



Macna Brawler RTX £99.99

'They're less than handy'



Tested by Gareth Evans for six months

Fifteen minutes into a rainy ride home from the office, I decided these gloves couldn't score more than two stars. That was when the first drip made its way down my middle finger, thus proving they're not as waterproof as the company claims, despite the 'Raintex' membrane.

And indeed, on longer journeys they've become so sodden I might as well have been wearing summer gloves. This is especially irritating because they've got a visorwipe on each forefinger, so wet-weather performance should be a given.

On the subject of fingers, the capacitive TouchTips work roughly 50% of the time on my phone's touchscreen, which isn't unusual but isn't great either. It's easier to stop and take the gloves off.

The final irksome thing is the fit, which I accept is subjective, but my hands aren't a particularly weird shape. These gloves pinch behind the thumb when I'm riding the VFR in its slightly nose-down attitude.

In their defence, they haven't fallen apart at all, have a CE certification at Level 1 and aren't too expensive, but I wouldn't buy them.

MCN rating ★★★★★
www.macna.com



It's not been a great experience so far

6 months ON TEST

TouchTips work 50% of the time

Dainese Misano 3 D-air WMN £2249

'Folks ask if it's custom'



Tested by Emma Franklin for one year

The third generation of Dainese's top women's one-piece suit boasts an AAA-rated full-grain cowhide chassis paired with the advanced D-air Racing Shield 3X airbag. Having worn the Misano 2 since 2019, I've noticed changes in the Misano 3, and not all of them are improvements.

The Misano 3 is big on comfort, thanks to its low-cut Veloce Racing Neck which keeps material away from the neck to enhance mobility and reduce chafing, something I experienced while wearing the Misano 2 particularly when using a low-neck base layer top. The soft material at the cuffs also prevents irritation, which is a step up from the former all-leather finish.

Protection is excellent with AAA certification for abrasion and burst protection (an upgrade from the Misano 2's AA rating. Soft CE Level 2 armour) covers elbows, knees, shoulders, and shins and is so comfortable you hardly notice it. Meanwhile, new RSS 4.0 sliders are easier and cheaper to replace.

The fit is flattering and I'm often asked whether the suit's been custom made. That said, sizing can be puzzling: Size 44 fits my UK 10



Great protection, flattering cut and it looks made to measure

frame, even though it's labelled as a UK 6. Checking the sizing chart or buying from a dealer is essential. My only grizzle is with the calves, as the Misano 3 ditches the previous suit's expandable calf panels, which in my experience makes fastening more difficult than before.

The D-air, with its latest evolution of D-air Racing Shield 3X airbag, uses accelerometers and GPS. Now Bluetooth-enabled, you can toggle between Road and Racing modes via a smartphone app, which did prove glitchy to initially pair but since then has been child's play to use. The system allows for three activations before you need to replace the gas canister, which costs £100 and can be done at home.

One of the biggest head scratchers about this new 'improved' suit is the fact you can no longer access data from the built-in 2D datalogger that powers the airbag. It was an added bonus being able to download all the geeky data about your trackday, and I can't think why Dainese have now disabled this function.

MCN rating ★★★★★
www.dainese.com

12 months ON TEST

Five WFX4 Woman WP gloves £59.99

'The answer to autumn'



Tested by Saffron Wilson for over 8000 miles

These have become my go-to, especially as the summer has begun to subside.

Although they are marketed as a winter glove, I found them to be lightweight and comfortable, and the softshell fabric is pleasant to the touch – as is the grippy palm. On the flipside, if you get caught out on the hotter days they can be a nightmare to take off if you get sweaty, but that did give me an opportunity to chuck them in the washing machine, and they came out good as new. They are actually waterproof too, which is a must with winter gloves. I did get damp on two occasions while



21 months ON TEST

Plenty of feel, not super warm

wearing them but this was after being at motorway speeds in rain that pummelled me for hours.

Even though they claim it's an entry-level glove, they fit well, have Warmtech thermal insulation, a waterproof but breathable membrane and are CE certified to

KP1. They're also vegan-friendly. I wouldn't say they are the warmest winter gloves in the world, but they are great in autumn weather and I generally switch to heated gloves for the colder days.

MCN rating ★★★★★
five-gloves.com

Synthetic leather is holding up well

6 months ON TEST

Sidi Urbex WP Boots £219.99

'Are they a Redwing beater?'



Tested by Adam Oldfield for 2750 miles

Sidi's Urbex WP boots bring classic looks with some Italian flair. Despite their casual look, they come loaded with tech. Waterproof yet breathable, rugged, protective, and surprisingly comfy straight out the box.

I loved the grippy sole and durability, and found it hard to

believe a synthetic leather would last compared to natural leather – but these have stood up famously. The flexible D30 protection is subtle but reassuring.

At £219.99, they're not the cheapest, but for style-led riders wanting the Redwing look but with added safety and waterproofing, they're a savvy pick.

MCN rating ★★★★★
www.sidi.com