

Astars Ride Tech Winter £89.99 top, £79.99 pants

Like a big, warm, reassuringly expensive all-over hug

gb.alpinestars.com

Alpinestars aren't kidding when they say their Ride Tech winter base layers have a compression fit. At first it feels like they've been sprayed on, finding folds and crevices where you didn't know you had folds and crevices. Alpinestars claim the intimate fit offers muscle support to reduce fatigue.

However, by the time our tester had the rest of his gear on, the initially strange sensation of the tight-fitting layers had diminished.

The Ride Tech garments feature some very clever

design. There are no seams anywhere to press into the flesh, also meaning they offer universal coverage. They have multi-textured knitted areas for extra moisture wicking away from the body.

Alpinestars specify a fabric called Dryarn for these base layers. It is a polypropylene material that is extremely light in weight, absorbs next to no moisture, provides warmth when it is cold and breathability when it is warm, is odour-resistant, and dries quickly after washing.

Reassuringly, Dryarn won't melt under abrasion should you have the misfortune to slide up the road.

The Ride Tech kit stayed put in use thanks to that tight compression fit, and the length of both top and bottom gave our tall tester plenty of coverage. They stayed tucked in, too.

Our tester was warm throughout the ride although things felt a bit cooler at the front of the shoulders.

Off and on the bike, you could almost forget you were wearing the Ride Tech layers.

THE FACTS

Material Dryarn

Sizes XS-2XL

Warranty Two years

Seamless ✓

Fly*

Seasons Winter

THE SCORES

Warmth



Comfort



Fit



Breathability



Quality



Total 45/50

'They aren't cheap, but deliver on performance'

VERDICT

They aren't cheap, but they deliver on performance. Alpinestars' Ride Tech layers don't disappoint.

DRYARN TALE

Dryarn is the world's lightest fabric and the performance it offers for its lack of bulk is extraordinary.

BEST FOR TECH



► They're very tight fitting, but once on the bike you don't notice it



► Light, breathable, dries quickly, keeps you warm. Impressive

