

## TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT

★★★★★



Complex but the fit is superb

5000 miles ON TEST



Looking good after 5k miles

TCX RT-Race £299.99

# 'Bit squeaky but they fit so well'



**Tested by Joseph Wright for eight months**

How do you prefer to secure your boots? Do you lean towards the comfort of laces, the security of a zipper, or perhaps the added support of a ratchet? With the TCX RT-Race, you get the benefit of all three, and even Velcro for good measure. So are these multiple closure systems a marketing gimmick, or a high water mark in boot design?

If you're someone who takes pride in transitioning in and out of riding gear as swiftly as a triathlete, the multi-faceted approach to achieving the perfect fit may seem a bit time-consuming. However, with dedication, these boots will certainly reward your effort. To achieve an ideal fit, start by tightening the laces on the inner tongue to shape the padded lining around your foot. A quick-sliding drawstring secures this snug fit, with excess lace neatly attached to a Velcro strip on the

shin area. The outer side zipper then compresses the boot around your ankle. Fine-tune the fit with the ratchet lever at the top and it all results in a precise fit.

Initially, the boots feel stiff for walking and gear changes, but they soon break-in as the double flex system allows vertical ankle movement while also ensuring there is no horizontal movement. Although the boots are primarily designed for sporty riding and not walking, the mechanism provides decent comfort on and off the motorcycle.

Race-style boots often appear bulky due to the plastic bracing and padding required for safety in high-speed crashes. The TCX boots, however, seamlessly combine stylish Italian design with the highest CE safety rating. Features such as the metal vent and heat-resistant materials serve both purpose and aesthetics, enhancing functionality and offering a factory-style appearance.

After eight months of regular use, the boots

still look good. They're built with high-quality microfibre and synthetic leather, offering durability and a lightweight feel. The soles have worn evenly, although replaceable footbeds would be a nice addition. The interchangeable polyurethane/magnesium sliders on the toe and heel have endured multiple trackdays without needing replacement. The only issue is the material used in the double flex system, which can produce a noticeable squeak.

**Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★**  
[texboots.com](http://texboots.com)

### PROS & CONS

- + Ankle flex system, feel through the pegs, fine-tuned fit
- The design means the boots can squeak when you walk about

**You have to be prepared for the odd squeak as you walk around**



Your ankle is protected from lateral forces