



THE MCN SHOWCASE

WATERPROOF SPORTS BOOTS

Smart looks, plenty of protection and built for Britain's climate

- Fit and comfort rated
- Design, construction and CE scores rated
- Waterproofing tested with pressure washer

RATINGS

Exceptional ★★★★★ Very good ★★★★
Good ★★★ Average ★★
Poor ★

MCN
BEST
BUY

Alpinestars SMX-6 V2 Gore-Tex £239.99

‘They feel like slippers’

Long-running big-sellers and with good reason, these microfibre boots are a fantastic year-round choice. Straight out of the box they slip on as easily and familiarly as well-worn slippers, feeling snug and secure without being tight. Heels are held in a strong, chunky cup. Toes have plenty of room to move around. The sole simultaneously manages to feel thin, giving excellent feel, and yet also reassuringly stiff.

No, there aren't any toe sliders. No, there isn't any bulky bracing, articulated spines or obvious flash. What there is, instead, is a full house of CE Level 2 scores in all three categories, offering proven protection. And a Gore-Tex liner which, true to form, keeps feet completely dry even when we attacked them with a

pressure washer and submerged the boots in nearly seven inches of water. Not the cheapest set of waterproof boots, with only modest discounts to be found online, but these offer such a great mix of comfort, feel, safety and weather protection that most riders won't begrudge reaching slightly deeper into their pockets.

Quality ★★★★★
Value ★★★★★
www.alpinestars.com

PROS & CONS

- + Comfort and feel, genuinely waterproof
- No sliders or biometric support and a bit pricey



They aren't remotely flash but are really very good



Dainese Nexus
D-WP £229.95

‘Fit and feel are both excellent’

Made from microfibre and Dainese's 'D-Stone' fabric. Rear-entry zip design is a unique feature and works well, making it easy to slip these boots on and off. Uses Dainese's D-WP waterproof membrane which kept our tester's feet dry in an aggressive spray test, but did allow a tiny amount of water to pass through when immersed. Only CE-rated to the lower Level 1 standard for abrasion, impact cut and rigidity, which is a shame given Dainese's MotoGP reputation and the hardly-cheapskate price. Feel is excellent, articulation is perfect and neat Velcro adjusters mean they can be made to fit a range of calf sizes. Decent discounts can be found online, too.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.dainese.com



RST TracTech
Evo III WP £139.99

‘Bracing gives them a racy look’

Substantial shin plate and prominent ankle bracing give these a very racy look. Feel quite stiff in construction though – it can be difficult to reach your left foot forwards enough to get under the gear pedal. That bracing had a habit of digging into ankles on both sides too. Waterproofing is provided by RST's own SinAqua membrane, which stayed totally dry in the spray test, though did let water through when the boots were submerged. Fit is good, though it takes a couple of goes to get the main zip done up and the Velcro closed properly.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.rst-moto.com

JASON CRITCHELL