



ANTIQUE MOTORCYCLES - ACCESSORIES AND RELATED ITEMS

DKW 1926 E206 198 CC 1 CYL TS



SOLD





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PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

DKW 1928 198 cc two stroke "E 200" frame# 84119 engine # 99830 / 64

Jorgen Skafte Rasmussen, a Dane by birth, established his first company in Saxony after studying Engineering in Mittweida.

In 1904 he set up an apparatus engineering company in Chemnitz, three years later moving to Zschopau, in the Erzgebirge region, where he began to experiment with steam-driven motor vehicles in 1916.

Although these experiments did not lead to any specific product, they yielded the company name and trademark DKW, derived from the German words for "steam-driven vehicle" (Dampf Kraft Wagen).

After the war, Rasmussen met Hugo Ruppe, an engine designer. Ruppe created a small, 2-stroke 25cc engine for Rasmussen.

It was intended to be a toy for young boys, and Rasmussen called it "Des Knaben Wunsch," or the "the boy's wish." This was the second use of the DKW initials.

The final variation, and the one best remembered today, is "Das kleine Wunder," or "the little wonder."

This was the name given to an enlarged version of the Ruppe engine, which was powerful enough to be used as auxiliary propulsion for a bicycle.

In 1919, Rasmussen renamed his firm Zschopauer Motorenwerke and switched his company over to production of gas-powered DKW engines.

The little wonder was a success. Soon Rasmussens's company was supplying engines to seventy other German manufacturers, and by 1922, more than 30,000 DKW engines had been produced and Zschopauer Motorenwerke was making its own line of motorized bicycles and motorcycles under the DKW name.

Within four years, more than 50% of German motorcycles either were DKWs or were powered by a DKW engine.

In 1925 a very successful model was brought out, the 206 cc E 206 with had a 64 x 64 mm engine a weight of 75 kilograms and a top speed of 70 km/ hour.

Fuel consumption was a mere 3 litres per 100 kilometres.

The machine proved very reliable and of high quality.

The price was very competitive and some 49,000 E 206 machines were sold by the end of March 1928.

In this year DKW became the largest manufacturer of motorcycles in the world.

From April 1st new legislation in Germany stated that motorcycles of less than 200 cc capacity were exempt from tax and could be ridden without a driving licence.

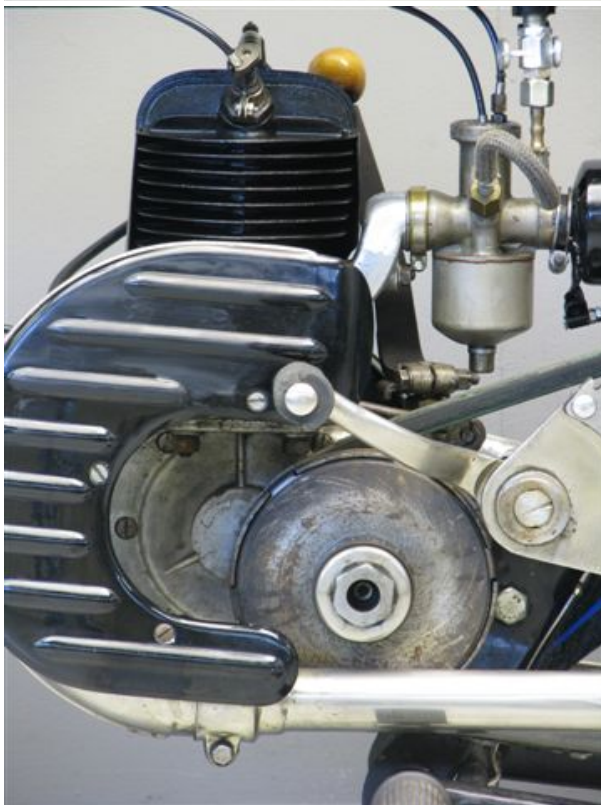
The factory had planned very precisely that on April 1 st the E 206 was superseded by the E 200, essentially the same motorcycle but with a bore of 63 instead of 64 mm, giving a capacity of 198 cc.

The perfect sales campaign paid off and in the remaining months of 1928 no less than 19,200 E200s were sold.

This delightful little machine is well restored a runs sweetly.



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