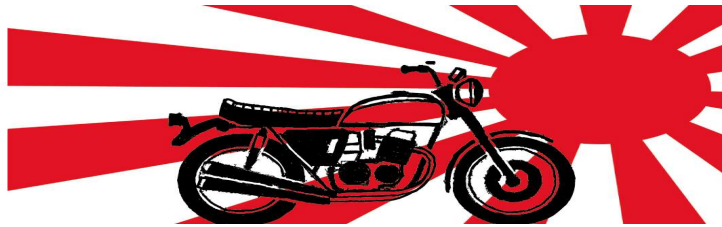


# V3.5 CDI Ignition Module-Draft

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## Installation Manual

Rae-San  
18/10/2020



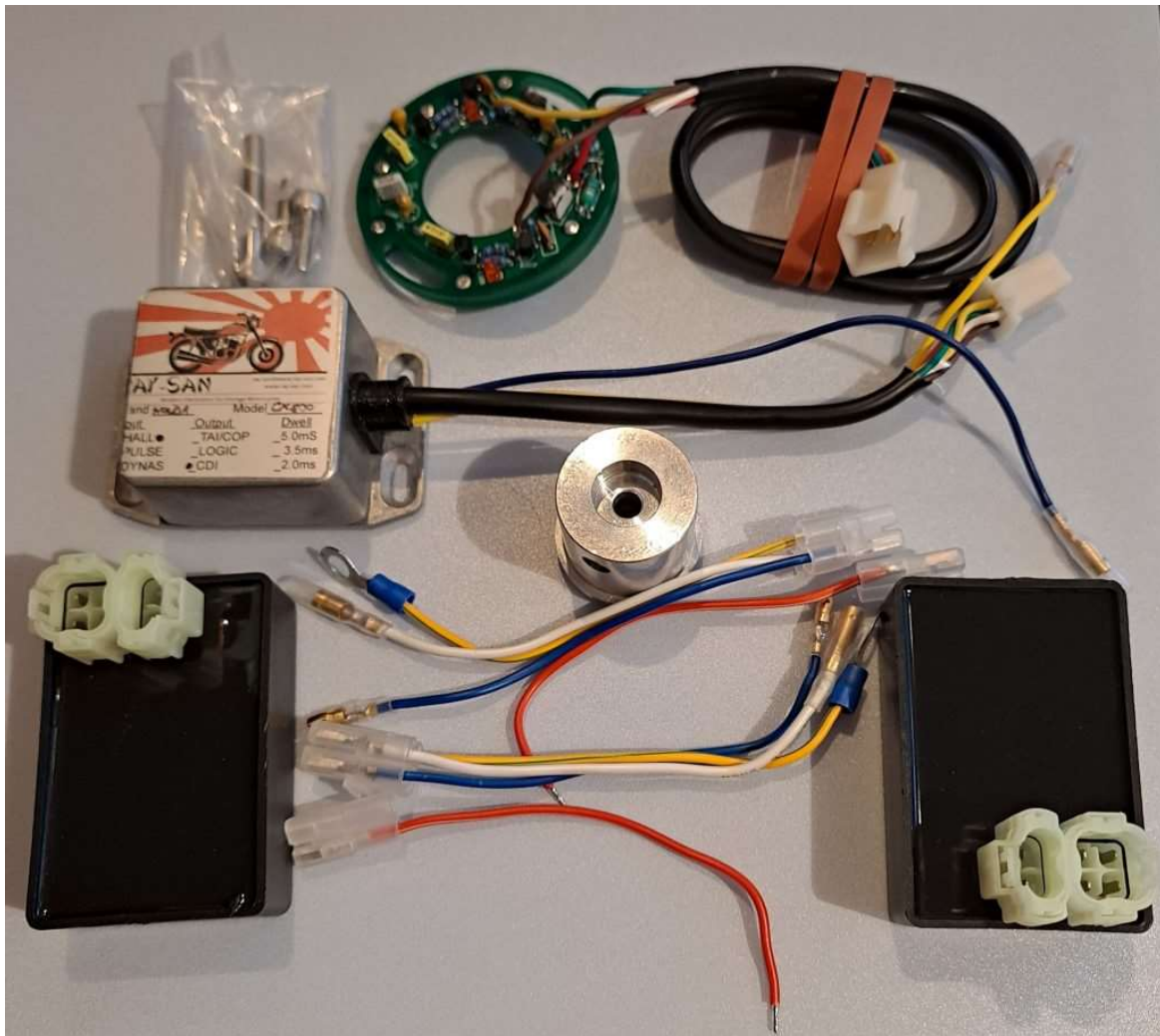
## *Rae-San Ignition Module V3.5 CDI*

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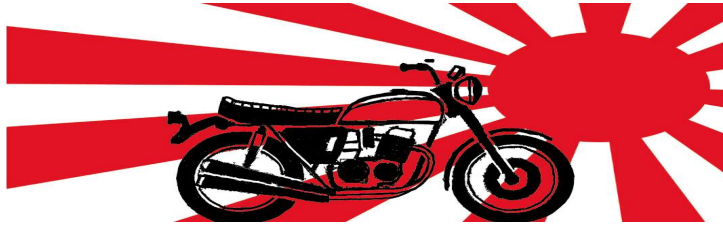
Congratulations on your purchase of a new ignition setup for your CX motorcycle.

Your Kit should be as depicted in the picture below.

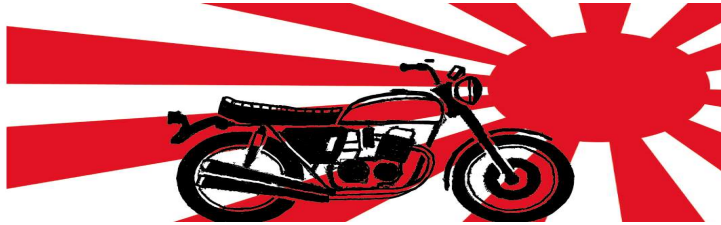
### **V3.5 HALL FULL Kit**



Note that the new revision has two indicator LEDs to indicate trigger pulses on the HALL sensor as well as Green and Red LEDs on the Advance Controller to indicate trigger and fire. A Tacho output option for driving electronic tachometers is now included.



The spark generation / CDI assembly is common to both setups – this uses commercially available GY6 –DC-CDI modules to create the high voltage and spark in to the CDI coils – these are used as they are quite readily available and inexpensive compared to most of the alternatives, or to a custom design.



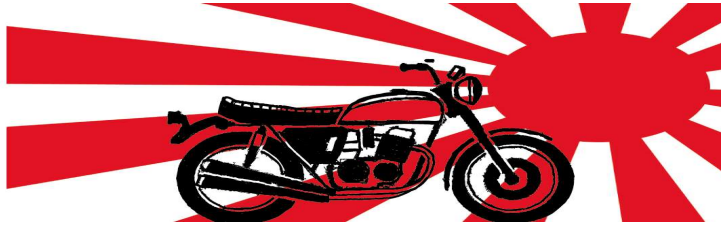
## The Original System

This module is intended to provide you with a replacement to the original CDI system that was fitted from the factory. The factory fitted system uses two high voltage coils on the stator to generate approximately 100V AC which is rectified to 150 – 200V DC which is used to charge the capacitors in the CDI unit and which are then fired into the ignition coils. These High voltage generation coils are the most common source of electrical failure of on the CX 500. They contain about 4000 turns of smaller wire that is finer than fine hair.

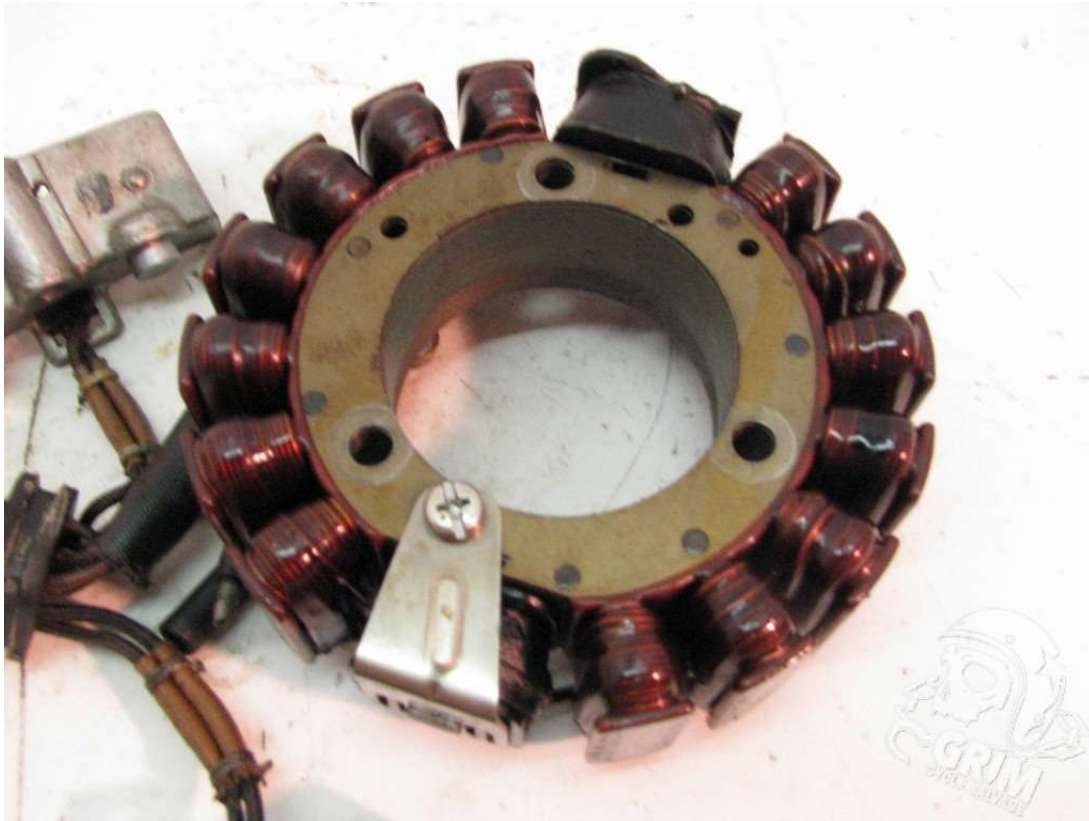
Original Factory CDI unit







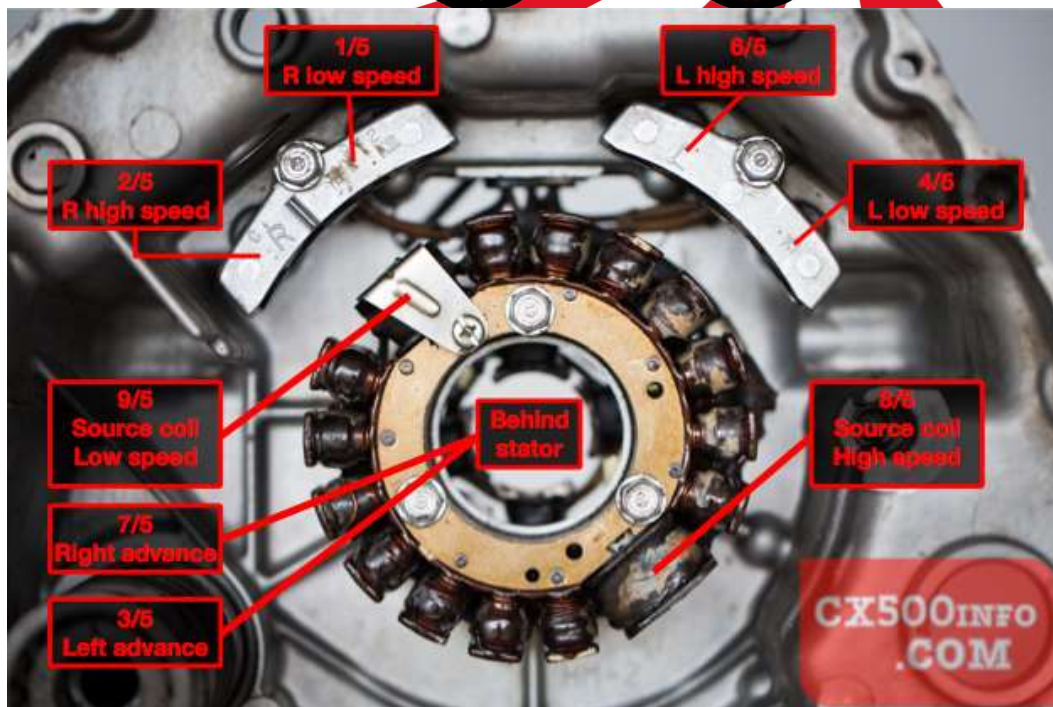
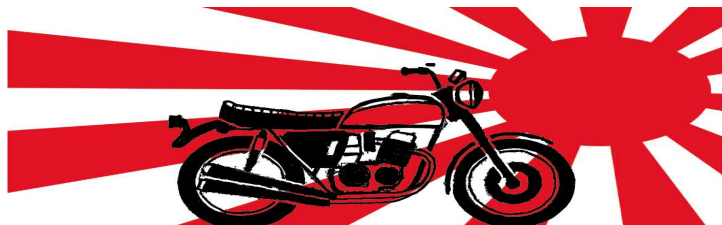
The above picture shows the stock CDI located in place and the connectors fitted –



This picture shows a CX500 CDI stator – the two most commonly troublesome coils are the wider ones at the top and bottom of the picture, the bottom with a metal cover over it and the top has a bit of the cap chipped off. These coils contain approximately 4000 turns of very fine wire between them which is used to generate the high voltage required for the original CDI based ignition.

These coils deteriorate over time and use and eventually fail. In order to replace these two coils – the engine must be removed from the frame and the back cover removed to replace the whole stator even though the 12V generating coils are usually fine.

The diagram below shows the stator in situ on the rear cover with the pick-up coils in position and labelled – please note the sources of these images as indicated on the images themselves.



The Rae-San CX CDI ignition module allows you to use the stock trigger coils already present (the silver objects ) and the 12V system of the bike to run the ignition without having to repair the failed CDI coils on the stator. This is referred to as the STOCK setup.

The Stock pickup coils as mentioned above are starting to also fail now – they are 30+ years old and consist of two sets of fine wire on a former, buried in a potting compound. They are no longer available as a part through Honda channels and they are becoming rare on the used market, as without them the CX engine is useless – Until now.

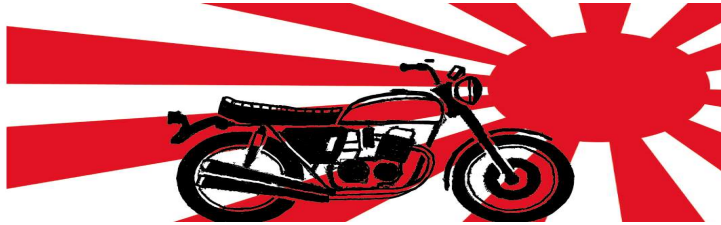
The Rae-San Hall Effect Ignition is used to replace these pickup coils with a hall-effect sensor and ignition advance controller that fits in the rear of the engine – where the original advance coils were positioned. This replaces the function of both pickup coils and the stator charging coils with new components, without the need to open the engine up.

Depending on your kit choice , your new Rae-San Ignition module:

uses the same trigger coils on the rear engine cover generate pulses which tell the microcomputer where the cranks is and when it is time to fire the spark. – This is the **STOCK COIL** setup

or

uses a **HALL EFFECT** sensor to generate the timing pulses that pulses which tell the microcomputer where the cranks is and when it is time to fire the spark.

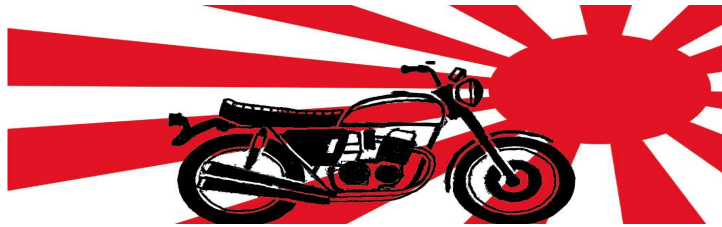


All Rae-San versions provide features of:

- Operates of 12V only – works if the Stator High Voltage windings are dead
- Provides electronically adjusted advance.
- Provides ability to choose from 4 standard advance profiles.
- Contains two completely independent circuits – one for each cylinder to provide failsafe redundancy.
- Provides Higher spark energy than original.
- Existing CDI kill switch functionality is retained so there is no need to rewire switches.

#### Modifications Required

The existing CDI box is removed - and the new Rae-San ignition unit put in its place. Power wiring is necessary to provide 12V to the new system.



## ***Installation – Hall Effect Sensor***

The process is easiest if starting with the engine out of the bike. It is possible to do the install in the bike with a lot of fiddling and removal of the water bottle – or swinging the engine down at the rear maybe – but I'll show the process with the engine removed as this allows for easy access and photography.

**NOTE THAT THE PHOTOS SHOW THE OLDER VERSION OF THE HALL PICKUP WITH IT ENCASED IN EPOXY. THE NEW PICKUP IS NOT ENCASED BUT INSTEAD SPRAYED WITH A PROTECTIVE COATING. INSTALLATION AND TIMING SETUP IS THE SAME.**

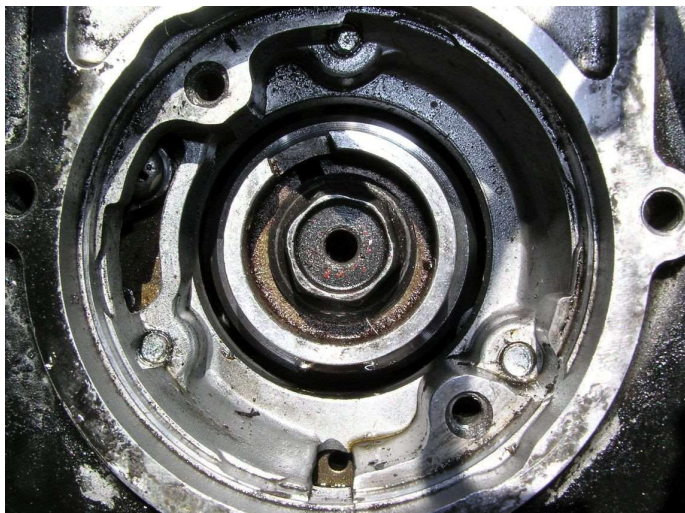
It's recommended that a dry run of the installation be performed first – without thread-locker or epoxies, so you can get a feel for the adjustment and see how the alignment stacks up.

Once you've done the dry run it will only take a few minutes to perform the final installation.

Lets begin:

The photos below shows the rear of the engine, ready for the installation. To get to this stage :

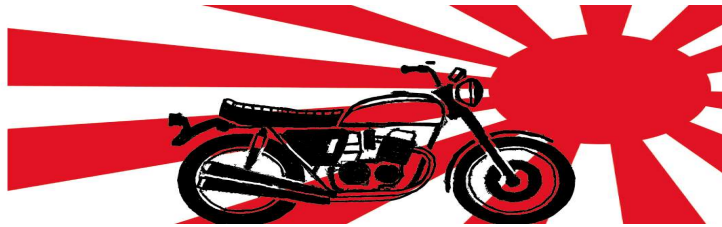
- Remove the engine from the bike – see the service manual if you need to
- Remove the ignition advance cover plate
- Remove the Advance sensor coils – unplug the two bullet connectors and then the two Philips head screws – pull out the assembly.
- Remove the bolt in the centre of the rotor and remove the rotor –
- Sell the Removed rotor and advance pickup on ebay ;)



The next picture shows the crank access needed to be able to set the timing

- Unscrew the 17mm bolt on the access cover on the front of the engine





- Attach a 17mm ratchet or similar to the front of the crank.
- Unscrew the timing access port on the side of the engine – depending on the year of manufacture this may be just a cover the same as the front or may be a breather arrangement.

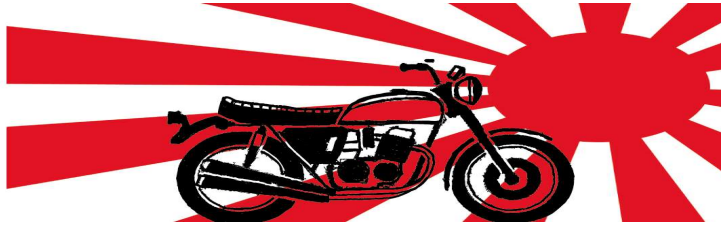


The next step is to install the rotor onto the rear of the crankshaft.

First set the timing to the FL mark.







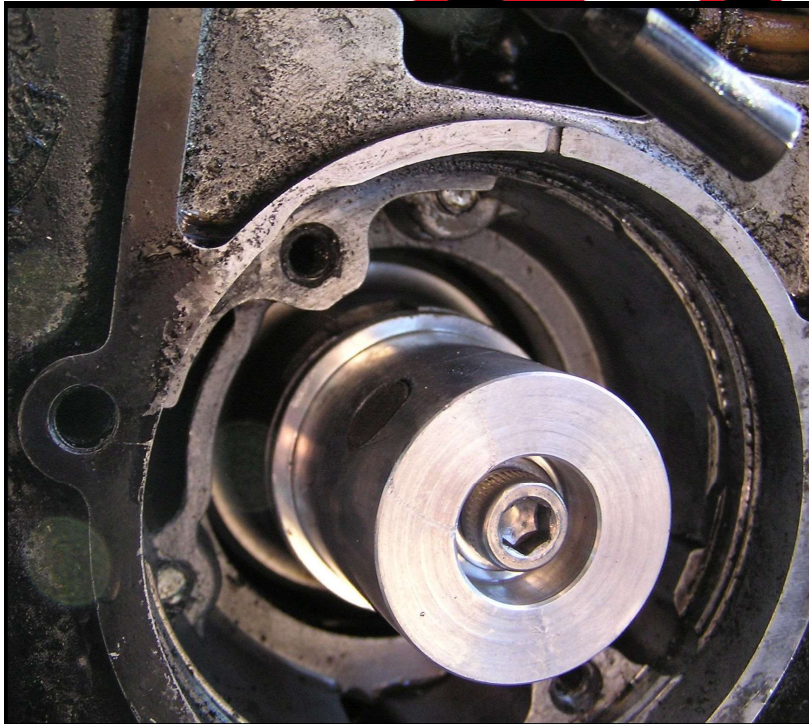
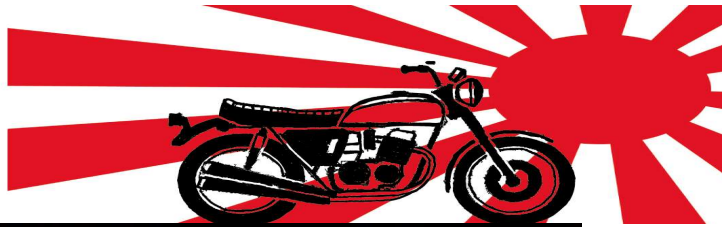
**For the Rotor with Tang :**

- If there is not already a line marked on the top of the rotor – in line with the trailing edge of the magnet – then it will make things easier if one is marked now – just use a felt tip marker.
- Place the rotor on the rear of the crank with the tang in the slot – It will only fit in one position.
- Put a small amount of thread-locker on the bolt and screw into place with a washer fitted.
- Do up snug with an hex key/ socket as appropriate.

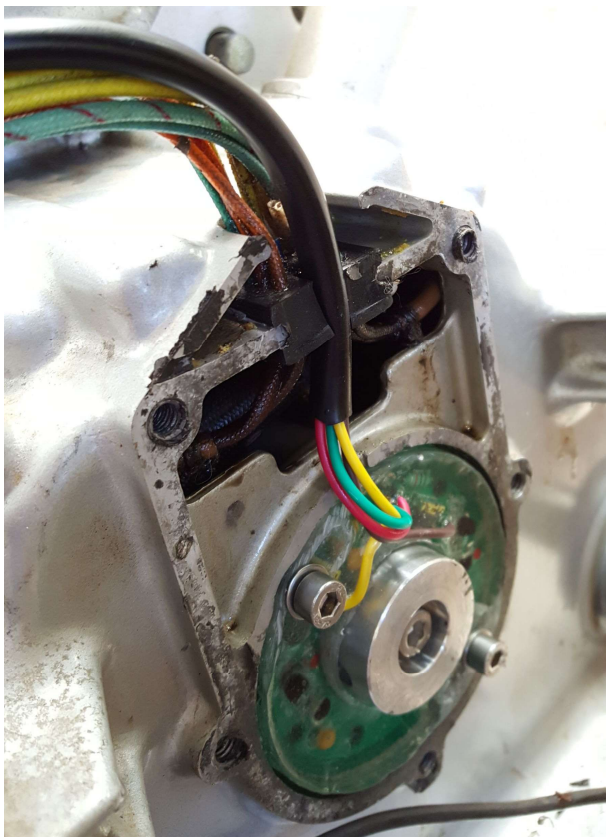
**Note -** the rotor has two positions where the magnet can be fitted into it – only one will be filled – this is correct and normal – the other position is for an alternate arrangement not relevant here.

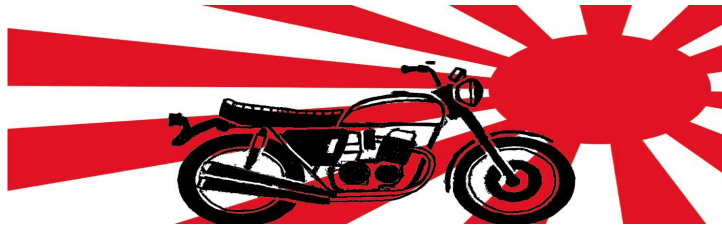


Below shows another angle of the magnet.



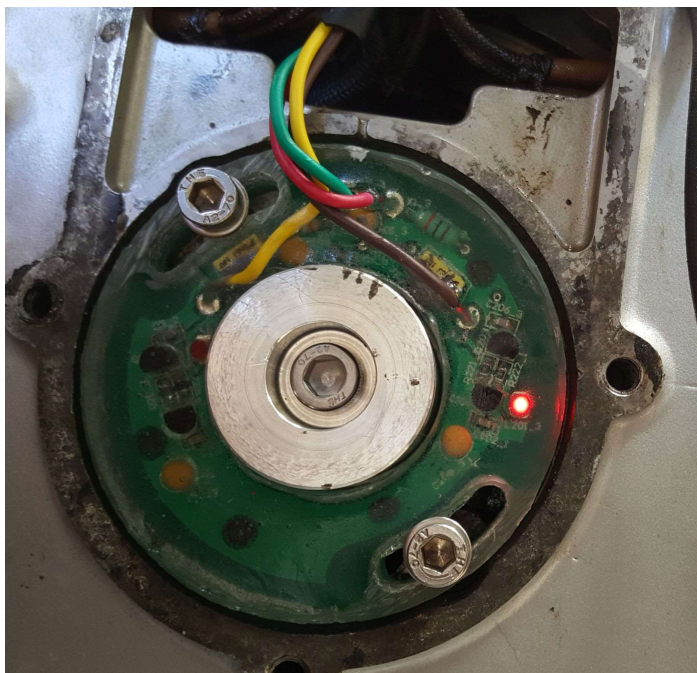
The next step is to put the hall pickup and advancer circuitry in place -





The rotor is in a fixed location so it is necessary to rotate the Hall Advancer circuit to achieve the required timing result.

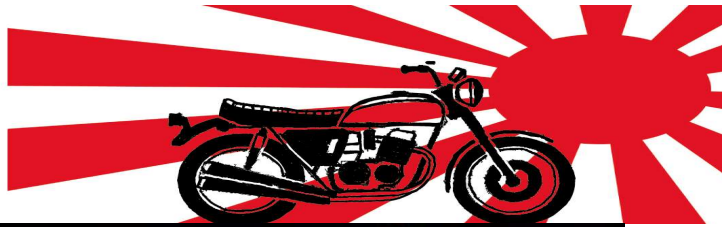
- Mount the board as shown below
- Put some thread-locker on the screws before doing the two M5 screws up – only gently at this stage –
- Note the orientation – the power wires should be close to the centre top.
- The trailing edge of the magnet in the rotor – should line up with the hall effect pickup – You can see the two black lines aligned in the photo above.



Now it is time to apply power to the Hall Advancer so we can observe the LEDs and set the timing up

- If the CDI driver module has already been installed then the Hall Advancer can be connected to this for power – **RECOMMENDED APPROACH**
- If the bikes battery is available then connection can be made to it
- If not an external battery can be used as shown below
- **RED –is POSITIVE**
- **GREEN is NEGATIVE/GROUND**
- **TRIPLE CHECK THE POLARITY**

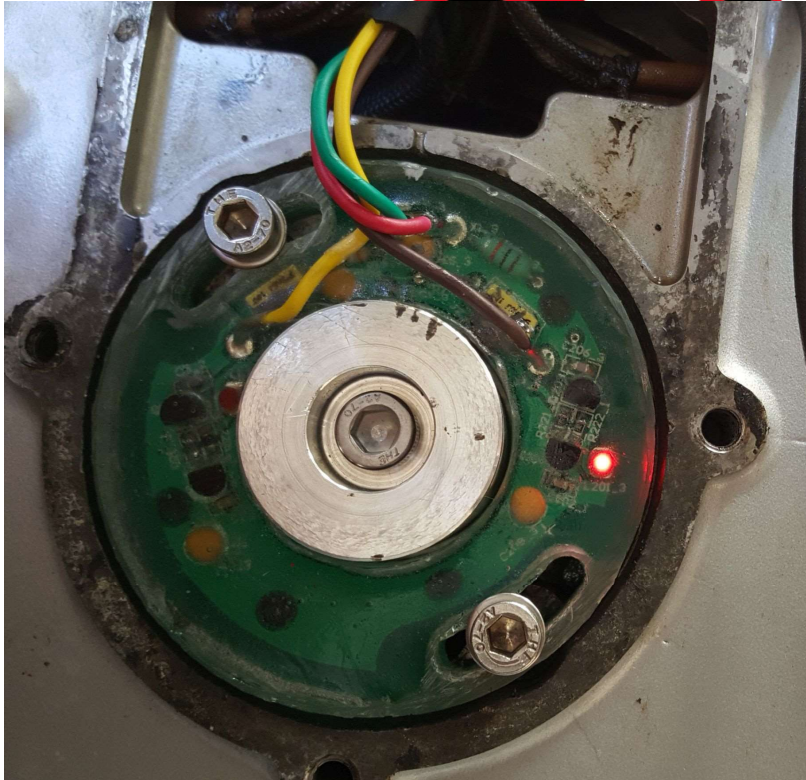
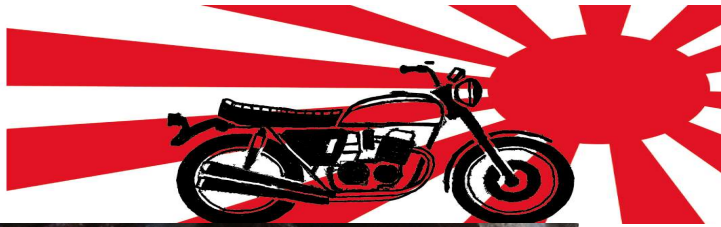




Once again – RED = +ve    GREEN = -ve

Don't get it wrong or the unit won't power it up – it's now reverse polarity protected with a diode.

As a final check before setting the timing – check that the rotor and the Hall Advancer are centred with consistent end gaps all the way around – the rotor should rotate without touching anything.



There are two LEDS on the Hall Advancer – ONE for each side –Red LED Left and RED Led Right.

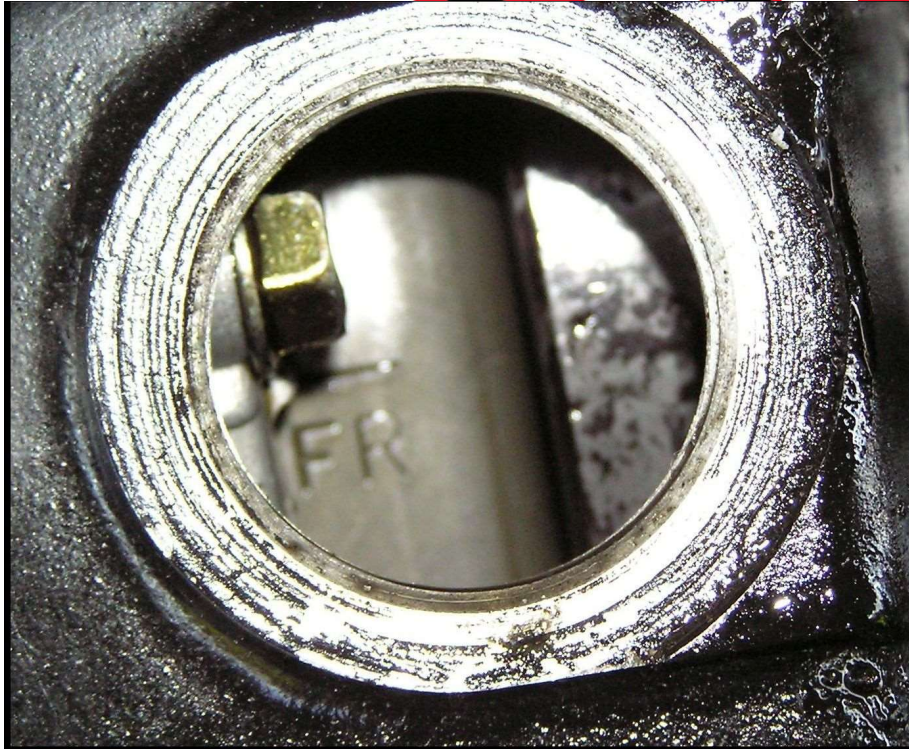
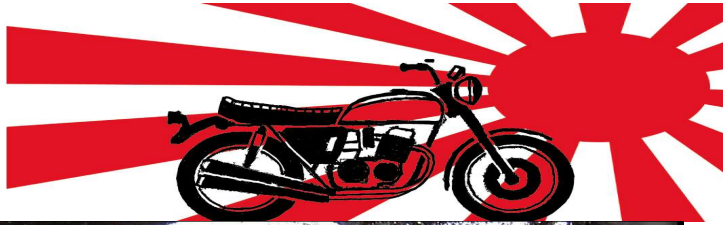
- **RED LED** – This lights to show when the magnet is detected by the Hall effect pickup – so the aim is that this led should be ON between the full advance and the FR/FL marks – It should turn off as close as possible to the FR mark for the RIGHT side and as close as possible to the FL mark for the LEFT side.
- **NOTE THAT IF USING THE CDI DIRVER / ADVANCE CONTROLLER the GREEN LED on this will mirror the RED LED on the HALL SENSOR.**

## Set the Timing

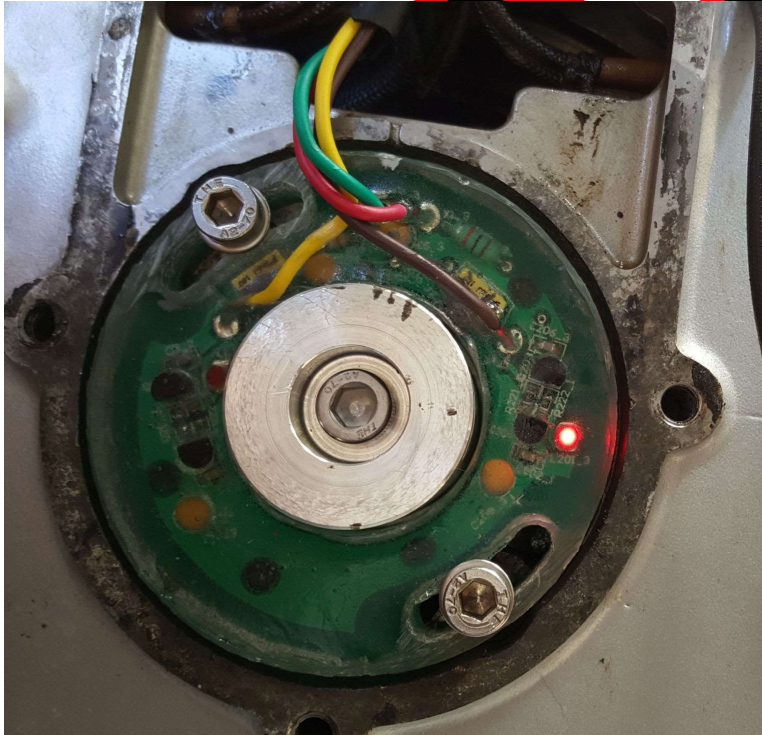
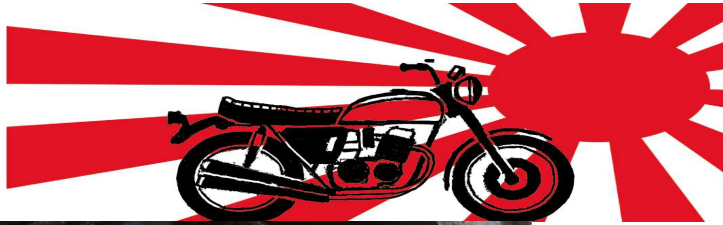
Lets start with the Right Cylinder.

- Set the crank to the FR position as shown in the photo below.





- Loosen the M5 bolt(s) to adjust the timing –
- By moving the Hall Assembly back and forth slightly – set the position so that the RED Led for the RIGHT side turns OFF as near as possible the current position.
- The picture below show the RIGHT RED Led on, and the magnet passing the Hall pickup (small black dot near the magnet on the rotor)
- Tighten the bolt(s) slightly – just enough to hold.

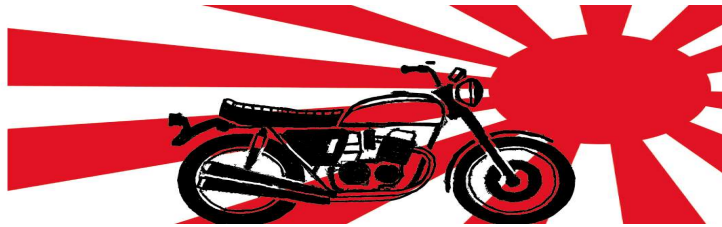


Next set the crank to the FL position – as shown below.

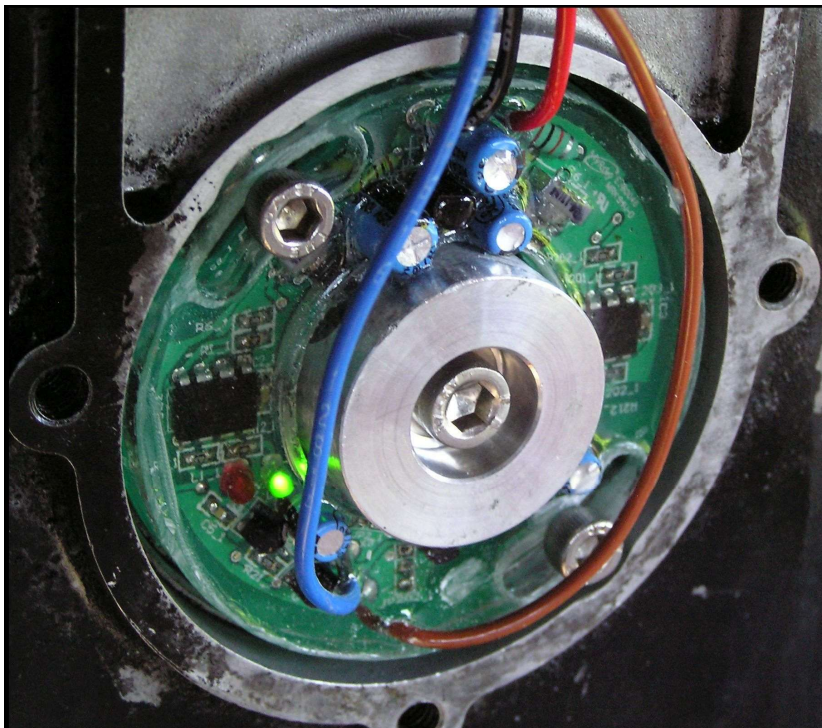


- Loosen the M5 bolt(s) to adjust the timing –





- By moving the rotor or Hall Assembly back and forth slightly – set the position so that the RED Led for the LEFT side turns OFF as near as possible the current position -.
- The picture below show the LEFT REDLed on, and the magnet passing the Hall pickup (small black dot near the magnet on the rotor)
- Aim to have any errors shared equally around the FR and FL marks – Usually RIGHT side will need to extinguish slightly before the FR mark and the LEFT Side extinguish slightly after the FL mark, due to the polarity of the flywheel magnets, which distort the magnetic fields around the rotor slightly.
- LEFT RED led is shown on below – and the magnet can be seen on the Left Hall pickup.

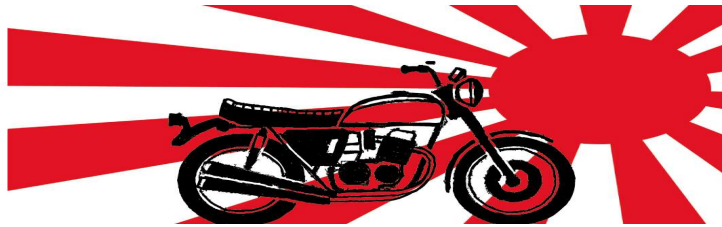


Once the first pass timing has been done as above – it should be checked and fine tuned a little more.

To Summarise:

Rotate the engine and note where the left and right RED LEDs turn OFF with regard to the FL and FR marks. Due to the residual magnetism of the flywheel there is some variation – the best approach is to ensure that the LED turn off points are equally spaced either side of the FR and LR marks.

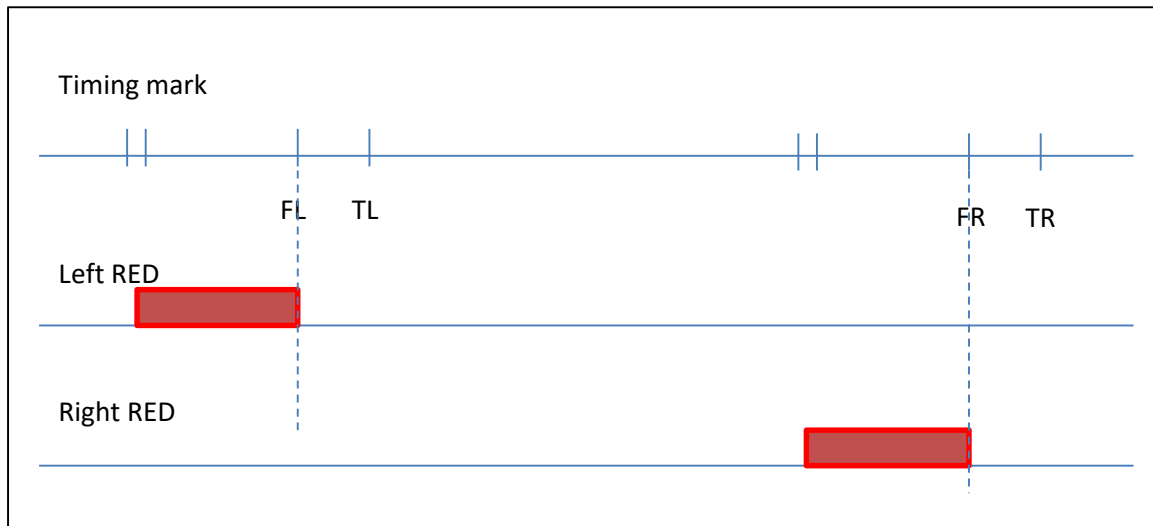
- if the Left LED turns off a bit before the FL mark then try to get the Right LED to turn off a bit after the FR mark.
- if the Right LED turns off a bit before the FR mark then try to get the Left LED to turn off a bit after the FR mark.



- the two m5 screws can be loosened and the Hall Advancer assembly rotated slightly.

This can take a couple of goes and is not super critical – reasonably close is fine.

What you are trying to achieve is shown in the diagram below. Where the RED blocks show where the RED leds are on.



Rotate the engine and check that the turn on of the RED LED occurs near the Full Advance marks – these are a pair of lines before the FL and FR marks that indicate the stock full advance range.

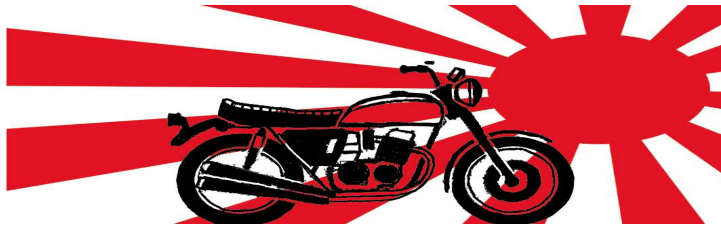
When happy with the location – do the screw (bolt(s)) up snug – but not too forcefully that the potting breaks – be gentle – the thread-locker will help ensure things stay done up.

#### Notes:

- 1 Due to the slight asymmetry in the turn off position – you might need to tweak the idle up slightly – to get back to the stock idle speed – this is because one cylinder will be firing a touch late at idle. You may also notice a bit of additional vibration at idle as a result – neither of these is harmful and once you move off idle all is smoothed out.

If you really need to smooth this out – then rotating the pickup slightly so that the latest turn off is on the FL or FR mark is an option. Rather than ½ late ½ early balance between the sides around the FL and FR marks, put the latest one on the respective FR/FL mark and the other in advance of its mark.

- 2 With the fitting of the Hall effect sensor – the internal pickup coils become redundant and may be removed if the engine is open to perform other work. **PLEASE** note that the Right Hand Side pickup provides the **TIMING MARK**. If you remove the pickup



then a template must be used to allow you to set the timing. Such a template has been prepared by a couple of forum members and may be found on the Rae-San Ignition Support page. It is a pdf that can be printed out onto some card or thick paper and provides a pointer that is aligned to provide the correct timing mark.

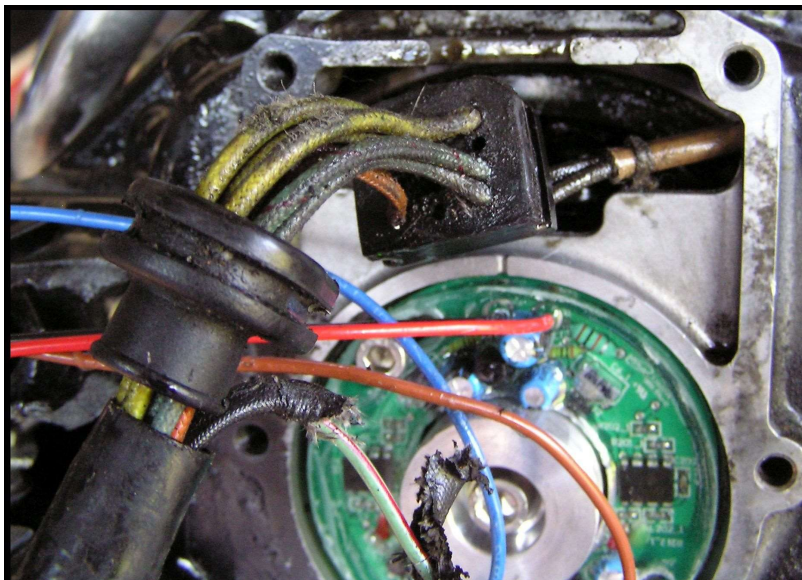
If you do remove the pickups – don't cut the leads off as if they are still functional they could be used to keep another bike on the road.

## Run the Wires

Now that the timing position is set lets run the wires.

Note I'm assuming the High voltage coils on the Stator are no good – or possibly a G8 type stator has been fitted if desired. If the high voltage windings are still desired then two of the wires might need to be squeezed through each hole rather than run individually.

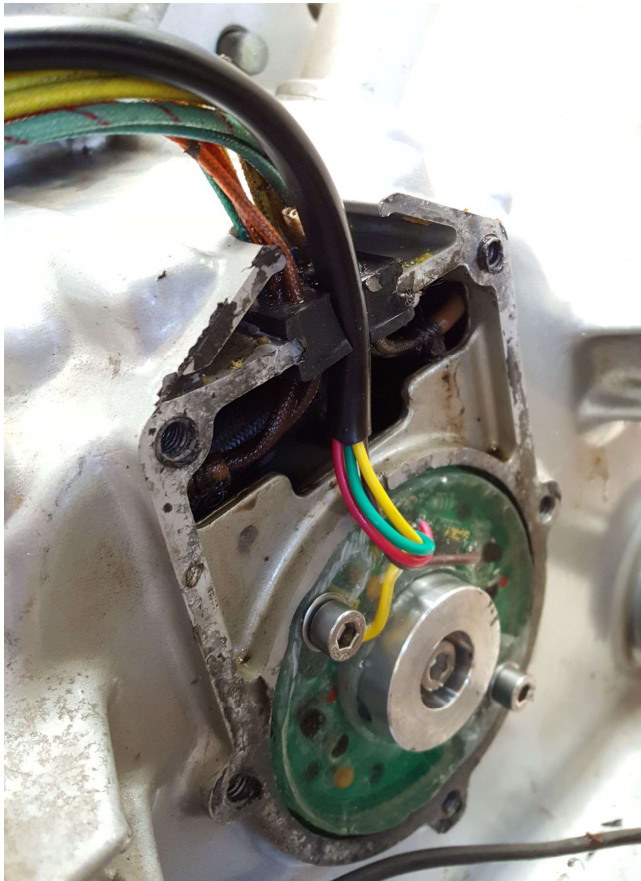
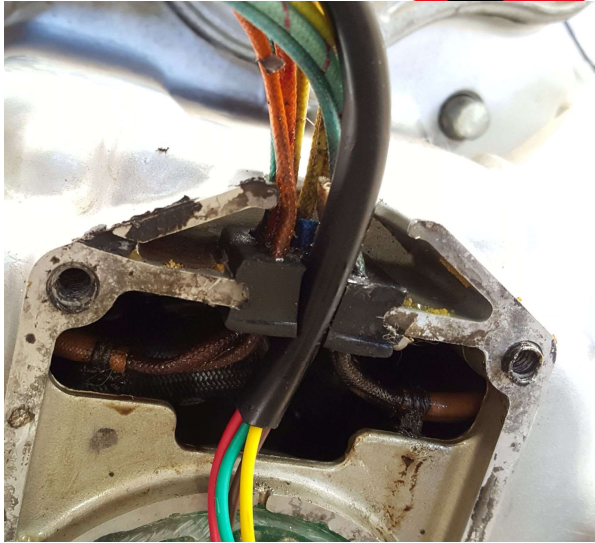
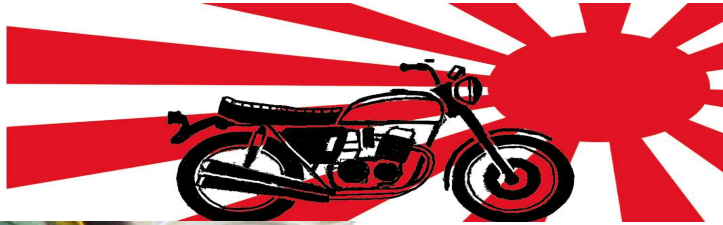
- Remove the two advance pickup wires with their bullet connectors and pull the wires out of the rubber bung.
- Cut the Blue and white wires from the stator high voltage coils – and remove these from the rubber bung also.
- Run the wires through the second rubber bung and up to the top as shown in the photos below.

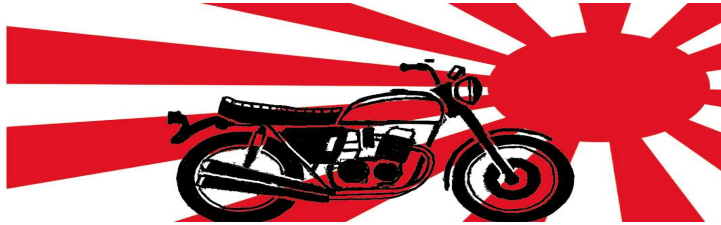


Position the wires out of the way of the spinning rotor and clear of sharp edges on the case.

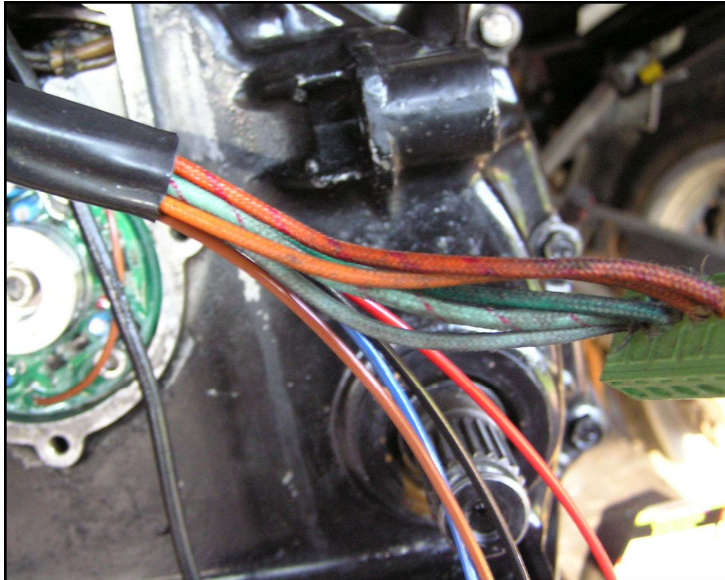
Below is shown an option if you don't want to individual feed the wires through due to the bullet connectors and would rather cut a section out of the "grommet"



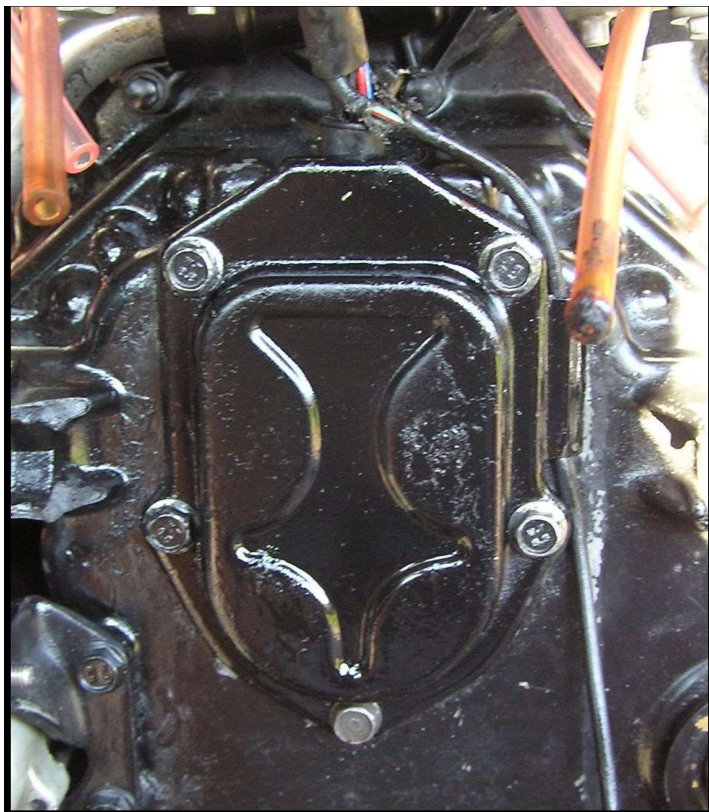




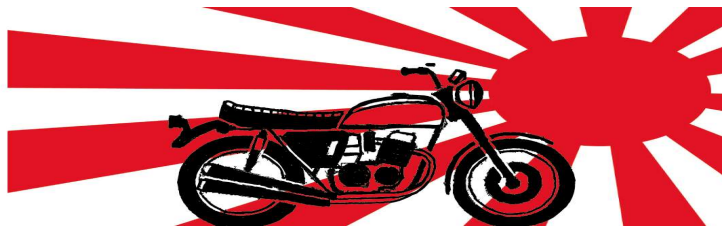
Below shows the wires exiting the upper connector – ready for connection.



Install the rear cover plate with gasket – as shown below and the process is complete.



You may now install the engine back into the frame and proceed to the installation of the CDI Coil Driver.

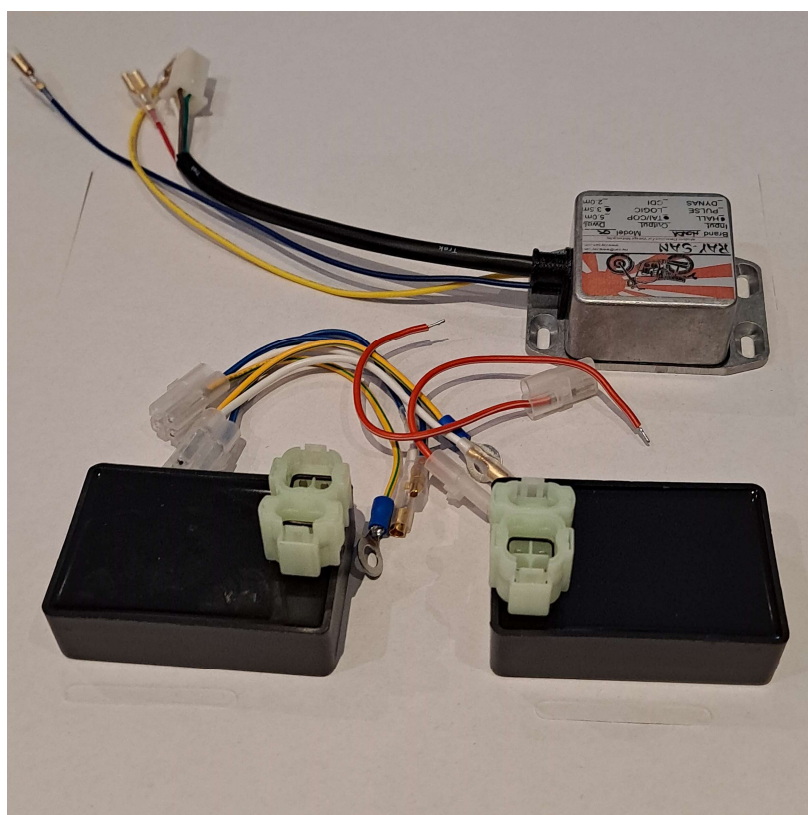


## Installation – CDI Driver

The CDI Driver module consists of two GY6 DC-CDI modules plugged to a control module with connectors. This provides connection for the Hall Advancer power and trigger signals on the input side, and the connections to power, grounds and the CDI coils on the output side.

The DC-CDI modules internally generate the high voltage used to drive the Ignition coils from 12V. Two modules are used- one for each cylinder to provide for Redundancy and so that normal diagnostic swapping of the sides can be performed for diagnostic purposes as per the original setup.

The V3.5 CDI driver module is pictured below with connections labelled and coloured.



<u>Wire colour Controller</u>	<u>Wire Function</u>
Red	+12V power in – switched power from the bike
Green + White to LUG	GROUND connection – bolt to Frame
Yellow	Left output to GY6
Blue	Right output to GY6
White	Kill Switch – Ground to Kill – connect to bikes kill

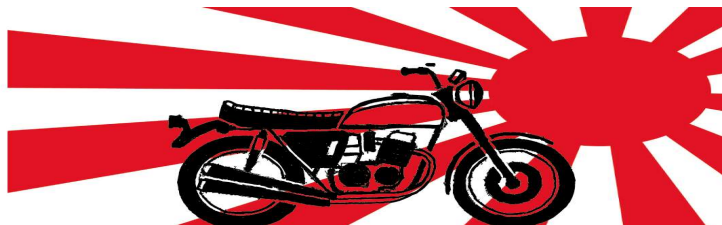
Page :22

**RAY-SAN**

ray-san@ray-san.com  
www.ray-san.com

Modern Electronics For Vintage Motorcycles

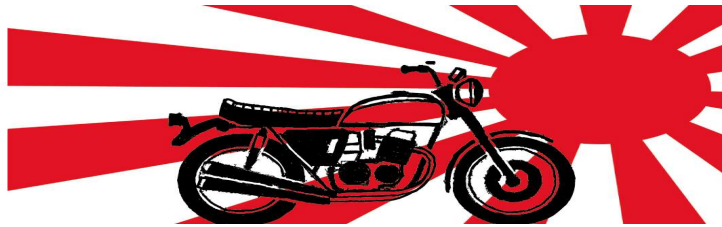




	switch wire
CASE	GROUND Connection

<u>Wire colour GY6</u>	<u>Wire Function</u>
Red	+12V power in – switched power from the bike
Yellow / Green to LUG	GROUND connection – bolt to Frame
Blue	Trigger Input to the GY6 Module
White	Ignition Coil Output

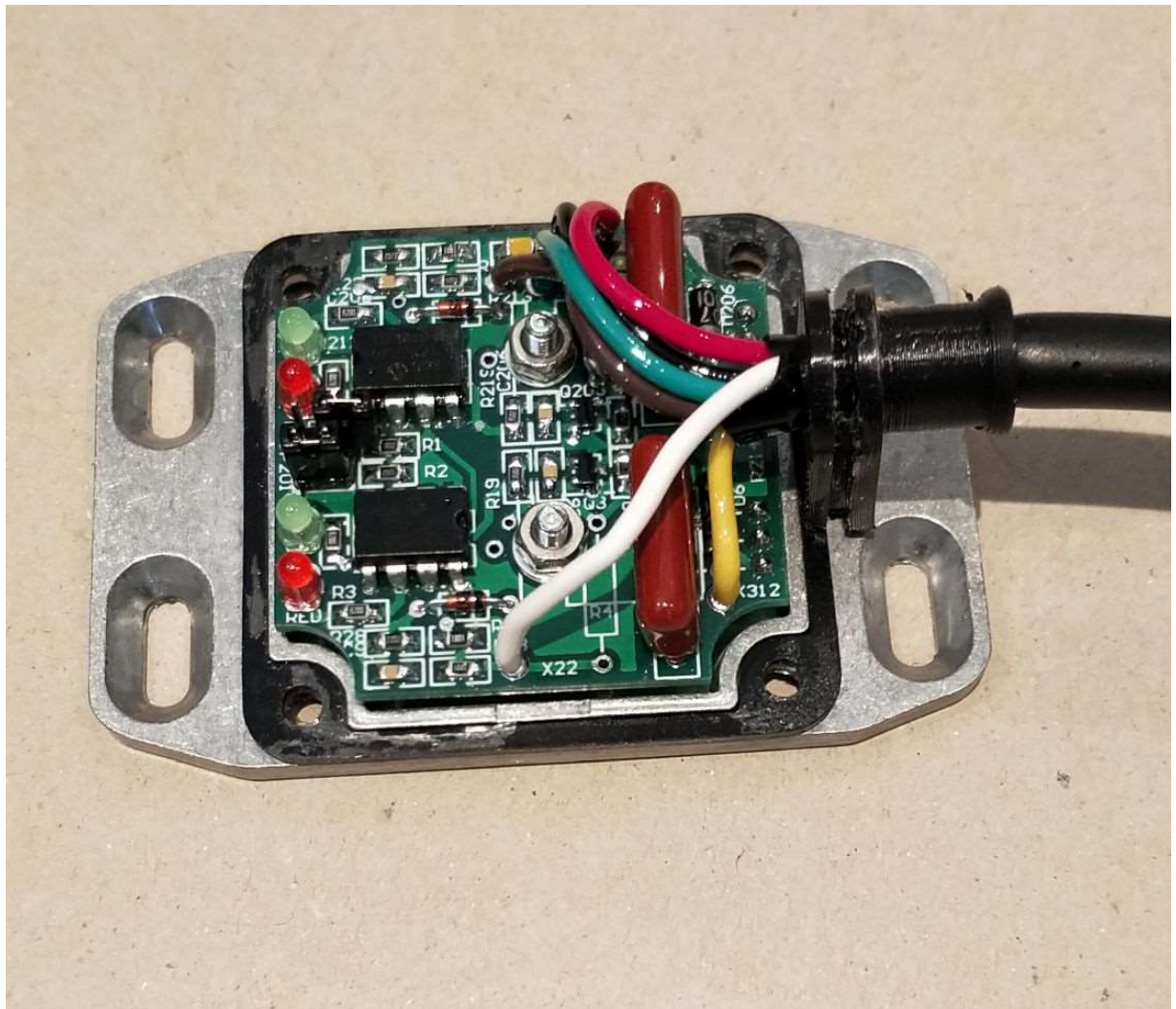
- Remove the Stock CDI box
- Place the CDI Controller box in the desired location. – Ensure case is securely connected to Chassis Ground.
- Connect the Controller to the Hall pickup – plug the 4 pin connectors together.
- Place the GY6 connectors into the GY6 connector sockets – checking that all pins are seated correctly.
- Place the GY6 Drivers in the desired locations.
- Connect Left Coil wire ( Yellow (usually) ) to one of the GY6 modules outputs – White Wire.
- Connect the Blue input wire from the above (Left) GY6 module to the Yellow Output wire from the control module.
- Connect Right Coil wire ( Pink (usually) ) to the other GY6 modules outputs – White Wire.
- Connect the Blue input wire from the above (Left) GY6 module to the Blue Output wire from the control module.
- Connect the White Wire from the Controller to the Black Wire / White Stripe (KILL SWITCH wire)
- **Connect the Grounds LUG for the GY6s with a bolt(s) to the Chassis.**
- Connect the Power inputs to the GY6s (RED wires) and the Controller to the Switched power in the Loom – preferably through a fuse. – On a CX this is the Black wire – this is often accessible at the rear brake switch.
- Connect the Hall connections to the Unit – Yellow – Yellow, Brown to Brown, Red to Red and Green to Green



### ***Under the Lid – Profile change and Diagnostics.***

4 screws hold the lid in place with a rubber edge seal – undo these 4 screws and then slide the cable grommet out of the slot in the lid to remove the lid. Reverse process to assemble.

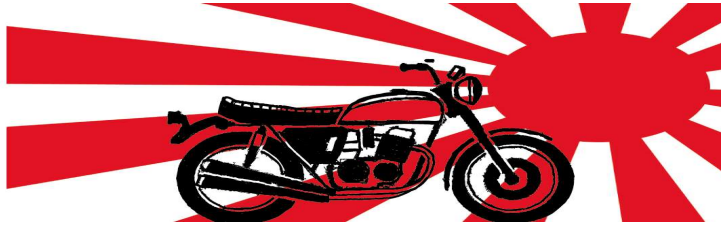
The Rae-San ignition Module contains a small number of configuration options and diagnostic LEDs



As can be seen there are two pairs of red and green LEDs at the LHS with a jumper block in between.

A pair of red and green LEDs on one side of the jumper block indicate a “channel” which goes from one input hall sensor through to driving one Coil.



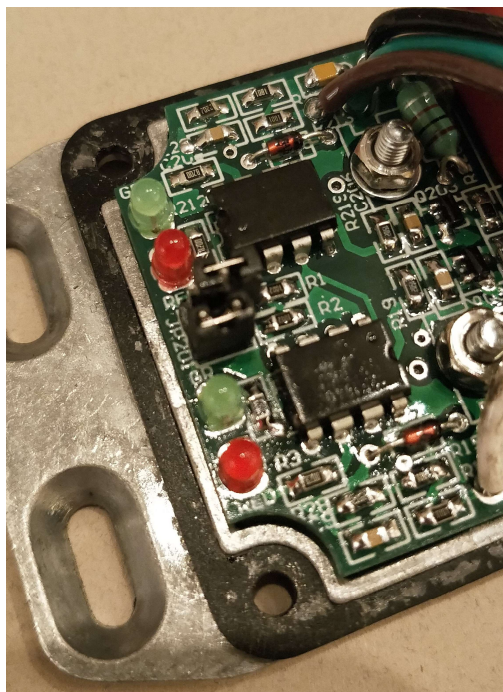


The Green led illuminates when the hall sensor is triggered. The Red illuminates to indicate firing of the coil.

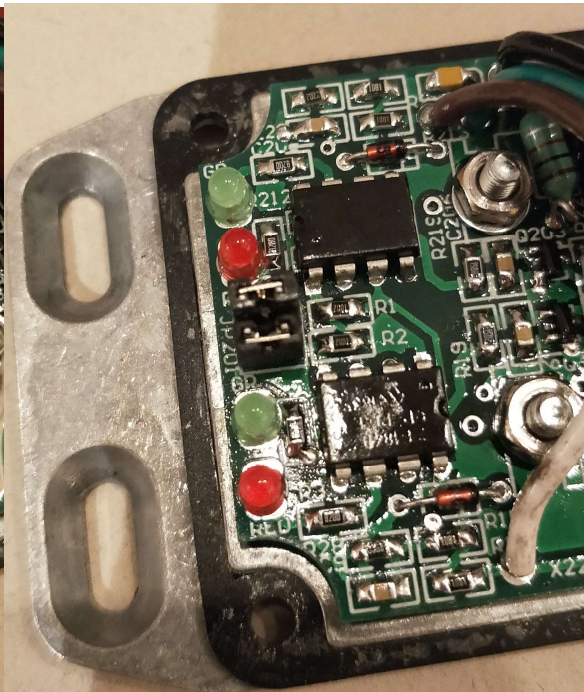
For the TAI version there are 4 ignition timing curves and rev limits that may be selected from on the board.

Please refer to the timing sheet at the rear of the document that will have the values programmed for your bike listed against the jumper positions.

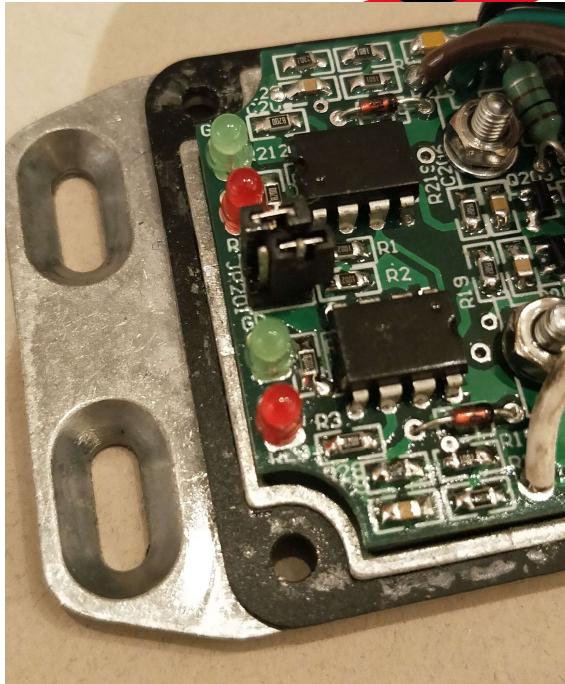
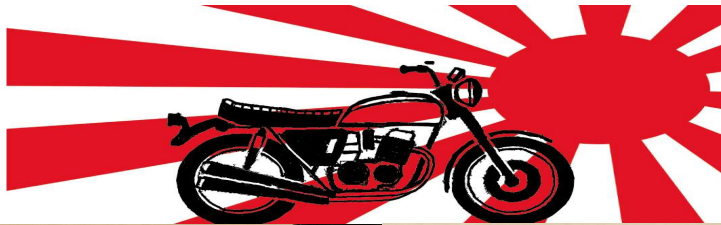
Images below illustrate the jumper positions .



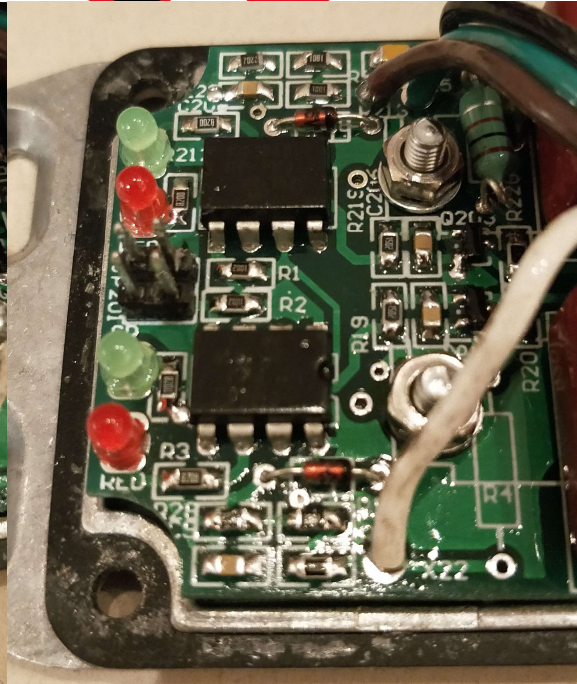
POS A



POS B



POS C

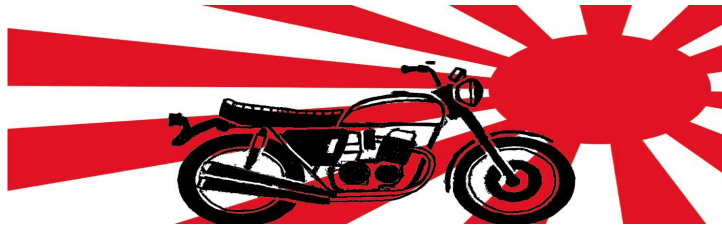


POS D

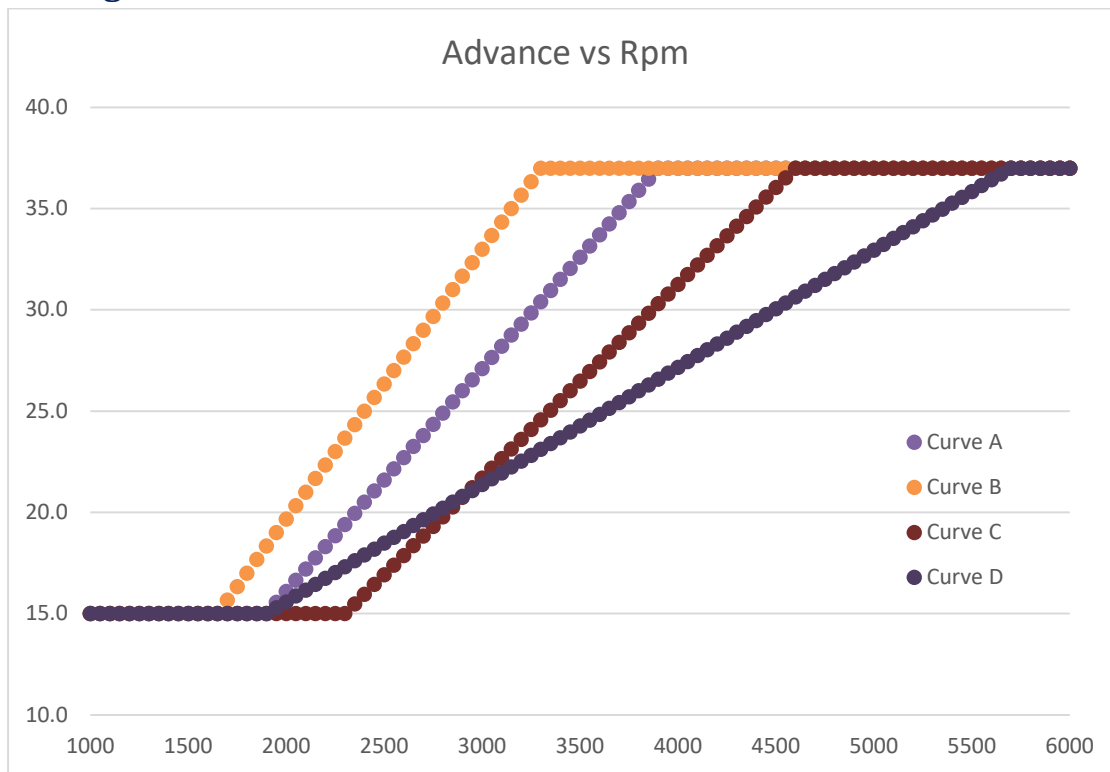
There are 4 ignition timing curves that may be selected from.

#### Jumper Settings

Jumper A	Jumper B	Function	Comment
Off	On	Curve A	15 @ 1900 – 37 deg @ 3900.
On	On	Curve B	15 deg @ 1630 – 37 deg @ 3300.
On	Off	Curve C	15 deg @ 2300 - 37 deg @ 4580
Off	Off	Curve D	15 deg @ 1900 – 37 deg @ 5700



## Timing Curves



**Curve A (Purple)** 15 deg @ 1900 – 37deg @ 3900. The new default setting – better than original but still safe for higher altitude.

**Curve B (Orange)** 15 deg @ 1630 – 37 deg 3300 @ : This Is more aggressive advance option – worth trying with better fuels.

**Curve C (Brown)** 15 deg @ 2300 - 37 deg @ 4580 : A little more aggressive than the original.

**Curve D (Dark Blue)** 15 deg @ 1900 - 37 deg @ 5700 : Conservative original CDI spec.

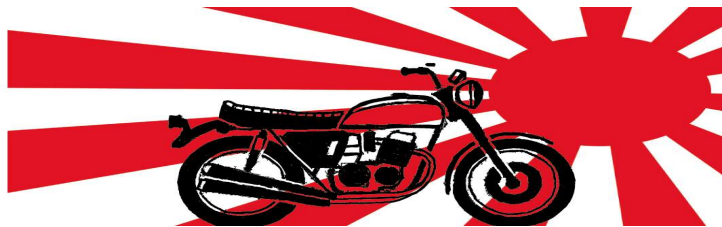
## About Advance Timing –

A number of factors should be considered in your choice of advance curve, the most significant of these is the overall carburetion.

### Stock OEM carbs -

The Original Honda Keihin carbs are arranged to run fairly lean – to get the best fuel economy and reduce emissions – This gets worse as altitude increases – or the air temperature rises due to the reduction of the oxygen density – hence the need to adjust the pilot screws for higher altitudes found in the manual





The problem with lean running is heat – the fuel burns hotter, your valves and pistons get hotter – too lean and you melt / break exhaust valves or burn holes in your pistons.

### **Re-jetted Stock with Pods?**

The “standard” 120/90 is on the rich side and often is attempting to compensate for turbulent flow in the carburettor throat caused by the lack of an intake runner to the carb, and for partially blocked intake ports due to the cheaper pod filters design.

With correct pods – the suggested jetting is around 115-118 / 85 – 88. A larger pilot could also be beneficial – stock is 38, a 40 would be a good choice.

Running rich will keep things cooler, and allows the more aggressive curves to be run more safely.

### **Murrays Mikuni Carbs**

These are set to run on the richer side – to get more HP rather than worry about fuel economy – so again the aggressive curves may be run.

### **Summary**

Running **stock carbs**, with **stock advance** is just that – Stock. It is what Honda determined to be safe and conservative for most situations, with the advice to turn out the pilot jet screw for higher altitude running. This is **safest** but won't get you any gains.

As soon as you change the carbs, intake filters/ air-box, or advance curves you are in modified territory. What this means is you take the responsibility if something breaks, burns, explodes or does anything you don't expect or desire.

I provide you with tools that you may use at your own discretion and which may give you more horsepower or drivability but it is your responsibility as to how you use them.

My recommendations would be:

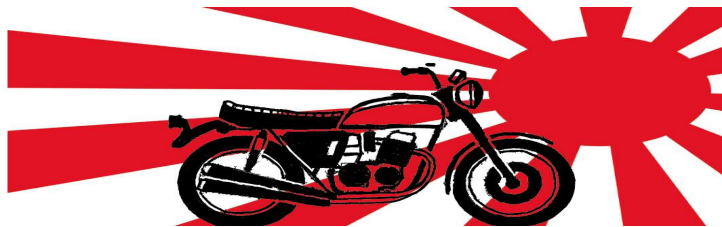
Stock setup : Curve D, Maybe C for low altitude.

Keihin OEM with Pod filters - 120/90 or similar jetting : Curve C or A

Murray's Mikunis : Curve A, Curve B low altitude option.

Using anything other than Curve D represents a modification as is done so at your own risk.

Having said all that - there are differences that can be felt. Happy Modding.



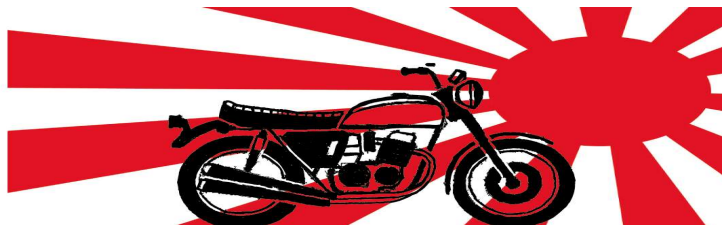
## Factory Original Settings

There are a large number of CX variants with some variation in timings – the factory published timings are in the table below. Suitable Bikes for the modules in this manual are shaded in green.

You will need to check which motor you have fitted as many swaps have been performed – but if you have a CDI ignition the Rae-San system can be fitted.

It is also possible to fit the hall effect system to the TAI bikes – but that is beyond the scope of this document. – a slightly different setup is needed. These are shaded amber.

Model Name	Model nos	Base Adv Value	@ RPM	Final Adv value	@ RPM	No of boxes and locations	Connectors
CX400	CX500-	15	Up to 1500	45	3000	2 NEC igniters sidepanel	2 x 6 pin
CX500 ABZ	78-81 CX500-	15	Up to 1750-2250	37	5600-6000	CDI box under seat	8 pin CDI + 2 pin CDI power
CX500 Custom	80-81 PC01	15	Up to 1750-2250	37	5600-6000	CDI box under seat	8 pin CDI + 2 pin CDI power
CX500 C	82 CX500-	15	Up to 1500	45	3000	2 NEC igniters sidepanel	2 x 6pin
CX500 Custom	82 PC01-	15	Up to 1500	<b>40</b>	<b>2780</b>	2 NEC igniters sidepanel	2 x 6pin
CX500E	PC06-	15	Up to 1500	45	3000	2 NEC igniters sidepanel	2 x 6pin
GL500		15	Up to 1500	45	3000	2 NEC igniters sidepanel	2 x 6pin



CX650E	RC12-	15	Up to 1500	45	3000	2 NEC igniters sidepanel	2 x 6pin
CX650 Custom		15	Up to 1500	<b>40</b>	<b>3500</b>	2 NEC igniters sidepanel	2 x 6pin
GL700		15	Up to 1500	45	3000	2 NEC igniters sidepanel	2 x 6pin

## Operation

In operation there should be nothing to do – the module should behave similarly to the original ignition. (or better)

## Recommended Coils

The ignition module is suited to CDI coils in the < 1.5 ohm range. The Original coils fitted to the CX CDI models are suitable candidates. There are also a number of aftermarket replacement coils that are suitable and readily available on Ebay.

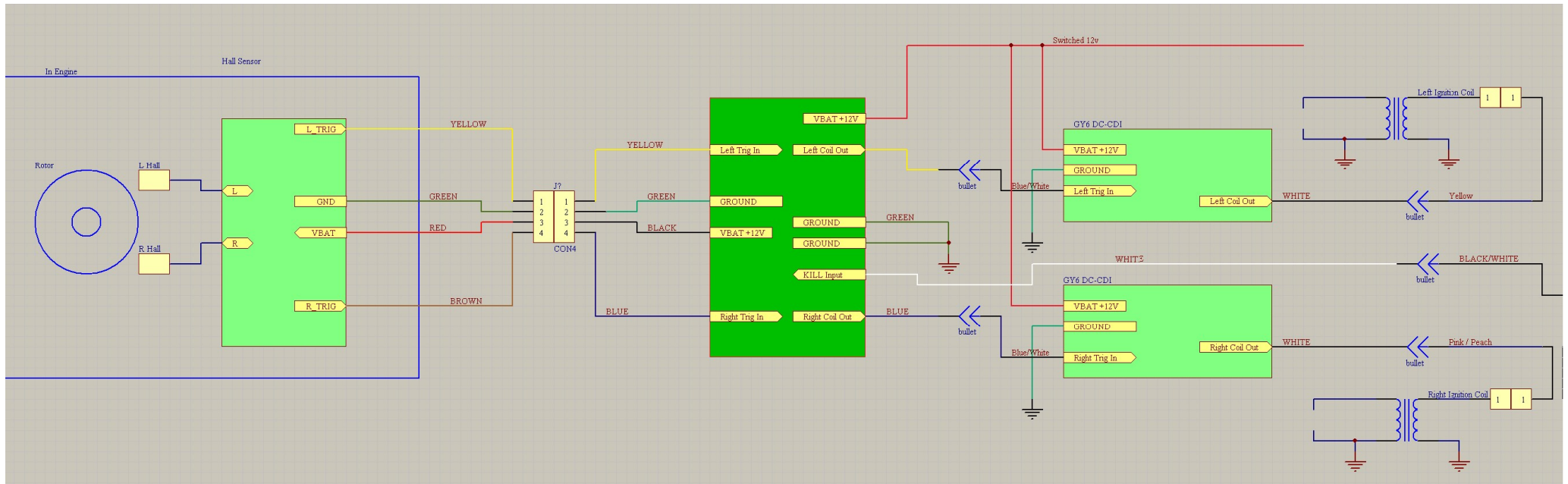
CDI Coil On Plugs – with a resistance less < 1.5 ohms may be able to be used. Either Murrays COPs or SeaDoo GTX 4-tec coils are a good choice – they are the shortest I can find.

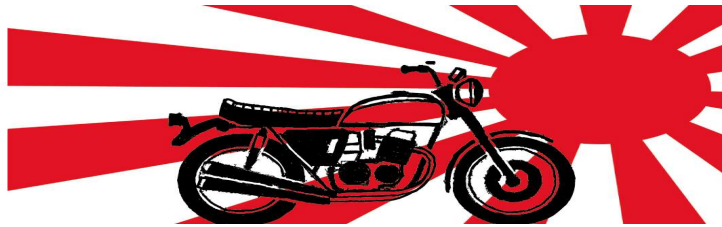
## Connections

The connection information is shown on the diagrams – note that a GOOD ground to chassis should be provided to the main power connection – this carries the coil current and the shorter the better.

A ground connection should also be provided to the Chassis Ground connection – this is not a high current connection but is important to minimise noise and cross-firing as it provides a ground to the metal case of the module and shields the electronics from the spark noise generated – especially on systems where no plug resistors are fitted.







## **MOTORCYCLE PRODUCT DISCLAIMER**

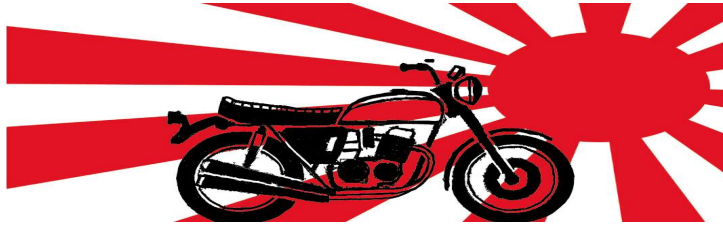
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