



The JD Jetting Kit – Cutting To The Chase

By Tom Niemela

When I got my KTM 300 new, it ran fatter than Oprah at a Weight Watcher's Meeting with free pizza. Clearly proper jetting was in order, especially on the mid and upper range. I've always done my own jetting and have had pretty good success, however a friend recommended skipping all the test time and going with the JD (James Dean) Jetting Kit. Why? Because it was merely a bolt-on-and-ride solution. Now the decision was: do I use up an entire afternoon buying plenty of brass and slowly dialing in the carb or just install and use the time to do real riding?

When I got the kit, it was simple and basic: a couple of needles and jets. I read through the detailed installation instructions and went with the stock recommendations. The JD Kit included needles with different tapers than the stocker, so I did wonder why there was such variance over stock jetting, but then again, what's up with most stock jetting on bikes – always so rich (at least on two strokes)? The main reason is that the factories don't want people to run out and seize their top ends during break-in, hence the fat jetting. The factories figure you changing a few plugs and living with it is better than their motors sticking. If I was a factory manager, I'd probably go with the same scheme.

Cutting to the chase, the brass installed easily, I used the recommended needle for my altitude and premix ratio and recommended needle position, along with JD's suggested main jet. Upon firing up my new mill, it was instantly more responsive – yes! To this day, I have run my 300 in countless trail rides and races and have not touched the jetting since, barring a few pilot screw minor adjustments, which is normal.

In summary, what more can be said about this – it's plug and play! I must also add that talking with James Dean himself was a pleasure and he was very informative, not some blank salesman on the other end of the phone. This kit gets a big thumb's up and comes highly recommended, especially for people that either have no jetting experience, or just don't have the time to do it right!

Get more info at James's site or at your local dealer:

www.jdjetting.com