

My pre-war “Kleber” racer sported a pure phantasy paintjob on its petrol tank, accompanied by a copy from a Norton book showing a museum bike with the petrol tank painted just like this, I had to start from scratch. Fortunately, my daughter Katrin is a product designer and helped me with the project, copying original pictures of unrestored racers and projecting them on the wrongly-painted tank:



This helped no end because we could then draw and measure on the object and the result looks rather more like a 1937 racing Inter petrol tank than the previous paintjob. The tricky thing is that both tank sides are by no means identical:



The result looks less of a caricature. The oil tank was also tricky in that on period photos the rider's leg tends to cover most of it. I came up with a design which is a mixture of taking dimensions of old photographs and hints from Otto Ziegler, a Norton cammy specialist.

And this is the completed bike (1937 racing Inter):



I use pictures from the era, and intentionally not the pictures from the annual sales brochure "Roadholder". These are often misleading in detail since the pictures not only show pre-production bikes but are furthermore heavily retouched. They can point into the right direction but it is safest to use period photographs.