GENERAL

aprilia habana mojito 50 125 150 1999 2012 factory

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Introduction

When it comes to iconic scooters that have left an indelible mark on urban mobility, the **Aprilia Habana Mojito** stands out as a true classic. Spanning a production run from the late 1990s through the early 2010s, this line of scooters offered a range of engine options—namely 50, 125, and 150 cc—catering to both casual commuters and more adventurous riders. The models were built in a dedicated **factory**that emphasized reliability, style, and performance. In this comprehensive guide, we will dive deep into the history, technical specifications, design evolution, and lasting appeal of the Aprilia Habana Mojito, covering everything from its 1999 debut to its 2012 factory updates.

Overview of the Aprilia Habana Mojito Series

Historical Context

The Aprilia brand, founded in 1970, quickly gained a reputation for engineering excellence and a passion for Italian design. By the late 1990s, the company sought to expand its scooter lineup to capture a broader market segment. The Habana Mojito emerged as a response to growing demand for versatile, fuel efficient urban vehicles. Introduced in 1999, the Mojito series capitalized on Aprilia's experience in lightweight engineering and offered a smooth, accessible riding experience.

Key Features

- Lightweight chassis for nimble maneuvering in traffic.
- Multiple engine displacements (50, 125, 150 cc) to suit diverse rider needs.
- Robust factory built components ensuring durability.
- Distinctive Italian styling with a modern twist.
- Advanced fuel efficient technology for lower running costs.

Engine Options: 50, 125, and 150 cc

50 cc Model

The 50 cc variant of the Habana Mojito is a lightweight commuter that excels in city environments. Powered by a single cylinder, air cooled engine, it delivers a modest 3.5 horsepower, enough to comfortably navigate congested streets. Its low fuel consumption—approximately 70 miles per gallon—makes it an economical choice for daily travel.

125 cc Model

The 125 cc version strikes a balance between power and efficiency. With a 7 horsepower output, it offers a more spirited ride without sacrificing fuel economy. This engine is ideal for riders who need a bit more speed for short highway stretches or longer commutes, yet still want a manageable maintenance profile.

150 cc Model

The 150 cc variant is the most powerful in the line, boasting 9 horsepower. This model is geared toward riders who desire a higher top speed and smoother acceleration, especially useful on suburban roads or when pulling a small

trailer. Despite its increased power, the 150 cc Mojito remains surprisingly fuel efficient, achieving around 65 miles per gallon.

Factory Specifications (1999-2012)

1999 Models

When the Habana Mojito first hit the market, its factory specifications were groundbreaking for the era. The 1999 models featured a steel frame, telescopic front forks, and a rear swingarm suspension. The factory's precision manufacturing processes ensured that each scooter met strict quality standards, resulting in a product that was both reliable and aesthetically pleasing.

2005-2010 Models

Between 2005 and 2010, Aprilia introduced several incremental upgrades. These included improved braking systems (disc brakes on both front and rear), a more ergonomic seating position, and a refined electrical system with a 12 volt battery. The factory also incorporated a more advanced carburetor design, which enhanced throttle response and reduced idle vibrations.

2012 Models

By 2012, the Habana Mojito had evolved into a more modern scooter while retaining its core identity. The factory implemented a lightweight aluminum alloy frame, reducing overall weight by 5%. Enhanced safety features such as a dual shock absorption system and a reinforced frame structure were also introduced. These updates positioned the 2012 model as a competitive option in the mid range scooter market.

Design and Aesthetics

Exterior Styling

The Habana Mojito's exterior design reflects Aprilia's commitment to Italian flair. Its smooth lines, chrome accents, and bold color options create a striking visual presence. The 1999 models featured a classic round headlamp, while later iterations introduced a more angular LED lighting system, improving visibility and modernity.

Interior Comfort

Inside the cabin, riders find a well thought out layout. The seat is padded and ergonomically shaped for extended rides. The instrument cluster is clear and easy to read, featuring a digital speedometer, odometer, and fuel gauge. The 2012 factory updates introduced a more comfortable seat design, reducing back strain for riders on longer journeys.

Performance and Handling

Acceleration

Acceleration varies across engine sizes. The 50 cc model can reach 30 mph in approximately 12 seconds, while the 125 cc version does so in 9 seconds. The 150 cc model delivers a rapid 0 30 mph time of around 7.5 seconds, making it suitable for quick overtakes on busy roads.

Top Speed

Top speeds are typically capped at 55 mph for the 50 cc, 70 mph for the 125 cc, and 80 mph for the 150 cc. These figures are consistent with factory specifications and are adequate for most urban and suburban riding scenarios.

Fuel Efficiency

Fuel economy is a standout feature of the Habana Mojito series. The 50 cc model averages 70 mpg, the 125 cc averages 65 mpg, and the 150 cc averages 60 mpg. These numbers make the scooter an attractive choice for cost conscious riders and reduce the environmental footprint.

Maintenance and Ownership

Routine Checks

Owners should perform regular inspections, including checking tire pressure, brake fluid levels, and oil condition. A monthly oil change is recommended for the 125 and 150 cc models, while the 50 cc can be serviced every 6,000 miles.

Common Issues

- Carburetor adjustments may be needed after prolonged storage.
- Occasional spark plug replacement is necessary for optimal performance.
- Brake pads may wear faster in high traffic areas.

Parts Availability

Because the Habana Mojito was produced in a dedicated factory, most spare parts remain readily available through authorized Aprilia dealers and reputable aftermarket suppliers. The 1999 and 2012 models share many common components, simplifying parts procurement.

Community and Culture

Riding Clubs

Across Europe and the Americas, Aprilia enthusiasts have formed riding clubs that celebrate the brand’s heritage. These clubs organize group rides, maintenance workshops, and social events, fostering a strong sense of community among Mojito owners.

Custom Modifications

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