

TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT



At 1350g it is comfortable for longer trips



Cool style and stable at speed on the track

2000 MILES

HJC RPHA 11 £379.99

'Track cool and usability'

Tested by Dan Sutherland for 2000 miles on road and track



I love wearing track-focused helmets on the road. I always have. I don't care that they might be a bit noisier, or not have a drop-down sun visor. They look the dog's and give me an unparalleled feeling of safety when I'm riding. I'll sacrifice a bit of comfort for that. But unlike some sporty lids, this HJC provides racetrack cool with bags of daily usability, meaning you can have your cake and eat it.

Rated to ECE 22.05 standard, it has a wide visor aperture, plenty of vents and plush internal padding, making it a comfortable daily helmet you can also ride flat-out with when on track. It's also available in loads of colours, including a range of movie tributes.

The helmet is stable at high speeds, which reduces fatigue during sessions. You also get a good view of the track ahead when you're tucked in and at 1350g, it's relatively light, meaning big days in the saddle are completed without any pain in your neck.

There's a neat chin curtain to keep the wind off and a wonderful finish. This 'Texen MC3 Yellow' design is new for 2022 and looks brilliant – especially with a dark visor installed. The gloss white is particularly good – full of metallic sparkles that glint in the sunlight. However, it is a pain to keep clean. The bug splats of a quick summertime ride show up clearly and they take a fair bit of scrubbing to remove – especially when they get up inside the upper forehead vents, which are operated by a simple wheel system.

It comes as standard with a Pinlock anti-fog insert plus a dark smoke visor, and the soft cheek pads are quick release in the event of an emergency. You can also see the visor mechanism through the clear visor, making removal and installation a doddle. It does get harder with a black visor installed, but it's still easier to get the hang of than something like an equivalent Arai.

Unfortunately, it's not all been good, and the central visor catch is really hard to open on the move with a gloved hand. It's also stubborn to

lock shut and quite often I'll ride without doing so, unfortunately leaving space for a small channel of air to get in and blast my eyes and nose.

Also, on days where I've been taking the helmet off regularly, I have sometimes found certain lugs that hold in the cheek pads can work their way loose and just need popping back in. Still, it's much cheaper than some other mainstream sports lids on the market, so I could probably live with a few niggles.

Value ★★★★★ Quality ★★★★★
www.oxfordproducts.com

PROS & CONS

- ➕ Stable, good looking, good value
- ➖ Stubborn visor lock and some pad poppers come undone



Bugs are a pain to clear from vents



The finish is pretty damn classy