

YZ125



[www.legends-yamaha-enduros.com](http://www.legends-yamaha-enduros.com)

# THE FIRST YZ THAT RUNS ON WATER.

Yamaha's 1981 YZ125 is the most advanced YZ we've ever made.

It comes as close to our famous - some might say infamous - works machines as any production motorcycle can. Thanks, specifically, to a radical new approach to liquid cooling.

Our cooling system allows for higher peak-horsepower tuning, maintains more of that power after warm-up, yet doesn't add any bulk to interfere with the bike's excellent handling characteristics.

How did we manage it?

For one thing, by not adding a bunch of extra hoses. Instead, we used part of the frame down-tube, steering head and triple clamps to carry the liquid between the coolant pump and the radiator.

Then, to make sure you finish each moto with as much radiator as you started with, we mounted it behind the front number plate for added protection. Not to mention less bulk and wind resistance.

As always, Yamaha's unique Torque Induction, with over-size reed-valves and carburetor, ensure plenty of useable power

throughout the rpm range. Even more power this year, thanks to a new port shape, centered exhaust port, and redesigned muffler.

Our exclusive remote reservoir Monoshock rear suspension is not only infinitely and easily adjustable, it has a new extended swing arm for dramatically improved handling.

This year's front fork inner tube diameter is larger for added strength. Both caster and rake have been changed for even better cornering. And an eccentric cam front brake gives you maximum braking control.

Add to that smaller, but no less important changes like a new tire tread pattern for improved traction, a beveled gear throttle, newly designed handlebars, grips and folding shift lever and you've got the 1981 YZ125.

The closest you can come to the whole works without riding for the factory.

The full floating rear brake allows the shoe to rotate and pivot with the frame, independent of the swing arm.

FIM type side covers keep your leg from covering the big number one.

The triangulated box-section aluminum swing arm is 25mm longer for a smoother ride and better stability.

The low seat position lowers the bike's overall center of gravity for better stability and handling.

A new beveled gear throttle for smoother action, easier maintenance.

Race proven, close ratio six speed transmission with increased clutch capacity.

Capacitor Discharge Ignition (CDI) produces a better, more efficient spark electrically, maximizing performance, while minimizing maintenance.

The single down-tube, semi-double cradle, chrome-moly frame is not only strong and lightweight, it actually functions as part of the bike's cooling and exhaust systems.

Leading-edge front forks have an increased internal diameter for more responsive, flexless travel. They're even adjustable for air pressure and oil level.

Our exclusive Monoshock with remote reservoir is infinitely and easily adjustable by varying spring preload, damping pressure and damping.

125cc, two-stroke, single-cylinder engine with reed-valve Torque Induction is actually lighter this year, even with the water pump.

The new eccentric cam front brake gives you better control, more braking is smoother and no reefer table.



**ENGINE**

Type ..... Reed-valve, 2-stroke,  
Liquid-cooled, single  
Displacement..... 123cc  
Bore and Stroke..... 56.0 x 50.0mm  
Compression Ratio..... 8.1:1  
Maximum Torque..... 14.8 ft.-lbs.  
(2.04 kg-m) @ 10,000 rpm  
Carburetion..... Mikuni VM 34SS  
Ignition..... CDI  
Starting..... Primary kick  
Lubrication..... Pre-mix (16 : 1)  
Transmission..... 6-speed

**CHASSIS**

Overall Length..... 84.1" (2,135mm)  
Overall Width..... 34.6" (880mm)  
Overall Height..... 49.2" (1,250mm)  
Wheelbase..... 57.1" (1,450mm)  
Ground Clearance..... 13.4" (340mm)  
Seat Height..... 37.0" (940mm)  
Dry Weight..... 196 lbs. (89 kg)  
Fuel Tank Capacity. 1.43 Imp. gals. (6.5 l)

**Suspension**

Front..... Telescopic fork  
Rear..... Swing arm with Monoshock

**Brakes**

Front..... Drum  
Rear..... Drum

**Tires**

Front..... 3.00 x 21"  
Rear..... 4.10 x 18"

**Coloring..... Competition Yellow**

Because of our ongoing efforts to make Yamaha motorcycles even better, specifications are subject to change without notice.



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**YAMAHA**  
THE WAY IT SHOULD BE.™