



Richa Blade W/P boots £119.99

'Waterproof but are they built to last?'

Tested by Dan Sutherland for one year, 6000 miles

Used for commuting in sub-zero temperatures, to summertime weekend blasts and even one race meeting, these sub-£120 Richas have remained comfortable and waterproof for thousands of hard miles. They're capable of wrapping around leather trousers and tucking neatly inside textiles and have been a reliable go-to when the weather's looking a bit iffy.

The CE scores are a mixed bag, with a higher Level 2 rating for impact cut resistance, but the basic Level 1 pass in both abrasion and rigidity tests. The Blades haven't been perfect in use either. After a few months of riding, the left boot's waterproof flap ripped on the upper seam. It still keeps the

weather out though and could've been replaced within the one-year warranty. Elsewhere, both boots have begun to distort slightly where the zip meets the base and the insoles are also coming away on both feet. That said, they still do the job and fit like an old pair of slippers – meaning hours of comfortable miles in a variety of weather conditions.

Value ★★★★★ Quality ★★★★★
www.nevis.uk.com

PROS & CONS

- +** Comfortable and the toe sliders wear well
- Build quality of certain elements has been poor



'Cheap and simple damp-beater'

Tested by Martin Fitz-Gibbons for one month



The AirDry (no, I don't get the spelling either) is a fabric bag of moisture-absorbing granules designed to pull water out of the air in damp garages. The idea is to buy two, then hang one from each handlebar to help prevent a bike going rusty or mouldy while it's laid up. Each bag weighs 1kg and can absorb 600g of water. It's reusable too: when it's saturated, you dry it out in an oven over 4-5 hours.

I hung two from my bike and after 30 days each had absorbed 368g of water. That suggests they'd need drying out every couple of months. At a total cost of £20 (plus around £1 a time to dry them out), it's an appealingly affordable way to keep damp at bay.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.nippynormans.com

ONE MONTH

Muc-Off Protectant £9.99 (500ml)

Tested by Simon Brown for three months

I've been using this to keep my bike happy while it's locked in a cold garage. The spray contains PTFE, which should make cleaning easy when regular riding is back on the agenda, and has left my bike looking smart after washing. Muc-Off say it is safe to use on all parts and drives out water to keep corrosion at bay. It won't change your life, but it works well.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.muc-off.com

