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Norton Thread Types

Andover Norton regularly receive questions about Norton thread types.

Before the Commando was introduced, the majority of Norton Twin fixing threads were British Standard Cycle (BSC). Also present were Whitworth (BSW), a coarser thread form found mainly in aluminium castings, British Standard Fine (BSF) and British Association (BA) complete and BSC, BSW, BSF, and BA all still appeared on the Commando, albeit in a minority of applications. A total of six different treads types.

Additionally, the fuel taps in Norton twin petrol tanks are threaded British Standard Pipe (BSP). The 1975 850Mk3 Electric Start model even added one more thread form: the Lucas switchgear used metric fixings.

It's hardly surprising that some customers are confused!

There are several points to note:

It's not good practice to mix thread types even if the number of threads per inch (TPI) is the same.

Not all British Standard Cycle threads are 26tpi. Specials are often 20tpi.

Checking only the TPI and shank (thread) diameter is not a reliable way to identify the tread type. Ideally, both the thread angle and profile need to be measured with a thread gauge.

The good news is that all Andover Norton fixings are manufactured to the original factory dimensions and thread forms. We can advise on the correct thread type when customers are re-claiming worn threads with an insert.



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