

LATEST KIT RATED



CHARGING OPTIONS

7.4V, 3000mAh batteries recharge via USB-C and are £30 extra (Y-cable and big Keis battery aren't included either). Will also run off Keis jacket sleeves.

WIDE PROFILE

Side-on, the battery adds a fair bit of width at the wrist and can make fitting under the glove, then inside a jacket sleeve, a bit tricky.



Battery charging via USB-C gives loads of options



Cuff is impressively slim but may be a challenge with some suits

'Cost-effective alternative to heated gloves'

RiDE's highest-mileage rider tries latest heated inner gloves. They get a 'warm' reception...

Keis G201 Heated Inner Gloves
 £80 (plus £30 for batteries)
www.keisapparel.com

THE CLAIM "The Keis G201 Heated Inner Gloves are a sleek, ultra-thin upgrade to inner liners, finely wrapping each finger with carbon fibre wire for uniform warmth. Designed to slide under motorcycle or leisure gloves, they feature a discreet cuff battery pocket - perfect for winter rides, delivering powerful heat without bulk."

THE REALITY Keis is my go-to brand for heated kit, but I'm sceptical about battery-powered glove inners: batteries run out, it's extra faff, and aren't glove liners delicate? During a cold snap I did 240 miles in five hours or so in

the G201s, running on the USB-C rechargeable 3000mAh batteries (they're a £30 extra; the gloves don't come with them). On full power, one glove lasted three hours and 20 minutes (same time it takes to recharge). The other, on low heat, went for more than seven hours back home.

Wedging the batteries into the zipped pouch on the underside of each wrist adds bulk and makes fitting it all inside a cuff tricky (the liners can also be powered directly from heated jacket sleeves). My liners are XL/XXL because I wear XXL gloves, but they're a bit baggy so M/L would fit better. But they're thin and it's not a squeeze getting normal winter gloves on (I use Oxford ARMR Kumajis). Sports gloves are much harder (I like 'em tight).

The biggest problem is guessing which of three heat settings to use - you can't access, or see, the buttons once you're riding. To be fair to Keis, any solution would involve more cost and faff.

It takes a few minutes for the inners to get to full temperature and at first, in 5°C, they aren't noticeably hot. Then you realise your hands aren't cold (partly down to the extra layer), and then you're wondering how to turn them down without stopping.

I didn't get to ride in sub-zero and haven't endurance-tested the liners - although I still think they may struggle with the stresses of a year's road testing. But for occasional cold-weather riding the G201s are a cost-effective, if slightly fiddly, alternative to full-size heated gloves. **SIMON HARGREAVES**