

THE MCN SHOWCASE

URBAN
BIKE
JEANS

Cool strides that still pack
a reassuring level of riding
protection

They look and
feel the part on
all machinery

10
months
ON TEST



The knee armour pouches are colour coded

Alpinestars Acteon trousers £189.99

- Overall fit and comfort rated
- Design, construction and CE scores rated
- Each pair worn for hundreds of real-world miles

‘Perfect for urban rides’



Tested by
Carl Stevens for
10 months

Throughout the summer months, casual riding jeans and trousers are my absolute go-to, especially when there's time to be spent both on and off the bike. And for urban riding or shorter stints in the saddle, these Acteon trousers from Alpinestars have been a worthy addition to my wardrobe thanks to them being a comfortable, easy-to-stick-on set of trousers that feel comfortable on the bike, with a sleek casual appearance when strolling around.

That's because they have the feel of a functional cargo pant but with a nice modern cut, and look smart when paired with a range of riding shoes and jackets. As far as comfort goes, the Acteons are supreme.

Constructed with polycotton and with stretch materials in all the right places, the knee protection can be moved between three positions, the waist size is adjustable via a Velcro section and the bottom of the legs have a zipper to ease the on-and-off process too.

One of the things I love about the Acteons is the amount of pockets on offer, and the variation of placement and size too. Alongside the zipped front pockets are two sizeable cargo-style side pockets, with an additional Velcro pocket on the left-hand side which is ideal for holding essentials that need to be accessed quickly, and with gloves on. You can easily fit a wallet, phone, keys and more, without ever having to dive into the pockets of your riding jacket or rucksack.

They're built for warmer climes so

the inner lining is constructed from mesh and offers a welcome level of breathability, and thanks to the construction, they barely feel like a riding trouser at all.

However, it's for that reason that the Acteon trousers lose marks; the modest level of protection. The Acteon trousers are CE certified to Class A, which is the minimum necessary degree of protection from impact and abrasion, and pretty low should the worst happen on the road. Because of the casual look and the comfort, there isn't a great deal of armour on offer either, with the only protection coming in the form of Nucleon Flex Plus Knee Protectors.

Although their adjustability and suppleness makes them feel like they're almost hidden, they are only approved to Level 1 for protection.

As you might imagine, they aren't

great for getting caught in rain either.

But then again, they're built for comfort, style and those shorter urban rides when the sun is shining – and for that, they absolutely excel. Although they haven't been crashed in (touch wood!) they've endured many miles both on the road and the dirt, been washed multiple times and they still look brand new, and have held up impressively well to ten months of regular wear.

MCN rating ★★★★★
www.alpinestars.com

PROS & CONS

- + Incredibly comfortable with good ventilation
- They could do with greater protection



Had a big lunch? Expand the waist



Plenty of places to stash essentials