TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT

★★★★★



Sliders outside, Level 2 armour inside

A sympathetic cut for normal humans

Oxford Nexus 1.0 two-piece £299.99 (jacket) £249.99 (trousers)

Entry-level excellence

24 months ON TEST



Tested by Ben Clarke for 3500 miles

The Nexus range arrived with a bang, achieving the AAA CE certification at a price that significantly undercut much of the competition. It's clearly aimed at newer sportsbike riders, first-time trackday users and anyone wanting the full leather look without stretching their budget, and it's cut to suit normal human proportions rather than a MotoGP physique.

From first handling it, you can tell it's built to a price. The leather doesn't have the luxurious softness of premium suits and feels slightly rigid rather than plush. Inside there's a standard mesh lining, though some material near the zip and storm flap feels a little plasticky, while the stretch fabric panels on the inside of the arms and down the torso provide movement and airflow but have a slightly scratchy finish. None of this feels flimsy, though.

In my usual size the fit was very good. I'm not built like a racing snake, yet the cut works exceptionally well for a more average build. It's easy to get into and out of, and comfortable enough to wear all-day at a track. Freedom of movement is excellent: the pre-curved arms make it easy to adopt a full racing tuck, and when hanging off mid-corner there's no resistance or hip cramping.

The jacket and trousers are CE certified to AAA under EN 17092, the highest abrasion resistance classification for motorcycle garments. There's armour at the shoulders and elbows, plus the knees and hips, with external TPU sliders and removable knee sliders for track use. No back protector is included as standard, though there's a pocket for one and I fitted my own during testing.

This is a perforated leather sports suit, so in hot conditions airflow through the perforations and stretch panels is noticeable and effective. It's not designed for cold-weather touring or riding in the wet, though.

While the leather isn't as supple as more expensive suits, everything feels solidly put together. The stitching is strong, the armour stays in place during spirited riding and the zips have proven reliable. After 24 months and 3500 miles there are no significant signs of wear beyond minor colour rub on the ankle cuffs from being tucked into race boots.

At £299.99 and £249.99, achieving full AAA certification represents exceptional value, and I would buy it with my own money. Top marks!



Ben can get his knee down, honest...



Being a two-piece, you get pockets

MCN rating ★★★★★
www.oxfordproducts.com

PROS & CONS

+ Excellent comfort and freedom of movement

− Finish betrays the price in some areas