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Introduction

*** **Safety Tip:** *Most every motorcycle safety organization and Department of Transportation recommends you ride with high-beams on during daylight hours.* ***

This article is for those of you that just need from a quick reference reminder of headlight adjustment. It assumes you are already familiar with the process as described in the full version of this article.



To access the full version of this article, please go back to the menu and select Headlight Aiming, Full Description.

Items Needed

Marker, pencil or easily removable tape, such as masking tape

Helper. But if no helper can be found -- in a pinch -- you can center the bike by some means, such as with a hydraulic center lift. If you do this, be very careful not to raise the frame at all; just center it securely. **Tip:** *Do not simply use a block under your side-stand to center your bike. Once truly centered, the bike is not secure, and could easily fall over on its right side.*

Passenger, if you normally ride with one – especially when you ride at night.

Tape measure -- at least 10 feet long.

String or rope -- Optional. You'll want at least 20 feet or longer, if you use this for squaring your bike to a target wall,

Thin cloth or sheet -- Optional. It can be used to cover the headlight, and can help identify the light-beam center, although it didn't work very well for me.

Headlight Adjustment

1. Find Headlight height -- 36 inches for most stock Yamaha Star motorcycles with average sized rider -- from the ground to the light's center.
2. Place the bike's headlight lens 10 or 25 feet away from the wall. **Tip:** I use 10 feet. **Note:** I call this the Distance Factor.
3. Square the bike to the wall, either by eye or by measurement.
4. Draw a vertical line up the wall, centered to the bike's line of travel.
5. Mark a horizontal line on the wall at the headlight height.
6. Mark another horizontal line beneath the first one. This line should be dropped down by the Drop Factor -- the number of inches you wish to lower the beam. **Tip:** I use 2 inches.
7. Mark a point along the second horizontal line slightly to the right (for countries with right-side driving rules) if you wish to include a Horizontal Shift trick. **Tip:** I do not use any shift for my headlight. However, I do shift my left passing lamp beam a little rightward.
8. The point you mark is your Target Point for the headlight's beam center.
9. Use only the HIGH BEAM for adjustment.
10. In my opinion, the height of auxiliary lights (passing lamps and such), should be set parallel with the headlight high-beam if they switch off with your dimmer switch. And they should be set to be parallel with your low-beam if they can stay on when you dim your high-beams.

Adjustment Screw info -- While facing the headlight:

- **Right Side screw -- Up/Down adjustment.** Screw in to raise the beam. Screw out to lower the beam.
- **Left Side screw -- Side-to-side adjustment.** Screw in to move the beam right. Screw out to move the beam left.

You're good to go.