

GV250: Harley Davidson (aftermarket)

Backrest Mod

By: William R. Ramby
[To comment, please click here.](#)

So yesterday I was cruising around and was talking to some guys and they told me about a Used H-D shop in Bethlehem Pa. Tommy Rows Cycle Service. According to them, this place had lots of used cycle accessories. So I made the drive hoping to find a backrest. I walked in and what did I see? A H-D backrest made to order.

The chrome was in fair shape as was the leather. I circled it a bit, then asked if I could take it outside to hold up to my GV. Hmm, the brackets would definitely need modifying, but it was do-able. I asked the guy working how much it was. He took it to the back and came back out and said "\$30 dollars and no refunds." I looked in my wallet. I had exactly \$30. I handed it over, strapped the backrest to the pillion and off I went.



The brackets had these big Mickey Mouse ears that would have to come off as they wouldn't fit behind the arm cover. But first I decided to drill the holes. I lined one out and drilled my pilot holes. Then I bolted the brackets together and drilled through the existing holes so they would be correctly placed on both.



Once that was done, I drilled out the pilot holes so they would accommodate 8mm bolts.



After that I took a cutting wheel and cut off the Mickey Mouse ears.



I also had to trim off about a quarter inch of the arm cover to accommodate the angle of the bracket. It was much easier than cutting the bracket itself. If you look at the picture closely you can tell where the slot ended originally. Man, a Dremel is a wonderful tool! 🛠️



After all the mods, I put a little clearcoat on the brackets where I had cut the ears off to prohibit rusting. Now I got to start putting it on the bike. The brackets went on perfectly and bolted right into place.



I bolted the backrest onto the brackets and voila, aftermarket H-D backrest on my GV250.





Not bad for \$30 and a little sweat equity, huh?