
Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by greggyf - 2007/10/16 11:07

Good morning,

I am relatively new to the scooter world and I am trying to gather information on "inexpensive" new scooters.

Can anyone recommend a Chinese or Taiwanese scooter, that from their own personal experience(s) would they say is/was a well running machine that was built well? If so, please list the scooter manufacturer and the model number.

In addition, if there are "infamously" bad or poorly made scooters out there please let me know of these companies as well.

Thank you very much.

Greg

=====

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by Sporty - 2007/10/16 12:03

Kymco is about it.

--- In Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com, "greggyf" <greggyf@...> wrote:

Good morning,

I am relatively new to the scooter world and I am trying to gather information on "inexpensive" new scooters.

Can anyone recommend a Chinese or Taiwanese scooter, that from their own personal experience(s) would they say is/was a well running machine that was built well? If so, please list the scooter manufacturer and the model number.

In addition, if there are "infamously" bad or poorly made scooters out there please let me know of these companies as well.

Thank you very much.

Greg

=====

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by hedhunter9 - 2007/10/16 12:21

We have had pretty good luck with our Vento Triton r-4 2 stroke models. I have one customer that is now at 18,000 miles. It had a new piston put in at 15,000 miles. and has had 1 belt ,gas/vac lines, and brakes replaced. I havnt seen any Honda, Yam 49cc scooters with those kind of miles on them around here...

Bob Bean

Action Cycle

574-256-1020

www.goactioncycle.com

----- Original Message -----

From: greggyf (greggyf@aol.com)

To: Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com (Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com)

Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2007 11:07 AM

Subject: Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Good morning,

I am relatively new to the scooter world and I am trying to gather information on "inexpensive" new scooters.

Can anyone recommend a Chinese or Taiwanese scooter, that from their own personal experience(s) would they say is/was a well running machine that was built well? If so, please list the scooter manufacturer and the model number.

In addition, if there are "infamously" bad or poorly made scooters out there please let me know of these companies as well.

Thank you very much.

Greg

<http://geo.yahoo.com/serv?s=97476590/grpld=11083483/grpspld=1705126255/msgld=28182/stime=1192551717>

Your email settings: Individual Email|Traditional

Change settings via the Web (Yahoo! ID required)

Change settings via email: Switch delivery to Daily Digest (Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters-digest@yahoogroups.com?subject=Email Delivery: Digest) | Switch to Fully Featured

Unsubscribe (Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com?subject=Unsubscribe)

=====

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by Sporty - 2007/10/16 12:52

Now my buddy that sold his Triton had the bad rubber thing going on, 2005 less than 600 miles.

--- In Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com, <actioncycle@...> wrote:

We have had pretty good luck with our Vento Triton r-4 2 stroke models. I have one customer that is now at 18,000 miles. It had a new piston put in at 15,000 miles. and has had 1 belt ,gas/vac lines, and brakes replaced. I havnt seen any Honda, Yam 49cc scooters with those kind of miles on them around here...

Bob Bean

Action Cycle

574-256-1020

www.goactioncycle.com

----- Original Message -----

From: greggyf

To: Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoo.com

Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2007 11:07 AM

Subject: Chinese or Taiwanese
scooter recommendations.

Good morning,

I am relatively new to the scooter world and I am trying to gather information on "inexpensive" new scooters.

Can anyone recommend a Chinese or Taiwanese scooter, that from their own personal experience(s) would they say is/was a well running machine that was built well? If so, please list the scooter manufacturer and the model number.

In addition, if there are "infamously" bad or poorly made scooters out there please let me know of these companies as well.

Thank you very much.

Greg

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by Bill Wilson - 2007/10/16 15:18

Inexpensive is exactly what you will get. I would only purchase a brand that a Local dealer will support. Most reputable scooter dealers will not even work on the so called bargain brands. This is really a case where you get what you pay for. If you are looking to save money, you would be better off buying a used Name Brand, rather than a new CHINA scooter. Stick with Kymco, Honda, TNG, Vespa, Genuine. You won't be sorry.

Bill

greggyf <greggyf@aol.com> wrote:

Good morning,

I am relatively new to the scooter world and I am trying to gather information on "inexpensive" new scooters.

Can anyone recommend a Chinese or Taiwanese scooter, that from their own personal experience(s) would they say is/was a well running machine that was built well? If so, please list the scooter manufacturer and the model number.

In addition, if there are "infamously" bad or poorly made scooters out there please let me know of these companies as well.

Thank you very much.

Greg

Check out the hottest 2008 models today at Yahoo! Autos. _____.
<http://geo.yahoo.com/serv?s=97476590/grpld=11083483/grpspld=1705126255/msgld=28187/stime=1192562318>

Your email settings: Individual Email|Traditional
Change settings via the Web (Yahoo! ID required)
Change settings via email: Switch delivery to Daily Digest (Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters-digest@yahoogroups.com?subject=Email Delivery: Digest) | Switch to Fully Featured
Unsubscribe (Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com?subject=Unsubscribe)

=====

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by Bob Kirtley - 2007/10/16 16:51

Greg, Since you asked about inexpensive scooters, I will relate what I have learned. Buy from a dealer that will be able to service your bike. Make sure he sets up his bikes before sales. Make sure the dealer can get parts. This is most important. Most inexpensive scooters will require a regular supply of replacement parts. If you have to wait weeks and months for parts, it will sit more than operate. Many parts are interchangeable from one brand to another. A good dealer will know what works. Some importers get bikes and no supply of parts. You can look online and you will see parts on backorder everywhere.

Most Chinese scooters I have seen look like they come from the same factory. Get a good repair manual. I got one at scootdawg.com. Make sure your metric tool kit is complete. They fall apart but are fairly easy to repair.

-----Original Message-----

From: Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com On Behalf Of Bill Wilson
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2007 3:19 PM
To: Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Inexpensive is exactly what you will get. I would only purchase a brand that a Local dealer will support. Most reputable scooter dealers will not even work on the so called bargain brands. This is really a case where you get what you pay for. If you are looking to save money, you would be better off buying a used Name Brand, rather than a new CHINA scooter.

Stick with Kymco, Honda, TNG, Vespa, Genuine. You won't be sorry.

Bill

greggyf <greggyf@aol.com> wrote:

Good morning,

I am relatively new to the scooter world and I am trying to gather information on "inexpensive" new scooters.

Can anyone recommend a Chinese or Taiwanese scooter, that from their own personal experience(s) would they say is/was a well running machine that was built well? If so, please list the scooter manufacturer and the model number.

In addition, if there are "infamously" bad or poorly made scooters out there please let me know of these companies as well.

Thank you very much.

Greg

Check out the hottest 2008 models today at Yahoo! Autos.

<http://geo.yahoo.com/serv?s=97476590/grpld=11083483/grpspld=1705126255/msgld=28188/stime=1192567890>

Your email settings: Individual Email|Traditional
Change settings via the Web (Yahoo! ID required)
Change settings via email: Switch delivery to Daily Digest (Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters-digest@yahoogroups.com?subject=Email Delivery: Digest) | Switch to Fully Featured
Unsubscribe (Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com?subject=Unsubscribe)

=====

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by Clive - 2007/10/16 17:36

Greg: My advice is only consider a mainland Chinese scooter if you are mechanically inclined. If that's not for you go for a Kymco or a used Honda. I had a Vento Phantom R4i which was recently stolen. I am looking around for a replacement, would still consider a Chinese scoot, but with full knowledge I'll probably have things to repair and troubleshoot.
Clive.

=====

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by Bill Wilson - 2007/10/16 20:28

You can't just look at the purchase price, you have to look at the Total Cost Of Ownership. You can buy a CHINA made 50cc for about 800.00 or you can buy a Honda Metropolitan for 1800.00, and the Honda will last more than 4 times as long, how is the 800.00 scooter a better value? I have seen people riding Honda Elites and Helix's from the early 80's and they are still going strong. I wouldn't expect to get more than 2 or 3 years out of a China Bike before it falls apart. If you are mechanically inclined and don't mind tightening every bolt on the bike, by all means get the cheaper.
If you have to replace parts more often (which is usually the case) on a cheaper scooter, in the long run, it will end up costing more.

Bill

Bob Kirtley <TwoWheelr2@yahoo.com> wrote:
Greg, Since you asked about inexpensive scooters, I will relate what I have learned. Buy from a dealer that will be able to service your bike. Make sure he sets up his bikes before sales. Make sure the dealer can get parts. This is most important. Most inexpensive scooters will require a regular supply of replacement parts. If you have to wait weeks and months for parts, it will sit more than operate. Many parts are interchangeable from one brand to another. A good dealer will know what works. Some importers get bikes and no supply of parts. You can look online and you will see parts on backorder everywhere.

Most Chinese scooters I have seen look like they come from the same factory. Get a good repair manual. I got one at scootdawg.com. Make sure your metric tool kit is complete. They fall apart but are fairly easy to repair.

-----Original Message-----

From: Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com On Behalf Of Bill Wilson
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2007 3:19 PM
To: Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Inexoensive is exactly what you will get. I would only purchase a brand that a Local dealer will support. Most reputable scooter dealers will not even work on the so called bargain brands. This is really a case where you get what you pay for. If you are looking to save money, you would be better off buying a used Name Brand, rather than a new CHINA scoot.

Stick with Kymco, Honda, TNG, Vespa, Genuine. You won't be sorry.

Bill

greggyf <greggyf@aol.com> wrote:

Good morning,

I am relatively new to the scooter world and I am trying to gather information on "inexpensive" new scooters.

Can anyone recommend a Chinese or Taiwanese scooter, that from their own personal experience(s) would they say is/was a well running machine that was built well? If so, please list the scooter manufacturer and the model number.

In addition, if there are "infamously" bad or poorly made scooters out there please let me know of these companies as well.

Thank you very much.

Greg

Check outthe hottest 2008 models today at Yahoo! Autos.

Shape Yahoo! in your own image. Join our Network Research Panel today! <http://geo.yahoo.com/serv?s=97476590/grpld=11083483/grpsld=1705126255/msgld=28193/stime=1192580916>

Your email settings: Individual Email|Traditional
Change settings via the Web (Yahoo! ID required)
Change settings via email: Switch delivery to Daily Digest (Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters-digest@yahoogroups.com?subject=Email Delivery: Digest) | Switch to Fully Featured
Unsubscribe (Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com?subject=Unsubscribe)

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by Sporty - 2007/10/17 10:11

I could not have said it better.

<arakisss@...> wrote:

You can't just look at the purchase price, you have to look at the Total Cost Of Ownership.

You can buy a CHINA made 50cc for about 800.00 or you can buy a Honda Metropolitan for 1800.00, and the Honda will last more than 4 times as long, how is the 800.00 scooter a better value? I have seen people riding Honda Elites and Helix's from the early 80's and they are still going strong. I wouldn't expect to get more than 2 or 3 years out of a China Bike before it falls apart. If you are mechanically inclined and don't mind tightening every bolt on the bike, by all means get the cheaper.

If you have to replace parts more often (which is usually the case) on a cheaper scooter, in the long run, it will end up costing more.

Bill

Bob Kirtley <TwoWheelr2@...> wrote:

Greg, Since you asked about inexpensive scooters, I will relate what I have learned. Buy from a dealer that will be able to service your bike. Make sure he sets up his bikes before sales. Make sure the dealer can get parts. This is most important. Most inexpensive scooters will require a regular supply of replacement parts. If you have to wait weeks and months for parts, it will sit more than operate. Many parts are interchangeable from one brand to another. A good dealer will know what works. Some importers get bikes and no supply of parts. You can look online and you will see parts on backorder everywhere.

Most Chinese scooters I have seen look like they come from the same factory. Get a good repair manual. I got one at scootdawg.com. Make sure your metric tool kit is complete. They fall apart but are fairly easy to repair.

-----Original Message-----

From: Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com

On Behalf

Of Bill Wilson

Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2007 3:19 PM

To: Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com

Subject: Re: Chinese or

Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Inexensive is exactly what you will get. I would only purchase a brand that a Local dealer will support. Most reputable scooter dealers will not even work on the so called bargain brands. This is really a case where you get what you pay for. If you are looking to save money, you would be better off buying a used Name Brand, rather than a new CHINA scoot.

Stick with Kymco, Honda, TNG, Vespa, Genuine. You won't be sorry.

Bill

greggyf <greggyf@...> wrote:

Good morning,

I am relatively new to the scooter world and I am trying to gather information on "inexpensive" new scooters.

Can anyone recommend a Chinese or Taiwanese scooter, that from their own personal experience(s) would they say is/was a well running machine that was built well? If so, please list the scooter manufacturer and the model number.

In addition, if there are "infamously" bad or poorly made scooters out there please let me know of these companies as well.

Thank you very much.

Greg

Check out the hottest 2008 models today at Yahoo! Autos.

Shape Yahoo! in your own image. Join our Network Research Panel today!

=====

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by STEVEN HOLLY STEWART - 2007/10/17 20:16

Most, but not all, Chinese scooters are alike. I have a 2007 Diamo Retro that I ride almost everyday 30+ miles that has not given me trouble at all. Diamos are made by Linhai now, and are a whole different scoot than the 2006\'s. We have a good dealer locally in Salt Lake, the warranty is two years, and parts are available, usually within a week. I\'m thinking of getting Diamo\'s 300 Turista next (\$3500). I have been pretty impressed. Diamo also has a 150 Torino (\$1900) that looks alot like the Qlink Pegasus 150, but with a little more power. It\'s also less money. My dream bike is still a Vespa, but if you shop around, and do some research, there\'s some decent Chinese bikes out there. Good Luck

=====

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by Sporty - 2007/10/17 20:32

This is a warning about the Qlink Pegasus 150. It constantly overheats. So do the new ones. Dealer of mine replied; Of course it overheats! What a stupid remark. I\'ve never had a bike overheat in my life! Look over at the Scooter BBS for rest of the story! Posted 9/10/07

My Linhai Main Street started falling apart the day I got it.

Bad rubber bike. Rubber parts falling to pieces in 6 months.

--- In Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com, "STEVEN HOLLY STEWART" <stewutah@...> wrote:

Most, but not all, Chinese scooters are alike. I have a 2007 Diamo Retro that I ride almost everyday 30+ miles that has not given me trouble at all. Diamos are made by Linhai now, and are a whole different scoot than the 2006's. We have a good dealer locally in Salt Lake, the warranty is two years, and parts are available, usually within a week. I'm thinking of getting Diamo's 300 Turista next (\$3500). I have been pretty impressed. Diamo also has a 150 Torino (\$1900) that looks alot like the Qlink Pegasus 150, but with a little more power. It's also less money. My dream bike is still a Vespa, but if you shop around, and do some research, there's some decent Chinese bikes out there. Good Luck

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by tjdmobile - 2007/10/17 20:39

As far as infamously bad, I would put SunL and Tank on my list. I previously owned a Diamo Tracer (2005). It performed well for the first year, and then all the replacement parts started being changed. Top on the list of crap was the plastics. The body (painted parts) held up okay, but the black plastic covers started to become brittle and break very easily. My dealer couldn't get them,

I sold it in June of this year, just in time for the starter to go out on the new owner 1 week later.

I have a 1985 Honda Aero 80 which still starts up and runs well. It needs new brakes, and my Honda dealer actually has the parts for \$6 per wheel. Pretty good.

I think if you did a poll, most people had good luck from new through a couple of years. It's after the parts start to dry out and crack that we became bitter with Chinese scooters.

Before you lay down hard earned cash for one of these things, consider why you want it. Is it to save gas? Even at \$1500, it takes a lot of miles to make up the difference in gas savings. I never broke even, but my loss was covered by those gas savings.

Also - try and get your hands on a factory service manual. If they don't have one, it's considered a throw-away and you should move on, IMHO.

TJD

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by Bob Kirtley - 2007/10/17 22:20

I can vouch for SunL. Crap equipment, crappy company to deal with. Pure incompetence. Stay away from those people. Fortunately many pieces that fit a SunL scoot can be purchased under another label. My son has had one for 1 ½ years now. The replacement list is like the Eveready bunny. It keeps Growing and going and going and going. But we have become good at diagnostics and repair. Most times we get it going in a day or two. We just replaced the lower head bearing on the steerer tube. NOBODY had one. Matched it with a Timken and should last forever now. Complete exhaust from a Baccia (Sp?). All this and still rides almost every day. Oh yeah, the original light system was crap. Replaced the harness and light sockets with updated version and can actually find light bulbs now. It was impossible before with the original harness.

I am not so sure you get that much better quality on any scooter from China. There are plenty of forums and discussion groups on the internet. Most folks realize they are going to get greasy and put up with the work to keep them going. As far as gas savings, they are great. My son gets 80 mpg. He went from about 80 bucks a week in a Dodge V8 truck to \$5 a week on the scooter. It doesn't take too long to pay for itself and the inevitable replacement parts.

-----Original Message-----

From: Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com On Behalf Of tjdmobile
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2007 8:39 PM
To: Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

As far as infamously bad, I would put SunL and Tank on my list. I previously owned a Diamo Tracer (2005). It performed well for the first year, and then all the replacement parts started being changed. Top on the list of crap was the plastics. The body (painted parts) held up okay, but the black plastic covers started to become brittle and break very easily. My dealer couldn't get them,

I sold it in June of this year, just in time for the starter to go out on the new owner 1 week later.

I have a 1985 Honda Aero 80 which still starts up and runs well. It needs new brakes, and my Honda dealer actually has the parts for \$6 per wheel. Pretty good.

I think if you did a poll, most people had good luck from new through a couple of years. It's after the parts start to dry out and crack that we became bitter with Chinese scooters.

Before you lay down hard earned cash for one of these things, consider why you want it. Is it to save gas? Even at \$1500, it takes a lot of miles to make up the difference in gas savings. I never broke even, but my loss was covered by those gas savings.

Also - try and get your hands on a factory service manual. If they don't have one, it's considered a throw-away and you should move on, IMHO.

TJD

<http://geo.yahoo.com/serv?s=97476590/grpld=11083483/grpspld=1705126255/msgld=28198/stime=1192674054>

Your email settings: Individual Email|Traditional
Change settings via the Web (Yahoo! ID required)
Change settings via email: Switch delivery to Daily Digest (Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters-digest@yahoogroups.com?subject=Email Delivery: Digest) | Switch to Fully Featured

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by jep_202 - 2007/10/18 15:41

Greg;

I have a 2005 Strada RX150 Chrome Edition with 1500 miles now and am still pretty happy with it. Everything that I have replaced was at my own option, and the only things that have broken are: the plastic wraparound cover that goes under the seat by the floorboards (it was hit with an arrow-long story) and the right brake lever (fell in a parking lot).

If you do get a chinese bike, pay as LITTLE as you can for it. I have found people selling scoots like mine for around \$700 new. Paul would probably tell you that the profit margin on these scooters is HUGE. That is why they do not hold their resale value.

Even if you do buy a brand name, SHOP AROUND. Go to the small dealers in your area; they have less overhead and are generally a little more accomodating. I have found some small dealers in my area that sell suzukis, hondas, yamahas for 10-30% less than the big guys!

John

Chinese or Taiwanese scooter recommendations.

Posted by Sporty - 2007/10/18 19:30

If I remember right the dealer price on that scooter was \$1100 and dropped to \$950.

--- In Strada-Vento-QJ-UM-ChineseScooters@yahoogroups.com, "jep_202" <jep_202@...> wrote:

Greg;

I have a 2005 Strada RX150 Chrome Edition with 1500 miles now and am still pretty happy with it. Everything that I have replaced was at my own option, and the only things that have broken are: the plastic wraparound cover that goes under the seat by the floorboards (it was hit with an arrow-long story) and the right brake lever (fell in a parking lot).

If you do get a chinese bike, pay as LITTLE as you can for it. I have found people selling scoots like mine for around \$700 new. Paul would probably tell you that the profit margin on these scooters is HUGE. That is why they do not hold their resale value.

Even if you do buy a brand name, SHOP AROUND. Go to the small dealers in your area; they have less overhead and are generally a little more accomodating. I have found some small dealers in my area that sell suzukis, hondas, yamahas for 10-30% less than the big guys!

John

=====