

TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT

★★★★★

2500 MILES

It's like a cross between a Gore-Tex suit and a sleeping bag



Klim Hardanger one-piece suit £1340

'I really don't know how I lived without it'

Tested by Jordan Gibbons for 2500 miles/one year

If my house caught fire tomorrow, this is the piece of motorbike gear I would save. The Hardanger is a one-piece CE rated Gore-Tex suit that incorporates Level 1 D30 armour throughout.

The genius of the Hardanger is that it has one long zip from neck to groin on the front and another from groin to ankle on either leg. This means it can be pulled over regular clothing and donned (or doffed) in a matter of seconds, so you can ride somewhere and be in 'normal' clothes in moments. Superman eat your heart out!

Some weeks I wear it every day. You don't have to worry about your clobber underneath ending up ruined either;

I've worn this suit for hours at a time in terrible weather and it's never let in a drop of rain. It's covered in waterproof pockets, there are plenty of vents for when it's warm and wiring pockets to take heated gear when it's cold.

The price does seem steep but, it's no worse than a comparable Gore-Tex two-piece suit, and easier to live with – and that ease of use is near priceless.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★ klim.com

PROS & CONS

- +** Waterproof and oh-so easy to get on and off
- Level 2 armour would be better for the price



Waterproof pockets and venting abound



Metzeler Sportec M9RR £244 RRP (for RS660)

'Impressive in the wet from the off'

Tested by Dan Sutherland on two bikes for 4000 miles



I've used Metzeler's M9RRs on my long-term KTM 1290 Super Duke GT and Aprilia RS660 test bikes. They were impressive on

the GT, but really excelled on the lighter and less powerful Aprilia – providing confidence-inspiring wet weather grip from the get-go during our soaking first outing.

They also heat up faster than the rival Bridgestone Battlax S22 and provide more feel through a corner – offering seriously impressive performance during back-road blasts at the weekend in the cool late summer and early autumn. Although a road-focused sports tyre, they encouraged the bike to tip into a bend quickly, with enough bite at the back end to keep things firmly in line.

I wouldn't hesitate to use these tyres on a trackday next year. My only real regret is not fitting them sooner.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★ www.metzeler.com

4000 MILES

ROK Straps £18.99

Tested by Saffron Wilson for 2082 miles/five months

After using bungees for most of my biking life, I was delighted to find these straps, which have no sharp metal or plastic ends to scratch chrome or paint. The buckles are UV, shatter and crack-resistant and the flat, stretchy design means that there's minimal pressure on luggage, and they stretch from 18-60 inches – and with natural rubber construction, it means they boast tear-resistant elasticity, too.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★ sportsbikeshop.com

