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2023 Sport Chief Drive Belt Inspection and Tension Adjustment

Required Tools and Supplies

- 15mm Socket
 - 22mm Socket
 - Ratchet
 - Torque Wrench
 - Belt Tension Tool or 10-Pound Weight
 - Measurement Tool
 - Marking Tool
 - Safety Glasses
 - Nitrile Gloves
 - Shop Rags
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To learn more about tools, read the [Tools and Fasteners Guide](#). Always wear safety glasses and nitrile gloves when servicing your Indian Motorcycle.

To inspect and adjust the drive belt tension on your Indian Sport Chief, follow these steps.

1. Park the bike on a flat, level surface and allow it to cool completely.
 2. Place the bike in an upright position with the front wheel clamped in a wheel vise.
 3. Ensure the motorcycle is in NEUTRAL.
 4. Safely elevate the rear wheel so the tire can freely rotate. The motorcycle must be stable before proceeding.
 5. Inspect the entire length of the drive belt for wear or damage. Refer to your [Owner's Manual](#) for belt wear analysis, and see your authorized [Indian Motorcycle Dealer](#) if replacement is needed. A new drive belt is [part number 3211222](#).
 6. Check and record the belt deflection, applying 10 pounds of force. **Note:** Ensure the belt is dry before measuring. Locking a tape measure will make it easier to maintain consistent measurements.
 - Using the tire valve stem as a reference, measure at least three additional points 90 degrees apart. The drive belt deflection at 10-lbs force should measure 28mm (1.1 inches).
 - If adjustment is needed, rotate the wheel forward and mark the tightest measurement point on the tire for reference.
 7. Mark the current adjuster location of the rear wheel for reference.
 8. Count or measure the exposed threads past the adjuster nuts for reference.
 9. Loosen but do not remove the axle nut with a 22mm socket.
 10. **Retighten** the nut to the adjustment 15 ft-lbs (20 Nm).
 11. Turn the right-side adjuster nut with a 15mm socket as needed to achieve proper belt tension.
 12. Use the left side adjuster only to make final adjustments for belt alignment. **Note:** Ensure the axle is seated forward against axle adjusters.
 13. While rotating the wheel backward, tighten the left side adjuster until the belt comes off the inside of the sprocket flange. Sprocket teeth should be visible on both sides of the drive belt.
 14. Once the desired setting is achieved, rotate the wheel forward and verify the sprocket teeth are still visible on both sides of the drive belt.
 15. If necessary, revert back to the initial settings and repeat this process as needed.
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16. Re-check the drive belt tension to verify it is still within specification. Improper tension or alignment can cause drive line noise and damage the drive belt.

17. Once the tension has been confirmed, **tighten** the rear axle nut to 65 ft-lbs (88 Nm).

18. Pump the rear brake pedal several times to reset the brake pad distance.

19. When the brake pedal is released, verify that the wheel rotates smoothly and freely, without drag.

20. Safely lower your motorcycle to the ground. Refer to your [Owner's Manual](#) for helpful hints and techniques.

For more information, see your authorized Indian Motorcycle Dealer. Find a dealer near you with the [Dealer Locator](#).

Maintenance tips, procedures and specifications can be found in your [Owner's Manual](#).

To find diagrams and replacement part numbers, use the [online parts catalog](#).

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