

## Going Up Hills

Climbing hills improperly can cause loss of control or cause the ATV to overturn. Review your owner's manual and follow procedures described within.

- Some hills are too steep for your abilities. Use your common sense. If the hill you are approaching looks too steep, it probably is.
- Some hills are just too steep for your ATV, regardless of your abilities.
- Never ride past the limit of your visibility; if you cannot see what is on or over the crest of a hill, slow down until you have a clear view.
- The key to riding hills is to keep your weight uphill at all times.
- Keep your feet firmly on the footrests.
- Choose a lower gear and speed up **BEFORE** climbing the hill to have momentum.
- When approaching the uphill climb, move up on the seat and lean forward, or stand and position your weight over the front wheels.
- When riding a two-up vehicle, passenger weight shift should mirror operator weight shift. As you are climbing, you may need to shift to a lower gear to prevent lugging the engine or stalling.

### **If you need to shift to a lower gear on a hill: (Depends on automatic or manual shift)**

- Keep your body weight forward as you prepare to shift gears. For steeper hills, lean forward as much as possible.
- Shift quickly while momentarily releasing the throttle; this will help keep the front wheels from lifting. (manual machine)

If you find you don't have enough power and cannot make it to the top and still have some speed:

- Keep your weight uphill.
- Make a U-turn before you lose speed
- Proceed downhill in a lower gear, keeping your weight to the uphill side.

### **If you are riding uphill and lose power and cannot make it to the top:**

- Keep your weight uphill and apply the brakes to come to a stop. Don't let the machine roll backward.
- Apply the parking brake while keeping your weight uphill.
- Dismount on the uphill side or to a side if pointed straight uphill, and follow the procedures described in your owner's manual.

**DO NOT ATTEMPT TO RIDE BACKWARDS** down a hill. Should you begin rolling backward, do not apply the rear brake abruptly. Using the rear brake only or abruptly could cause the ATV to roll over backward.

**If you begin rolling backward follow these steps:**

- Keep your weight uphill and apply the front brake. If your ATV has linked brakes, or if you are in four-wheel drive, follow the procedures described in your owner's manual.
- When you have come to a complete stop, apply the rear brake. Then apply the parking brake and dismount on the uphill side. If pointed straight uphill, dismount to either side and follow the procedures described in your owner's manual.
- If the ATV continues to roll backward, dismount to the uphill side immediately. Going Down Hills Always check the terrain carefully before you start down any hill. Choose a downhill path as straight as possible, with a minimum of obstacles. Shift your weight to the rear and use a low gear. Follow the procedures described in your owner's manual for the special braking techniques for going down hills.

**When going downhill, remember to:**

- Shift your weight to the rear (uphill).
- Keep the speed low.
- Use gradual braking.
- Use a lower gear.
- When riding a two-up vehicle with a passenger they should also shift their weight with the driver.

**Traversing a Slope:**

When you go across a slope rather than directly up or down. Sometimes when a hill is steep it is necessary to climb it or descend it by traversing. Traversing a slope requires additional attention avoid traversing slopes with excessively slippery, rough, or loose surfaces.

- Keep both feet firmly on the footrests.
- Lean your upper body uphill.
- When riding on soft terrain, you may need to turn your front wheels gently uphill to keep your ATV on a straight line across the hill.
- If your ATV begins to tip, turn the front wheels downhill if the terrain allows. If the terrain does not permit, dismount on the uphill side immediately.
- Avoid making sudden throttle change