

2027 Ducati Desmo450 MX and 450 MX Factory: continuous evolution for Borgo Panigale's motocross models

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The Ducati Desmo450 MX and Desmo450 MX Factory evolve with race-developed updates to improve performance and ergonomics. The new liveries accentuate the racing character and the range's immediate recognizability. For the first time, the Desmo450 will receive dedicated suspension settings and components for the US market.

Borgo Panigale (Bologna, Italy), 8 October 2026 - One year after the debut of its first motocross bike, Ducati confirms its commitment to the market segment by continuing its development, which sees racing and production bikes grow in parallel. Feedback gathered during the first racing season has led to the introduction of a series of evolutions on the Desmo450 MX and Desmo450 MX Factory, with the aim of further improving performance, ergonomics and robustness.

The 2027 model year introduces a series of targeted updates, including a new final drive ratio with a 51-tooth rear sprocket, redesigned gear and brake pedal tips for improved ergonomics, a larger fuel tank cap for faster refuelling and new Pirelli Scorpion MX32 tyres. Numerous components have also been updated and reinforced, from the starter motor gear to the water pump oil seal, exhaust manifold, fork slider guards and engine mounting brackets, with the aim of further increasing robustness, reliability and durability. The range also introduces a predictive maintenance system that, via a Wi-Fi module, adapts maintenance intervals to the actual use of the bike. The evolution is completed by new liveries, developed to strengthen its racing character and recognizability.

In addition, for the first time, the Desmo450 MX range for the USA will receive a dedicated suspension setting and different triple clamps with an offset of 20 instead of 22mm.

Desmo450 MX 2027

The Desmo450 MX represents the heart of the Ducati motocross project. Developed and refined through experience gained in racing competition, it was created to offer the best balance of power, lightness and reliability.

Designed to meet the needs of professional riders and enthusiasts alike, the Desmo450 MX combines high performance with ease of riding. At the heart of the project is the Desmodromic engine, a unique solution in the segment, capable of delivering generous low- and mid-range torque and class-

leading top-end acceleration. The aluminium frame, designed with a minimal number of welds to optimize rigidity and lightness, ensures stability, precision and immediate feeling in all conditions. Completing the package are cutting-edge electronics, including the world's first patented Traction Control system dedicated to a motocross bike, capable of intervening in targeted and effective ways to prevent rear wheel spin.

The balance between performance, chassis and electronics translates into a motorcycle capable of instilling immediate confidence in the rider, promoting effective riding in all conditions.

Starting with the 2027 model year, the Desmo450 MX also introduces a predictive maintenance system available via the accessory Wi-Fi module. By analysing motorcycle usage data, the system can adapt engine maintenance intervals based on actual riding conditions. This solution allows for more precise and effective maintenance planning, tailoring maintenance to actual use of the bike.

The result of ongoing development on the racetrack, the 2027 Desmo450 MX introduces a series of updates aimed at improving functionality, performance and ergonomics. The new larger 40 mm fuel cap makes refuelling quicker and easier. The 51-tooth rear sprocket increases the torque available to the rear wheel, improving the bike's responsiveness when exiting corners. The new gear shift and rear brake pedal tips improve ergonomics and facilitate foot movement during gear changes and braking. The package is completed by the new Pirelli Scorpion MX32 tyres, chosen to offer maximum traction and performance on modern motocross tracks.

Numerous components have been updated and optimized to further increase reliability, robustness and durability. Among the key improvements are new starter motor gear coupling tolerances, a water pump oil seal with revised geometry and Teflon coating, and a reinforced exhaust manifold in the silencer connection area. Several components subject to impact and stress have also been updated, such as the chain guide support, fork slider guards, and the front engine-to-frame brackets.

The Desmo450 MX Model Year 2027 is finally recognizable by its new livery, featuring black logos that replace the previous white ones, giving it an even more racing and distinctive look.

Desmo450 MX Factory 2027

Designed for riders looking for a competition-ready bike, the Desmo450 MX Factory represents the most refined and high-performance expression of the Ducati motocross project. Despite boasting even more technical features, the Factory version weighs less than the standard version, confirming the attention paid to optimizing every detail.

It features a complete Akrapovič titanium exhaust with dedicated mapping, developed to reduce weight (1.7 kg less) and improve power delivery and acceleration. Showa suspension with Dark Kashima and TiO superfinishing treatments ensures smoother operation and superior wear resistance, helping to maintain consistent performance even under the most demanding conditions. The Factory triple clamps, machined from solid billet, further reduce the bike's weight, while the sump guard, front disc cover, and RK MXU chain with O-rings increase strength and reliability for racing.

The package also includes the Holeshott device, designed to optimize acceleration and stability during starts, and a Wi-Fi module that allows customization of Riding Modes via the X-Link app, enabling the rider to adjust engine response, Launch Control, engine braking and Ducati Traction Control.

With the 2027 model year, the Desmo450 MX Factory incorporates all the evolutions introduced on the standard version, further strengthening performance, reliability and competitiveness. Visually distinguishing it is the new Ducati Corse 2027 livery, featuring the red and black Ducati logo, which underscores its racing character and direct link to the Borgo Panigale manufacturer's sporting activities.

Availability

The MY27 Desmo450 MX in both standard and Factory versions are arriving in selected European dealerships. Distribution will then extend to the rest of the world. **The MY27 Desmo450 MX Factory will not be available in North America, where the limited-edition MY26 model will be available exclusively instead.**

Desmo450 MX MY27

- **Colours**

- Ducati Red with black logos

- **Main standard features**

- Single-cylinder Desmo450 engine, 449.6 cc
- Maximum power of 63.5 hp at 9,400 rpm, maximum torque of 53.5 Nm at 7,500 rpm
- Twin-spar aluminium frame
- 7.2-litre fuel tank
- 49 mm Showa upside-down forks, fully adjustable, 310 mm travel and Kashima coating on the fork legs
- Fully adjustable Showa monoshock, 301 mm wheel travel
- Cast aluminium swingarm
- Brembo braking system with single Galfer discs, 260 mm (front) and 240 mm (rear)
- DID chain final drive
- Takasago Excel aluminium wheels with Alpina spokes, 21" x 1.60" and 19" x 2.15"
- 2 Power Modes, 2 Riding Modes
- Riding Modes configurable via the accessory X-Link app
- Next-generation electronics package with Ducati Traction Control (DTC); Power Launch; Quick Shift, Engine Brake Control.

- **Main new features**

- Larger fuel tank cap
- 51-tooth rear sprocket
- New gear and brake pedal tips
- New Pirelli Scorpion MX32 Mid-Soft tyres, 80/100-21" and 110/90-19"
- Predictive maintenance system available via an accessory Wi-Fi module
- Updated and optimized components to increase reliability and robustness
- New livery with black logos

Desmo450 MX Factory MY27

- **Colours**

- 2027 Ducati Corse livery

- **Standard equipment as 450 MX MY27 with the exception of**

- Akrapovič titanium exhaust
- 49 mm Showa upside-down forks, fully adjustable, 310 mm travel, and Kashima Extra dark coating on the fork legs; TiO treatment with superfinish on the stanchions
- Fully adjustable Showa monoshock, 301 mm wheel travel, Kashima Extra Dark Coating on the shock absorber body; TiO treatment with superfinish on the shaft
- 'Factory' triple clamp machined from solid
- Holeshoot device
- Front disc guard
- Sump guard
- RK MXU gold chain final drive with O-ring
- Wi-Fi module with customizable Riding Mode and predictive maintenance system

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