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NEW MODEL PRESS RELEASE

2024 KAWASAKI Z500 ABS MOTORCYCLE ALL EYES ON YOU

Introducing the all-new Kawasaki Z500 ABS motorcycle, a dynamic addition to the Z series developed in parallel with the Ninja® 500 motorcycle. Boasting super stylish Z aesthetics that demand attention, this lightweight marvel seamlessly incorporates practical features for day-to-day riding enjoyment.

The bodywork of the Z500 ABS draws inspiration from Kawasaki's renowned Sugomi™ styling, evident in the aggressive looks that contrast with its highly accommodating and rider-friendly nature. Riders will revel in the attention the Z500 ABS commands on the streets, and upon swinging a leg over the bike, they'll discover its impressive performance attributes, including an updated engine, a lightweight trellis chassis, and practical features such as a new seat shape for a relaxed riding position, new LED triple headlight design, new high-contrast full LCD instrument panel, and smartphone connectivity.



Kawasaki's all-new Z500 ABS and Z500 SE ABS motorcycles not only capture attention with their head-turning styling but deliver an exhilarating riding experience. With a focus on blending style and substance, these lightweight Z model redefine the thrill of the open road. Whether navigating city streets or enjoying a leisurely ride, the Z500 ABS and Z500 SE ABS promise a harmonious fusion of striking design and rider-friendly features, making them a standout choice for those seeking both visual appeal and dynamic performance in a motorcycle.

2024 Z500 ABS HIGHLIGHTS

- **NEW** powerful & rider-friendly 451cc parallel-twin engine
- **NEW** intense supernaked "Z" design w/ new LED triple headlight design
- **NEW** high-contrast full LCD instrumentation with smartphone connectivity
- **NEW** seat shape for a more relaxed, sporty riding position
- Assist & Slipper clutch
- Superb ride comfort and wind protection
- Confidence-inspiring reach to the ground
- Lightweight trellis frame
- Large diameter 310mm front brake disc w/ Anti-lock Brake System (ABS)

ENGINE

The newly unveiled Kawasaki Z500 ABS motorcycle presents a superior engine, surpassing its smaller counterpart, the Z400 motorcycle, in performance and accelerative capabilities. With an additional 52cc displacement, the Z500 ABS achieves heightened power throughout the entire rev range, ensuring a versatile and confidence-inspiring riding experience for all riders. The engine, boasting a 451cc displacement through a bore and stroke of 70.0mm x 58.6mm, not only delivers ample power within a lightweight package but also contributes to the bike's narrow profile. This design consideration not only facilitates easy handling but also ensures a comfortable reach to the ground for the rider's feet.

The engine of the Z500 ABS incorporates a downdraft intake system, providing a direct and efficient path for intake air, resulting in robust cylinder filling and increased power, especially at high RPMs. A spacious 5.8-liter airbox, meticulously designed for maximum clearance for intake funnels, enhances intake efficiency while maintaining a rigid top to eliminate unwanted noise. Various improvements, such as different heights for left and right intake funnels and strategically positioned injectors, contribute to the engine's smooth response and increased combustion efficiency.

The engine's lightweight design elements, from ignition coils to spark plugs and a sleeveless aluminum die-cast cylinder, collectively reduce engine weight, ensuring a quick response and direct feel during acceleration. Building on the engine design of the Z400, the Z500 ABS motorcycle incorporates a 6.8mm longer stroke for increased power and a quicker feeling of acceleration. A new crankshaft, connecting rods, and pistons are introduced to suit the larger displacement, while the optimized compression ratio enhances overall engine efficiency. The top ring land of the aluminum pistons now features a hard alumite treatment, contributing to higher combustion pressure and further elevating the engine's performance.

Innovative features include a newly designed balancer shaft optimized for the larger displacement, a thick-diameter end pipe in the exhaust system for high-RPM performance, and a rider-friendly Assist & Slipper clutch. This clutch offers a light feel at the lever, a wide engagement range, and two-cam functionality for optimal control and reduced back torque during excessive engine braking. The radiator fan cover utilizes Kawasaki technology to direct hot air away from the rider, minimizing discomfort during idle moments. With these advancements, the Z500 ABS stands out as a harmonious blend of power, responsiveness, and rider comfort, reaffirming its status as a standout motorcycle in the Z series.

CHASSIS

The Z500 ABS boasts a lightweight trellis frame designed meticulously to reduce weight while ensuring the expected rigidity and durability associated with Kawasaki frames. This frame not only contributes to the bike's light overall weight but also forms a slim package, providing precise maneuverability. The thoughtful design considerations extend to the chassis, featuring a supersport-style short-wheelbase/long-swingarm configuration that, along with an optimized trail, delivers a natural and light handling experience.

The chassis further emphasizes its commitment to performance with a short wheelbase of 54.1 inches, facilitating light and easy steering. The optimized swingarm pivot position adds a supersport-derived handling character to the bike, enhancing overall stability. The innovative use of the engine as a stressed member, employing rigid mounts and minimized mounting brackets, contributes to ideal rigidity

for enhanced stability during rides. The aluminum diecast swingarm mounting plate that is bolted to the back of the engine allows the swingarm to be directly mounted to the engine, further enhancing stability. This design choice eliminates the need for cross members, contributing to the frame's light weight. The square-tube-formed swingarm eliminates unnecessary gusseting, adding to the overall low weight. Combined with the lightweight engine, the Z500 ABS achieves a curb mass of only 368.1 lbs, promoting easy handling and facilitating smooth maneuvers both on and off the bike.

SUSPENSION

The Z500 ABS motorcycle features a robust 41mm telescopic fork in the front, delivering exceptional suspension performance. This design not only imparts a planted feel to the front wheel but also ensures easy direction changes, even when the bike is upright, making it particularly convenient for navigating through traffic. The suspension system as a whole provides a plush riding experience akin to that of larger displacement bikes. The rigid front forks eliminate the need for a fender brace, contributing to weight savings, and the choice of a conventional telescopic fork aids in minimizing weight gain.

In the rear, the Z500 ABS is equipped with a Uni-Trak® suspension featuring 5-way preload adjustability. This allows riders to customize the stiffness and ride height to suit their body weight or accommodate a passenger. The shock is easily adjustable using the on-board tool kit, providing a convenient solution for riders who prefer personalized suspension settings. Both front and rear suspension configurations are optimized to complement the new displacement and weight of the Z500 ABS, ensuring optimal performance and responsiveness, especially in managing pitching under braking and acceleration.

BRAKES AND WHEELS

The Z500 ABS is equipped with a powerful braking system that enhances rider feel and responsiveness. The front braking system features a large 310mm semi-floating disc, efficiently gripped by a balanced actuation dual-piston caliper. A newly designed, rigid front brake master cylinder contributes to improved controllability by eliminating ineffective idle stroke. In the rear, a substantial 220mm disc is managed by a dual-piston caliper with large 27mm pistons. The careful selection of dimensions and materials for both front and rear brake hoses ensure excellent brake feel, providing riders with confidence in various riding situations.

Adding an extra layer of reassurance, the Z500 ABS motorcycle comes standard with an Anti-lock Brake System (ABS). This feature prevents wheel lock-up during braking, particularly in challenging or low-traction conditions. The Z500 ABS also boasts stylish star-pattern 5-spoke wheels reminiscent of the Z650 motorcycle, not only contributing to the bike's lightweight design but also optimizing lateral rigidity for improved handling and cornering stability. The radial tires on the Z500 ABS offer a combination of light weight and excellent grip and contribute to both agile handling and riding comfort. Additionally, the 150mm rear tire enhances the bike's imposing rear-end aesthetics.

ERGONOMICS

The Z500 ABS prioritizes rider comfort and control with its thoughtfully designed ergonomics. The relaxed rider triangle is versatile, catering to a wide range of rider sizes and riding scenarios, embodying the rider-friendly nature of the motorcycle. The relatively upright riding position and wide handlebar placement position the rider optimally for a dynamic and sporty riding experience. The wide handlebar not only enables a dynamic rider to feel but also enhances maneuverability, facilitating easy handling during low-speed maneuvers.

The fuel tank of the Z500 ABS is intelligently designed to be slim between the rider's legs, promoting excellent contact with the bike. With a 3.7-gallon fuel capacity, the tank contributes to weight reduction while ensuring a sufficient cruising range for both daily commuting and touring adventures. The black inner cover between the fuel tank and shroud adds a stylish color design element, enhancing the visual appeal of the bodywork floating over the machine. The seat cushioning, crafted from low-rebound urethane, provides superb ride comfort, especially in the front portion with ample padding. With a comfortable 30.9-inch seat height, riders can confidently reach the ground, while sporty aluminum footpegs contribute to direct feel and good controllability during sport riding, ensuring a comfortable riding position.

STYLING

The Z500 ABS motorcycle commands attention with its unmistakable supernaked style and street presence. The machine's all-new front-end design revolves around a striking triple LED headlight configuration, showcasing intense and high-class styling. Embracing Sugomi design elements characteristic of the Z Series, such as a crouching stance, low-positioned head, and upswept tail, the Z500 ABS boasts a silhouette that is instantly recognizable as a Kawasaki Supernaked. The impeccable fit and finish, coupled with an overall high-quality design, offer owners a source of pride.

The front of the Z500 ABS features a distinctive triple LED headlight design, with the two upper headlights serving as low beams and the single lower headlight as the high beam. The intentional focus on the two low-beam headlights enhances both the visual appeal and lighting performance. The design philosophy allows the bodywork to float above the engine, highlighting the functional beauty of the engine, elegantly curved exhaust header pipes, and trellis frame. The incorporation of painted parts and surfaces enhances the dynamic and high-quality aesthetic of the motorcycle.

The newly designed mirror stays with a truss structure not only accentuate the machine's intense style but also effectively controls vibration for clearer rearward viewing. The compact fuel tank, forward-slanted design, and sculpted details contribute to its dynamic and high-class appearance, making it a standout in the supernaked category. The inclusion of a shorter front fender, compact shrouds, side covers, and a sharp, upswept tail cowl further reinforce the distinct and aggressive image of the Z500 ABS, culminating in an all-new LED taillight design that adds a modern touch to the rear aesthetics.

HIGH GRADE COCKPIT

The Z500 ABS motorcycle boasts a high-grade cockpit featuring an all-new high-contrast full LCD instrument panel. This sophisticated instrument design showcases a well-thought-out display, incorporating a bar-style tachometer that extends over the speedometer and other pertinent data. The comprehensive set of display functions includes an odometer, gear position indicator, fuel gauge, dual trip meters, remaining range, current and average fuel consumption, coolant temperature, clock, connected device notifications (Bluetooth®, mail, telephone), service indicator, and an economical riding indicator.

One standout feature of the instrument panel of the Z500 ABS is the economical riding indicator, a valuable tool for riders seeking optimal fuel efficiency. This indicator, constantly active, appears on the LCD screen to highlight favorable fuel consumption conditions. Riders can use this information to make informed decisions and enhance their fuel efficiency. The legibility of the display is further augmented

by the use of original Kawasaki fonts, ensuring riders can easily access and interpret crucial information while on the move.

SMARTPHONE CONNECTIVITY

Harnessing the power of Bluetooth® technology, the Z500 ABS offers riders seamless wireless connectivity to their motorcycle. Leveraging the dedicated smartphone application RIDELOGY THE APP*, this innovative feature unlocks a myriad of functions, enhancing the overall motorcycle experience. Whether it's monitoring performance metrics, receiving notifications or customizing settings, Bluetooth connectivity allows riders to stay connected to their bike in a modern and intuitive way.

Functions include:

- **Vehicle info:** battery voltage can be viewed via the smartphone
- **Riding log:** GPS route information as well as vehicle running information can be logged and viewed via the smartphone
- **Telephone notices:** when a call or mail is received by the smartphone, this is indicated on the instrument display
- **Communication sharing:** rider profile, location and riding logs can be shared with other RIDELOGY THE APP users, allowing riders to interact with other like-minded riders
- **Maintenance log:** maintenance history like refuelling, lubrication, oil changes, consumable parts replacement, and periodic inspections can be managed

Z500 SE ABS

The Z500 SE ABS motorcycle presents riders with a distinctive and exclusive version of the Z500 ABS model, featuring unique color schemes and graphics that set it apart from the standard edition. Enhancing the visual appeal, a two-piece under-cowl design is incorporated, allowing the elegant curves of the exhaust header pipes, the functional beauty of the engine, and the distinctive trellis frame to be prominently highlighted. This design element contributes to the aesthetic allure of the Z500 SE ABS, providing riders with a truly special and eye-catching motorcycle.

The Z500 SE ABS is equipped with a high-grade full color display with TFT (thin-film transistor) technology, providing optimal visibility. The screen's background color is selectable to black or white, and the screen brightness adjusts automatically to suit available light. Display functions are like the standard Z500 ABS model, and the display also provides Bluetooth connectivity via RIDELOGY THE APP.

Adding to the functionality of the Z500 SE ABS, is a conveniently positioned USB-C outlet integrated into the inside of the headlight cowl. This user-friendly feature allows riders to effortlessly power additional accessories or recharge electronic devices, enhancing the motorcycle's practicality for modern riders. Furthermore, the Z500 SE ABS model boasts a range of exclusive accessories, including a smoke-colored meter cover, a distinctive radiator screen, frame sliders, a pillion seat cover, a tank pad, and knee grip pads, contributing to the overall uniqueness and exclusivity of the special edition Z500 SE ABS motorcycle.

KAWASAKI GENUINE ACCESSORIES

Z500 ABS owners have the option to enhance and personalize their motorcycles with a range of Kawasaki Genuine Accessories (KGA), reflecting both style and functionality. These accessories include a smoke-colored meter cover, providing a distinctive touch to the instrument panel. The addition

of a USB-C type outlet ensures convenient charging and accessory connectivity. Furthermore, riders can choose from accessories such as an under cowl for added flair, an ERGO-FITR® high seat (+30mm) for an elevated riding position, a pillion seat cover, a tank bag for increased storage capacity, tank pad and knee pads for added protection, a radiator screen, frame sliders, and practical security options like a helmet lock and U-lock, allowing Z500 ABS owners to tailor their motorcycles to suit their preferences and needs.

**RIDEOLOGY THE APP is not intended for use during vehicle operation. Only use RIDEOLOGY THE APP when the vehicle is not being operated and it is safe to do so.*

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2024 Model Variations

Kawasaki Z500 ABS

Color: Candy Lime Green/Metallic Flat Spark Black/Metallic Graphite Gray

MSRP: \$5,599

Availability: Now

Kawasaki Z500 SE ABS

Color: Candy Persimmon Red/Metallic Flat Spark Black/Metallic Matte Graphenesteel Gray

MSRP: \$6,299

Availability: Now

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ABOUT KAWASAKI

Kawasaki started full-scale production of motorcycles over a half century ago. The first Kawasaki motorcycle engine was designed based on technical know-how garnered from the development and production of aircraft engines, and Kawasaki's entry into the motorcycle industry was driven by the company's constant effort to develop new technologies. Numerous new Kawasaki models introduced over the years have helped shape the market, and in the process have created enduring legends based on their unique engineering, power, design and riding pleasure. In the future, Kawasaki Motors, Ltd. is committed to maintaining and furthering these strengths which will surely give birth to new legends.

Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. markets and distributes Kawasaki motorcycles, ATVs, side x sides, and JET SKI® watercraft through a network of approximately 1,100 independent retailers, with close to an additional 7,700 retailers specializing in general purpose engines. Kawasaki and its affiliates employ nearly 3,100 people in the United States, with approximately 260 of them located at Kawasaki's Foothill Ranch, California headquarters.

Kawasaki's tagline, "Let the Good Times Roll.®", is recognized worldwide. The Kawasaki brand is synonymous with powerful, stylish and category-leading vehicles. Information about Kawasaki's complete line of powersports products and Kawasaki affiliates can be found on the Internet at www.kawasaki.com.