

Snowmobile Summer Storage Tips

It is much better to take care of your snowmobile when you put it away in the spring – summer-ize it so it will be ready to go in the fall.

1. Get your snowmobile serviced in the spring so you don't forget when fall comes. Many dealers have more time to service your machine in the spring than at the beginning of winter. You may be able to find a dealer offering a discount for services during this time. Instead of waiting around at the start of the season, you'll be out ready to go snowmobiling.
2. Clean your snowmobile. You want to wash off any corrosive acids, salt, or dirt clinging to your snowmobile. Clean the engine and suspension. Use upholstery cleaner to clean the seat. If you don't need to touch up the paint, apply a coat of wax.
3. Start your engine and use a fogging oil to spray in your carbs. Turn off the gas and let the engine burn all the gas while spraying the fogging oil in the carbs. Let the engine run until it quits.
4. Prepare your spark plugs for storage. Remove the spark plugs and pour a teaspoon of 2-cycle oil into each cylinder. Pull the recoil start rope a few times. Then reinstall the spark plugs. This prevents rust build up.
5. Make repairs to your snowmobile. You want to replace any missing screws or bolts. Touch up any body paint that has been scratched or dinged. If you don't have a professional service done on your machine, you need to follow the manufacturer's guidelines on servicing the clutches.
6. Empty fluids if necessary. If you use a fuel stabilizer, you don't need to empty the gas tank. Otherwise, drain the gas tank and check the fluid in the chain case. If you have been using ethanol fuel, it is probably best to drain all the gas from your snowmobile.
7. Choose a place to store your snowmobile. You want to store your snowmobile in a place that is cool and dry. The seat should be stored inside if possible to prevent animals from using it as a nesting place. The track should be off the floor either on a ramp or on 2X4 boards. Put some blocks under the front end to take some weight off the front suspension. Try to find a storage place out of the sun as much as possible.
8. Put oily rags into any openings like the exhaust pipe. Cover the snowmobile to keep dust from settling and corroding your machine and to keep the sun off it. Don't let the sun shine on your track, as it will deteriorate it.