It is important to distinguish between the owner’s manual and the service (or repair) manual.

Owner’s Manual vs. Service Manual

The Owner’s Manualis the booklet that comes with the motorcycle when new. It covers basic operation, instrument panel functions, recommended fluids, tire pressures, and a simplified maintenance schedule. It also includes valuable information about the optional features of the 1999 K1200LT, such as the electrically adjustable windshield, heated grips and seats, and the audio system. For daily operation and routine checks, the owner’s manual is your primary resource.

The Service Manual(also called a repair or workshop manual) is a much more detailed document intended for technicians and advanced DIY owners. It provides step-by-step procedures for everything from valve adjustments to complete engine disassembly, wiring diagrams, torque specifications, and diagnostic flows. If you plan to perform any work beyond basic fluid changes, the service manual for the 1999 BMW K1200LT is essential.

Why Both Are Important

Even if you have no intention of rebuilding your engine, the **1999 BMW K1200LT manual**(owner’s version) helps you understand warning lights, proper break-in procedures, and how to use the complex

electrical systems. Meanwhile, the service manual becomes a safety net when things go wrong—it can save you time, money, and frustration by providing accurate specifications and procedures.

Key Sections Typically Found in the 1999 BMW K1200LT Manual

A complete manual set for this model will cover multiple areas. Below are the most important sections you can expect to find.

General Information and Specifications

This section includes the VIN location, vehicle identification numbers, engine serial number, and general dimensions. It also lists critical specifications such as engine displacement (1171 cc), bore x stroke, compression ratio, fuel capacity (24 liters / 6.3 gallons), oil capacity, and electrical system voltage. These details are essential when ordering parts or checking the bike’s compliance with regulations.

Maintenance Schedules and Procedures

One of the most valuable parts of the **1999 BMW K1200LT manual**is the maintenance schedule. BMW recommends specific intervals for oil changes, brake fluid replacement, valve clearance checks, spark plug replacement, and final drive fluid changes. Following this schedule is critical for the longevity of the K1200LT, especially the final drive, which can be a weak point if neglected. The manual provides clear intervals in both miles and kilometers, along with the required lubricants and tools.

Engine and Fuel System

This section details the Motronic engine management system, fuel injection components, throttle body synchronization, and cooling system maintenance. For the 1999 model, the manual explains how to adjust the throttle cables, bleed the cooling system, and diagnose common engine misfires. It also includes torque values for cylinder head bolts and camshaft timing marks.

Transmission and Final Drive

The K1200LT features a unique transmission and shaft drive system. The manual contains procedures for removing and installing the transmission, replacing the clutch, and servicing the final drive unit. Because of reported bearing issues in earlier models, the manual’s instructions for inspecting and lubricating the final drive are especially important for 1999 models.

Brakes and Suspension

BMW equipped the 1999 K1200LT with integrated brakes (linked braking) and ABS. The manual explains the operation of the ABS system, brake bleeding procedures, and how to replace brake pads. It also covers the front Telelever and rear Paralever suspension, including disassembly, replacement of shock absorbers, and adjusting preload.

Electrical System and Wiring Diagrams

The electrical system of the 1999 K1200LT is complex, featuring a large fairing with multiple lights, a stereo, heated accessories, and a central locking system. The manual includes full wiring diagrams, connector locations, and troubleshooting guides. For owners dealing with electrical gremlins—such as a dead battery, non-functioning gauges, or lights—the wiring diagrams are invaluable. The **1999 BMW K1200LT manual**makes it possible to trace circuits and identify faults systematically.

Body and Fairing Removal

For any major service, you will need to remove body panels. The manual provides step-by-step instructions for disassembling the large front fairing, side panels, tail section, and luggage compartment. It also notes the type and quantity of fasteners, which helps prevent broken clips and stripped screws.

Troubleshooting and Diagnostics

This section is a lifesaver for owners who want to solve problems without guesswork. It covers symptoms such as hard starting, rough idle, poor fuel economy, brake drag, suspension leaks, and unusual vibrations. Each symptom is cross-referenced to possible causes and recommended solutions.

Where to Find an Authentic 1999 BMW K1200LT Manual

Given the age of the motorcycle, finding a factory-issued manual can require some effort. Here are the most reliable sources.

BMW Dealers and Parts Departments

Some BMW motorcycle dealers can still order printed manuals for older models, although availability may be limited. Check with your local dealer using the exact part number. The official owner’s manual part number for the 1999 K1200LT is often **01 50 7 670 398**(or similar), and the repair manual may be available as a bound set or CD-ROM.

Online Marketplaces and Specialty Shops

Websites like eBay, Amazon, and Revzilla often have used or new-old-stock manuals. However, be cautious of sellers offering photocopied or unofficial versions. Look for listings that specifically state “OEM BMW manual” or show the original BMW packaging.

Digital PDF Versions

Many enthusiasts have digitized the 1999 BMW K1200LT manual and made the PDF available on forums such as BMWMOA, K-Bikes.com, or dedicated Facebook groups. Digital copies are convenient, searchable, and can be stored on a tablet or phone for garage use. However, ensure the PDF is complete (all pages, clear scans) and legal in your region.

Tips for Using the 1999 BMW K1200LT Manual Effectively

Having the manual is one thing; using it correctly is another. Here are some best practices.

Start with Routine Maintenance

Even if you are an experienced mechanic, read the maintenance section first. The 1999 K1200LT has quirks—for example, the oil filter location and the need to use a specific gear oil for the final drive. The manual lists these requirements methodically.

Keep the Manual Accessible

Store a paper manual in a waterproof bag in the top case, or keep a digital copy on your phone. When troubleshooting on the road, having instant access to torque specs or wiring colors can make the difference between a quick fix and a tow.

Use the Troubleshooting Charts

Before replacing any part, consult the manual’s diagnostic flowcharts. For instance, if the engine cranks but does not start, the chart will guide you through checking the sidestand switch, kill switch, fuel pump relay, and crankshaft position sensor. This methodical approach saves both time and money.

Supplement with Aftermarket Resources

While the **1999 BMW K1200LT manual**is authoritative, supplementary materials such as Haynes or Clymer manuals can provide additional perspective and photographs. However, always cross-check critical specs against the factory manual, as aftermarket guides may contain errors or generalizations.

Common Issues Addressed by the Manual

Owners of the 1999 K1200LT often encounter specific problems that the manual helps resolve.

- Final Drive Failure: Early K1200LT final drives were prone to bearing failure. The manual’s service procedures include regular lubrication intervals and inspection of crown wheel backlash, which can extend the life of the unit.
- ABS Modulator Problems: The ABS system can develop pump motor failures or corroded connectors. The manual provides detailed electrical testing steps and bleeding procedures.
- Clutch Slave Cylinder Leaks: A known issue is leakage from the clutch slave cylinder. The manual explains removal, rebuild, and bleeding with specific fluid recommendations.
- Starter Solenoid Failures: Starting issues often trace back to a corroded starter solenoid. The wiring diagram helps identify the correct wires for testing.
- Heated Grip Inconsistency: If heated grips work intermittently, the manual shows the routing of wires inside the handlebar and the location of the control module.

By following the manual, many owners have kept their 1999 K1200LT running smoothly well past 150,000 miles without major breakdowns.

Digital vs. Printed: Which Is Better?

Both formats have merits. A printed **1999 BMW K1200LT manual**is oil-resistant, easy to lay open on a workbench, and does not require batteries. A digital version is portable, searchable, and can be easily updated if you find revised pages from BMW. Many dedicated riders keep both: a printed service manual in the garage and a PDF on their phone for trips.

Conclusion

The **1999 BMW K1200LT manual**is far more than a booklet of instructions. It is a roadmap to understanding, maintaining, and enjoying one of BMW’s most iconic touring motorcycles. Whether you are adjusting valves, bleeding the ABS, chasing an electrical fault, or simply learning how to operate the cruise control, the manual provides the authoritative guidance that aftermarket sources cannot match. Investing time in finding a complete, authentic copy—and using it systematically—will reward you with years of reliable, comfortable riding. For any serious owner of a 1999 K1200LT, the manual is not an option; it is essential equipment.

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