



Great gloves for a cold snap

Keis G301 'Lobster' £200

1700 miles ON TEST

Claw-some performance



Tested by Tommy Begley for 1700 miles

I've had more than one person giggle at these two-fingered monstrosities, to which I've smiled smugly, because no matter how they look, I've never worn a more heat-efficient glove. Even in cool conditions around 10 degrees, I rarely turn on the heat. They're also damn comfortable, with a silky soft microfibre liner and

gauntlet cuffs that reach halfway up my forearm, keeping the wind well and truly out.

Initially, I was wearing them under a pair of muffs, which, due to their thick padding, made finding the indicators on my switchgear nigh on impossible and lead to some sketchy riding. But it turns out I have no need for the muffs at all with these, so off they came, and it's been plain sailing ever since.

I've been using mine with the

optional battery set (£85), which runs for a good while, but for some reason, one battery lasts substantially longer than the other, which is a tad annoying. I also find if I don't unplug the battery terminal, it's very easy to accidentally turn them on when I stuff them into a bag or topbox, which has led to more than a few dead batteries.

MCN rating ★★★★★
www.keisapparel.com

Spada Piston women's boots £149.99



'Great but not a perfect fit'



Tested by Saffron Wilson for 20 months

Let me begin with saying I absolutely

love the look of these boots, and that's a big tick for urban or retro gear. They really do look the part as the style is perfect for the urban scene and the finish is really nice too – but it's not all about the looks as they come well equipped with protection as well.

In fact, they're certified to CE 2222 (which is an incredibly high standard for boots) that means that they can be worn for further and faster rides with complete peace of mind if something were to go wrong.

There's also CE approved protection on the ankle section, and if you're on the shorter side there's also a decent lift on the heel to give a bit of extra height.

I have been caught in some light showers and the waterproof membrane held up well, and the side zipper is a welcome addition for easy use while still having the cool aesthetics of the laces and buckle. Even with the water-resistance, there's still a reasonable level of breathability for those warmer days.

But there is a reason I've only worn them for around 500 miles in total

Just a bit too tight on the fit but the looks and quality are on point

– they're simply too tight across the top of my foot and around the section of the toe, with no signs of letting up either, no matter what I do to try and make them fit a little bit better.

My toes don't touch the end of the boot so it's not about just going up a size (especially as that would move the gearshift pad), but I did hope that they'd break in a touch more than they have, especially with the mileage that they've covered.

But as I tend to be on the road for full days rather than short blasts, the comfort issues (for me) have meant that I haven't worn them as much as I had hoped to.

Of course, as with most women's clothing, everyone is different, so these could be your perfect fit – just try them on first and give them a bit of a wear for a prolonged period of time, knowing that they won't loosen up a great deal. I certainly can't fault the looks of the boots and the CE protection ratings are right up there too.

MCN rating ★★★★★
spadaclothing.com

500 miles ON TEST

Hiplok MDX disc lock £89.99

'Solid enough'



Tested by Carl Stevens for six months

No matter where I ride, I always make sure I've got a disc lock to hand, and the Hiplok MDX has been a worthy partner for those shorter trips, when space is tight. At just over 1kg and relatively small at 105mm x 80mm x 35mm, the Hiplok MDX still packs a reasonable punch with a Sold Secure Powered Cycle Gold rating.

It's constructed from premium hardened steel for the body and the bolt and the locking mechanism is really easy and smooth, with enough space to fit every disc I've attached it to so far without any stress. It also feels well-built and sturdy, with a quality finish that hasn't faltered at all during our time together.

The magnetic reminder tag is a handy addition to stop you riding off



Gold-rated and easy to use

6 months ON TEST

with the lock still attached (it works either on the ignition barrel or can be strapped around the grip) and it comes with a lifetime warranty and three coded replaceable keys, which is a really nice touch.

Although it's not a fortress in its protection, it does a worthy job when on the move and need a little more than the steering lock.

MCN rating ★★★★★
www.hiplok.com

Dainese D-Gambit 2 backpack £169

Pockets-a-plenty



Tested by Emma Franklin for four years / 10,000 miles

For carrying your tech on two wheels, the

Dainese D-Gambit 2 is a mostly well-thought-out bit of kit. Made by luggage specialists Ogio, its calling card is its array of extremely usable pockets – the star attraction being a padded laptop cell at the rear capable of cocooning a 15in device. With 33.5l volume spread between its 10 main pockets, quite often the biggest problem comes when remembering where you stashed something. The only downside, and it is a big one, is its total lack of waterproofing; I use separate waterproof inner bags to keep my tech safe from the rain.

MCN rating ★★★★★
www.dainese.com



4 years ON TEST

Nice but it's not waterproof