

# Champion Sportster Conversion

BY GARY MRAZ



I like Trikes for a multitude of reasons and have ridden many. My indoctrination was on a Champion/Harley Ultra Glide in 2007. Champions Trike design's utilize either an independent suspension or a rigid "Zero-Flex" suspension system which is a very stable platform.

They have also developed an EZ Steer system which increases the stock rake (angle of the forks) by 5 degrees which significantly reduces the "trail". Trail is what contributes to handling characteristics of our motorcycle. The lesser trail we have the better our bike handles. Rear automotive style disk brakes come standard and all their Trikes are fully CARB approved. Champion is the only full line CARB approved manufacturers in California. They also offer the ever-popular reverse gear option available for 6 speed and 5 speeds which of course work on two wheelers.







When I saw the Champion Sportster 48 with forward controls I had to take a spin on these three wheels. Champion conversions are exemplary fabrications in form and function and esthetically the Sportster Trike is no exception. This Sporty employs the Zero-Flex suspension swing arm and dual coil over shocks. Also the overall length of the bike is now 91" long instead of the 85.40" of a factory Sportster, and the look is low long and lean.

This Champion Sportster Trike Conversion Sporty with its 1200 pulled nicely, it rides and handles like a sports car. Fun in the first 5 minutes of riding and within hours, ridiculously fun. I apologized for the condition of their vehicle upon return. I normally do not traverse streams at high speed; go off road cruising the perimeter of the local lake on a motorcycle... In fact I *never* do. Trikes tend to be rather utilitarian, large lumbering masses with a ton of storage and the cushy seating of an SUV, but all that's good about this Champion Sporty trike brought out all that's bad in me. This little hot rod was more akin to an ATV and I was unstoppable. I'm sure Champion management is cringing at the mere inference that these beautifully-crafted three wheel street vehicles are remotely connected to anything off road because they absolutely are NOT.

What's even more intriguing is an end user can just purchase the conversion and literally bolt it onto their 2004 to current 883/1200 Sportster. All the parts and are shipped in five boxes anywhere in the US and with a little mechanical know-how in 6 hours time you can "Trike your Bike." How cool is that! The entire kit is only \$4,995.00 to \$5,995.00 MSRP with shipping any-

where in the U.S. under \$300.00 bucks. Instructions on removing and replacing the entire conversion are included and available on-line.

What's the downside? In typical Harley fashion the factory seat must go, secondly I need just a little storage but tossing my magnetic tank bag on the rear fender was my solution and sorry kids this is a solo gig, there ain't no room for mama or papa for that matter. But no worries Champion also offers the same kit conversion for a 2006 to current Harley Dyna **at the same price!**

All in all, this Trike the most fun I've had on three wheels in a long time. Whether you're male or female, young or old this Trike is for you and remember, you don't even need a motorcycle license in California to ride one so there is no reason not to enjoy the fun and freedom of motorcycling.

**Breaking News from Champion:** This Sportster conversion can be purchased directly from Champion and as mentioned it arrives in 5 boxes via Fed-ex but if you order within **90 Days** they will ship for **FREE!** The conversion kit includes everything you need to Trike out your 2004 to current Sporty. If you prefer, Westminster H-D is the authorized Harley/Champion Trike dealer for all Orange County and they can install the conversion at their expanded service department. Customers can purchase a new bike or bring in their existing motorcycle and Westminster will do the conversion. In fact, Westminster H-D is authorized to install a Champion Trike conversion on *ANY* cruiser of your choice, metric or otherwise and you can even rent a Trike to see if it's right for you.