

2003 CRF450R PRESS INFORMATION

Cleared for take-off by the FIM in 2003, and primed to grab big air on motocross and supercross circuits the length and breadth of Europe, Honda's spectacular CRF450R has been fine-tuned for winning performance and the ultimate in dirt racing excitement. Already a force to be reckoned with in AMA Supercross and motocross racing, as well as a popular new face in other off-road venues, the dynamic CRF450R's powerful and advanced 4-stroke engine delivers a strong, instantly responsive blast of acceleration coupled with confidently linear control. Its lightweight aluminium twin-spar frame features slim proportions and effortless control for assured handling over the roughest, highest flying courses around, and makes total domination the order of the day for a new generation of 4-stroke-powered motocross riders and racers.

Colours

- Explosion Red (with White number plate and sidecovers)

New Features

Engine

- Cam timing and lift changed for stronger low-end power and torque output, and smoother idling.
- Engine oil management system modified for enhanced reliability.
- Piston cooling oil jet made smaller to reduce oil output and, by extension, friction for quicker response.
- Carburettor settings fine-tuned for optimal power output.
- Clutch damper changed to improve rear wheel traction under hard acceleration.
- Transmission – Shift fork shaft features larger-diameter hole for lighter weight. Primary gear made thinner for reduced weight, and 4th gear made strengthened for enhanced long-term durability.

Chassis

- Frame downtube and lower tube rigidity increased for enhanced cornering control.
- Wider top engine hanger enhances front traction and cornering control.
- Swingarm pivot position raised 7mm (as measured from ground) for improved ground clearance (+6mm) and reduced under-chassis impacts in jump landings. Caster angle also decreased by 0.5°.
- 50mm shorter exhaust silencer contributes to lighter weight.
- Aircleaner connecting tube shape changed for smoother intake and stronger response.

Suspension and Brakes

- Front suspension stroke increased by 10mm (from 305 to 315mm) for improved handling and smoother control over bumps and jumps.
- Rear damper features increased spring rate and improved valve sealing for better absorption of jump landings and reduced pitching over washboards and ruts.
- Pro-Link rear suspension linkage also modified to conform with changes in swingarm pivot height and swingarm angle.

Equipment

- Handlebars moved forward 3mm and seat position raised 7mm for improved ergonomics and handling, placing the rider's legs at the narrowest cross-section of the frame, for improved comfort and handling feel.
- Shift lever made 10mm longer for improved ergonomics.
- New chain slider material offers improved wear resistance, increasing service life by five times over conventional materials.
- Honda Racing-inspired colours and graphics.

Specifications

CRF450R (ED-type)

Engine

Type	Liquid-cooled 4-stroke 4-valve SOHC single
Displacement	449.4cm ³
Bore × Stroke	96 × 62.1mm
Compression Ratio	11.5 : 1
Carburettor	40mm Keihin FCR flat slide
Ignition	Computer-controlled digital capacitor discharge with electronic advance
Starter	Primary kick
Max. Power Output	41kW/9,000min ⁻¹
Max. Torque	50.2Nm/6,500min ⁻¹

Drivetrain

Transmission	5-speed
Primary Reduction	2.739
Gear Ratios	1 1.800
	2 1.470
	3 1.235
	4 1.050
	5 0.909
Final Reduction	3.846
Final Drive	#520 roller chain; 13T/50T

Chassis

Frame	Aluminium twin-spar; semi-double cradle
Dimensions (L×W×H)	2,186 x 825 x 1,257mm
Wheelbase	1,486mm
Caster Angle	27° 1'
Trail	109mm
Seat Height	953mm
Ground Clearance	337mm
Fuel Capacity	7.5 litres
Dry Weight	102kg
Kerb Weight	109.7kg

Suspension and Brakes

Suspension	Front	47mm Showa inverted leading-axle twin-chamber cartridge-type telescopic fork with 16-step adjustable compression and rebound damping; 315mm axle travel
	Rear	Pro-Link with Showa single damper, adjustable low-speed (13-step) and high-speed (3.5-turn) compression and 17-step rebound damping; 314mm axle travel
Wheels	Front	21 x 1.60 aluminium rim/wire spoke
	Rear	19 x 2.15 aluminium rim/wire spoke
Tyres	Front	80/100-21 51M
	Rear	110/90-19 62M
Brakes	Front	240mm hydraulic disc with dual-piston calliper and sintered metal pads
	Rear	240mm hydraulic disc with single-piston calliper and sintered metal pads

All specifications are provisional and subject to change without notice.