

FRONT DISC BRAKE PISTON ASSEMBLY / 1972 TO EARLY 1980 FL MODELS

The front disc brake caliper piston assembly used on 1972 to early 1980 FL models (previous to the square seal caliper) has been revised to improve retraction. The earlier style front brake piston has an allowable retraction clearance of .020 to .031 in. The improved piston has a specified positive retraction of .016 to .018 in.

WARNING

This new piston is for use in the front brake caliper ONLY. It cannot be installed in the rear because the specified retractions are different.

The two piston assemblies are easily distinguished from each other and are identified as follows. The earlier style piston, Part No. 44109-72A, has an “F” stamped on the inside of the piston and does NOT contain a wave washer as part of the assembly (see Figure 1).

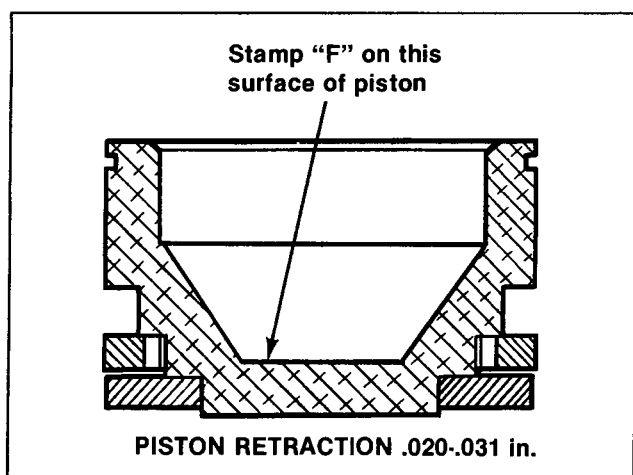


Figure 1. Old Style Piston Part No. 44109-72A

The revised piston, Part No. 44109-72B, has “.016 F” stamped either on the inside lip or top of the piston and does contain a wave washer (see Figure 2).

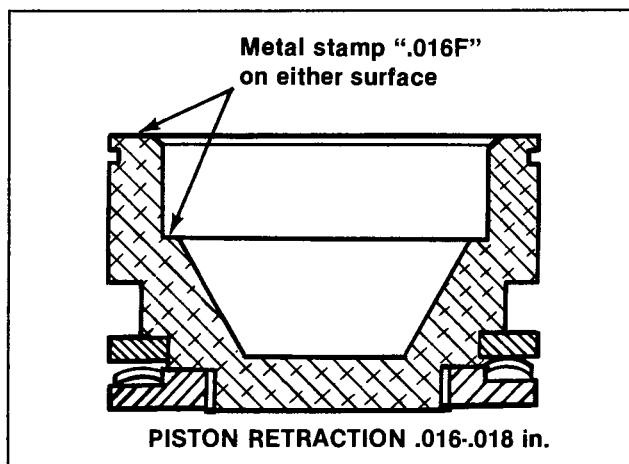


Figure 2. New Style Piston, Part No. 44109-72B

IMPORTANT

After installing a revised piston in a 1972 to early 1980 FL model (pre square seal caliper), it is very important to check for adequate hand lever action before riding. Brake hand lever must NOT bottom on the handlebar grip before maximum braking potential is achieved.

If you cannot obtain maximum braking potential, inspect for worn parts in the caliper, master cylinder and lever area. In such cases, replace or rebuild as required. Then retest.

WARNING

Always test motorcycle braking at low speeds after completing repairs of any brake components.

HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTOR CO., INC.

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