



Rooster FlashCap and running your motorcycle without a battery



What is the Rooster FlashCap?

The Rooster FlashCap is a modern version of the original Lucas 2MC capacitor and is equipped with easy to install screw terminals and can either be used to replace an ageing or malfunctioned Lucas 2MC or to retro-fit to other alternator equipped motorcycles to allow them operate without a battery for sports use.

Although possible it is not recommended to use the Rooster FlashCap on a machine equipped with lighting although you may be still be able to use some electronic ignition modules.

If a machine does not have provision within the wiring loom for the capacitor simply replace the battery with the Rooster FlashCap

Please note that the electrical system must include voltage regulation, usually with either a zener diode or a combined regulator rectifier.

What is a Lucas 2MC Capacitor?

Although some of the following relates to BSA, Triumph and Norton motorcycles taken from parts of their own dealership information it is relevant to most alternator equipped British motorcycles.

From 1968 all motorcycles imported into the USA were required to include battery operated head and taillights. Because of this, all owners wishing to participate in motorcycle sports, especially the popular desert (sled) racing, were forced to remove the lighting and convert the ignition system to operate without the heavy and fragile acid filled battery.

In a measure to make this operation easier and promote sales, BSA, Triumph and Norton, fitted a modified wiring loom which allowed the fitment of the Lucas 2MC (Big Blue) capacitor, also known as a battery eliminator.

By kicking the machine over, the rider causes the alternator to produce a charge within the capacitor which acts like a small battery and is enough to start the engine.

Some models of BSA, Triumph and Norton motorcycles are fitted as standard with both a battery and the Lucas 2MC capacitor but if the battery is flat it needs to be disconnected to allow the machine to start on the capacitor alone.