



▼ Tabs are slightly small but the vents 'moderately effective'



▲ Tickle the tip of your nose if you have a big one...



▲ Iridium visor looks great if you can remember the 1990s

### MIPS INSERT A BONUS

The Bell is the only helmet of these that comes with a MIPS insert, which is designed to reduce brain injuries in a rotational impact.

**BEST FOR:**  
Style – this is a cool-looking lid



### BENCH TEST

**Weight:** 1666g  
**Noise:** 106.2dB  
(vents open: 107.5dB)

### THE FACTS

**Shell construction:** Polycarbonate  
**Rating:** ECE R22.06  
**Integrated sun visor:** Y  
**Fastening system:** D-ring  
**Number of vents:** 4  
**Pinlock:** Supplied  
**Removable lining:** Y  
**Glasses channel:** Y  
**Intercom ready:** Y, generic  
**Sizes:** XS-XXXL (3 shell sizes)  
**Colour options:** white/black or silver

### THE SCORES

**COMFORT:** ██████████  
**EASE OF USE:** ██████████  
**FEATURES:** ██████████  
**VENTS:** ██████████  
**VISOR REMOVAL:** ██████████

**TOTAL** **39/50**

## 2 Bell Lithium MIPS Blip £289.99\* Doesn't look or feel like it costs less than £300

[www.sportsbikeshop.co.uk](http://www.sportsbikeshop.co.uk)

As soon as you open the Bell's box you feel a buzz of pride of ownership. It's small details: the helmet bag is lined and feels plush, and the additional iridium visor is a lovely touch. Also, despite only having two colour options, the Bell is the most stylish lid on this test with no garish graphics; instead just a choice of neat patterns that have a hint of retro about them

Once on, this feeling of quality continues. The lining

is very plush and comfortable, and it sits well on your head – almost hugging it – making it a pleasure to wear with good glasses channels. It feels like it should cost more.

Only when you try to use a few features do you see where costs have been slightly cut. The tabs to operate the vents are quite small but click open and shut precisely, and are moderately effective. I didn't get on with the visor opening

release system, which instead of a button is a push-in rocker that I found a bit awkward to use (especially with winter gloves); others may disagree.

On the go the Bell is quite noisy, which was a shame, and the integrated sun visor rests very slightly on the tip of your nose. If your nose is small, you may get away with it; if not, it is uncomfortable and irritating and took the shine off what is otherwise a very good helmet.

**Conclusion** If you have a small nose, the Bell is a stylish and comfortable choice. It's noisy, which is a bit of a shame, but that's the only real downside.

**'Sits well on your head – almost hugging it'**

\* IN WHITE/BLACK OR SILVER