

Motorcycle



Types



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Naval Safety Center
Motorcycle Programs

Street Motorcycle Categories



There are many types of motorcycles but there are two basic categories based on design and function:

Sport bikes: built for speed and cornering

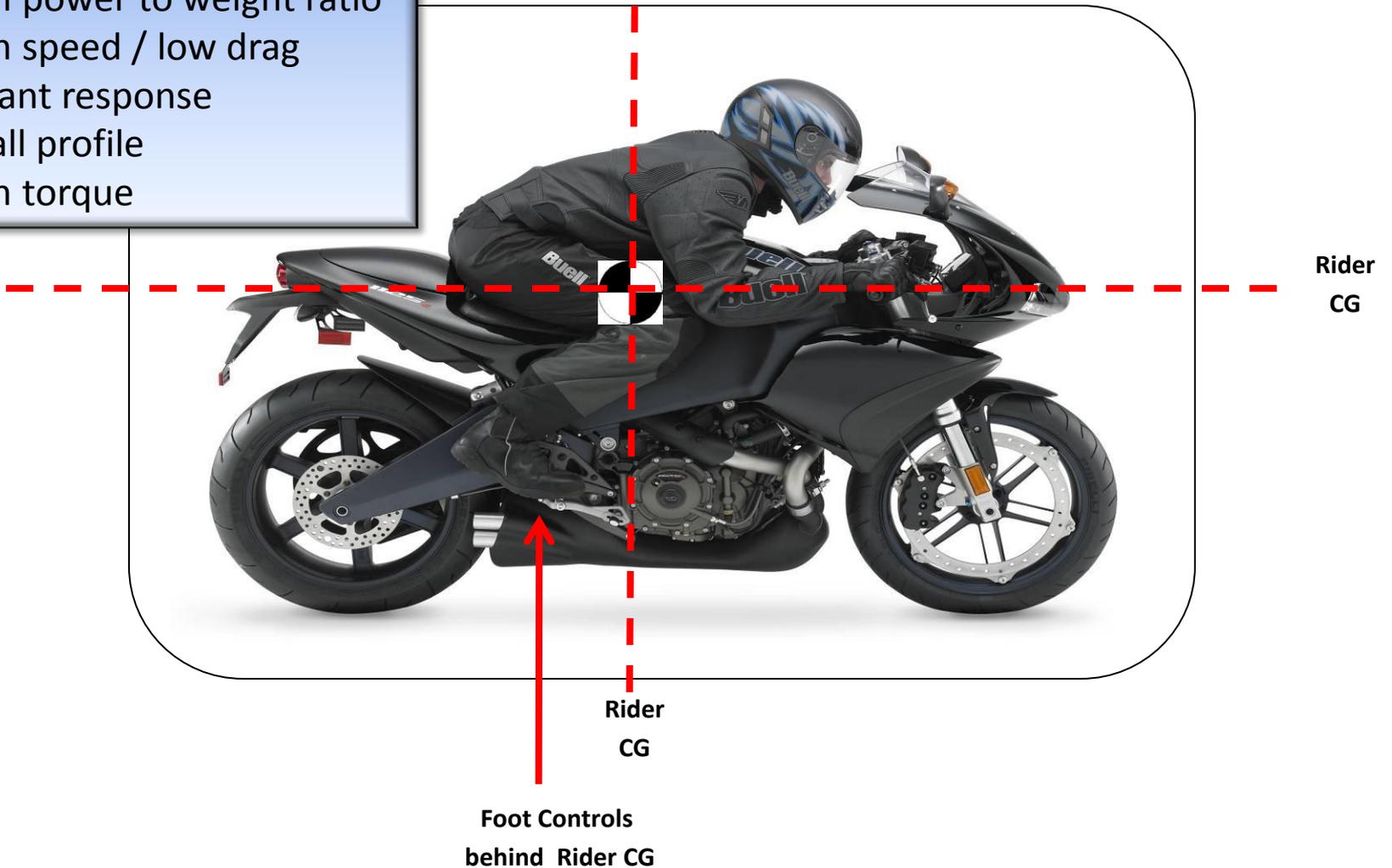
Non-Sportbikes: built for comfort, stability and style

KNOW YOUR BIKE....

KNOW YOUR PERSONAL RIDING LIMITATIONS

Sport Bike Characteristics

- High power to weight ratio
- High speed / low drag
- Instant response
- Small profile
- High torque





Sport Bikes



Sport bikes are designed for racing.

They are dynamically unstable with higher center of gravities and shorter wheel bases to increase maneuverability.

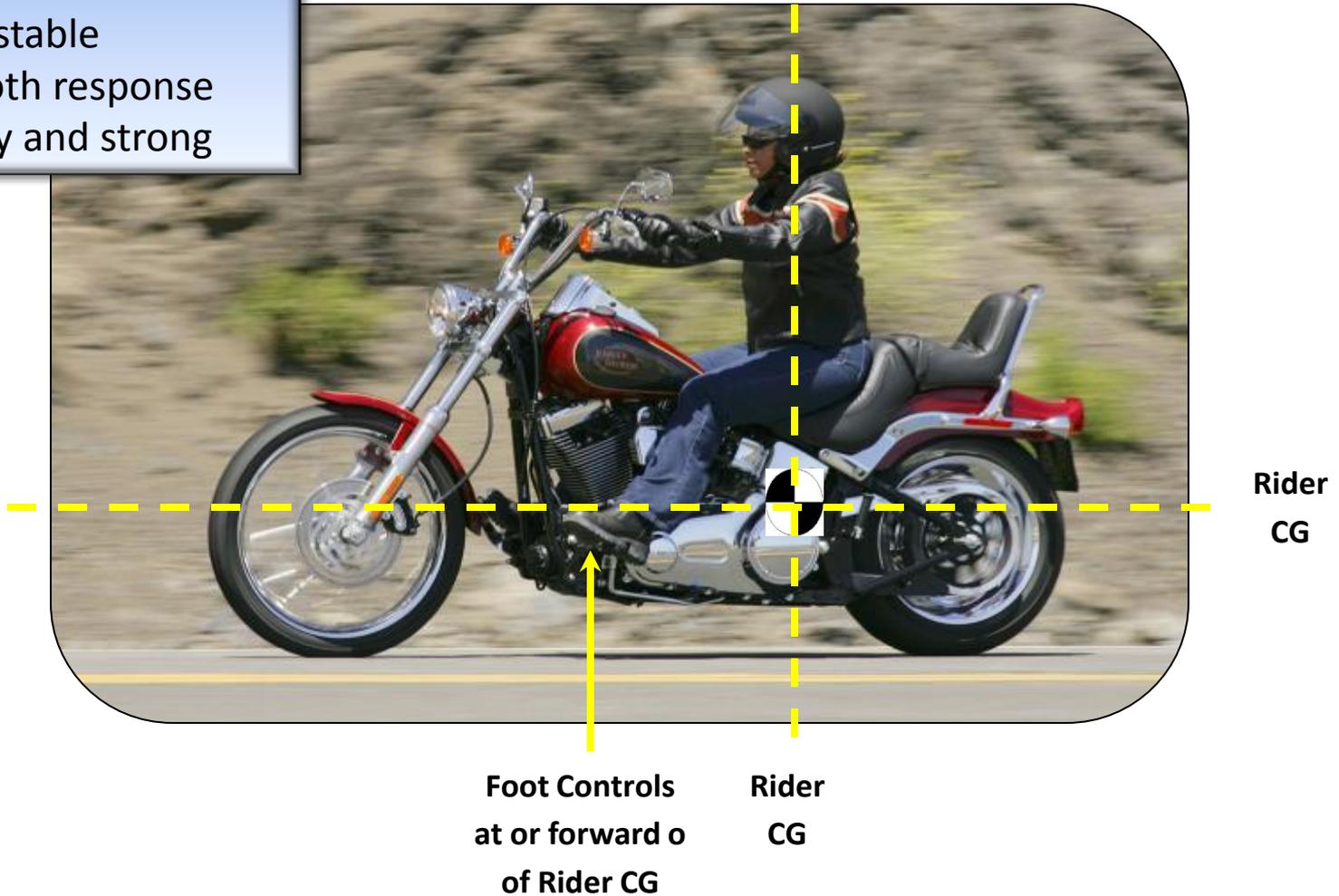
The rider's posture is leaned forward, much like a jockey's to reduce drag and these bikes have extraordinary power to weight ratios that ranges from 90-180 horsepower on 350-500 pound package.

These vehicles are built for speed and acceleration and operate at RPM's that can exceed 12,000 RPM.



NON-Sport Bike Characteristics

- Built to cruise
- Very stable
- Smooth response
- Heavy and strong





Non-Sport Bikes



Non-Sport bike vary dramatically but most fall into the classic cruiser bikes, built for longer rides and comfort.

They are inherently stable, with longer wheel bases and lower center of gravities. Since drag is not a important issue, the rider's posture is more upright with the feet below or forward of the torso.

Cruisers power to weight ratios are much lower than sport bikes.

They average 70-90 horsepower on much heavier 500-900 pound bikes.

These vehicles are built for power and comfort operating in a range up to 6,000 RPM.

