



Quad Lock Handlebar Clamp Mount £34.99*

'Another clever QL product'



Tested by Gareth Evans for four months

Quad Lock have revealed a number of new features to better attach their various mounts to your bike, including a brake/clutch mount, brake reservoir mount, fork or mirror stem mounts, the classic handlebar mount and this, the poetically titled 'handlebar clamp bolt mount'. I've been using it for a while now on the Kawasaki Ninja 7 Hybrid and it's flawless in its design, employing an extended M8 bolt (with Locktite to keep it in there) that attaches in my case to the top of the fork assembly. I've used an extension arm to allow my rather large mobile to clear all moving parts, yet sit in a position that's easy to read so I can use it for navigation purposes. I've also fitted Quad Lock's anti-vibration damper and a wireless charger connected to my USB-C jack on the right handlebar, which keeps my battery topped up on the move. As ever, this kit is built well, easy to use (albeit slightly fiddly with gloves) and simple to install with a sturdy and quality feel.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.quadlockcase.co.uk



AGV Tourmodular £469.99

'Great for touring'



Tested by Saffron Wilson for 10 months

I'm a big fan of flip-ups like the AGV Tourmodular, as they make filling up, crossing borders and communicating with fellow riders at red traffic lights loads easier.

I was pleasantly surprised with how comfortable it was. Yes, to pop it on you need to make sure the chin bar is flipped up else it's a tight squeeze, but then it's plenty roomy enough to wiggle around and secure enough to know it'll do its job should the worst happen. Plus, the internal cushions are easy to remove and clean, yet you don't feel like there is an eggbox on your head, even after a few hours in the saddle.

The quality overall is great, with comfortable, easily removable lining, a visor that doesn't feel flimsy and chunky vents which can be operated with gloves. But, only recently, the internal sun visor has not been retracting properly which is a shame.

I teamed this helmet up with AGV Insyde – a Cardo communication system – which has great sound (but has to be almost on max for the motorway) and was easy to install.

Aside from the biggest vent – the flip up itself – there are four vents on this helmet. One on the top of your head in the middle, and on the chin bar there are three. I've found the most effective vent to be the one on the top of the helmet, but if you just need a bit of air to keep you alert, then the central chin bar vent is a great shout.

Again, more recently one of the earpieces has been intermittent with sound, but I think it's just a case of plugging everything back in where it should be – basically I need to check my installation!

It meets 22.06 requirements and is P/J certified so you can ride around with the chin bar up should you want to, and the flip up mechanism itself is easy to use and still as fluid as when I first started using it.

At £469.99 the AGV Tourmodular isn't the cheapest flip-up helmet you can get (although you can probably get it cheaper if you shop around), but the build quality is great and it's comfortable from the first mile.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.agv.com



'Light, comfortable and flexible'



Tested by Justin Hayzelden for three months

Although described as ankle boots, these TCX Toursteps are more three-quarter height and give significantly more coverage than a high-top sneaker. They're genuinely comfortable for wearing all day long, almost like armoured slippers, and I've done hundreds of miles at a stretch without any cause for concern. They're also light and flexible enough to leave the bike and go exploring should an opportunity arise – which it has on many occasions.

A single tensioning strap allows for quick and easy one-handed fastening and once secured they don't feel like they'll pull off easily. Waterproofing is generally good, but in one particularly severe and sustained downpour enough water pooled around the tongue gusset to find a way in. The smooth microfibre upper doesn't have any additional ventilation, making the Tourstep bit warm in hot weather, but as an all-round, easy to live with boot that you can ride in, walk in and feel protected in, they're right on the money.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
nevis.uk.com



Shark D-Skwal 3 helmet £220

'A good helmet for the money'



Tested by Charlotte King for five months

The paint finish is great quality, the interior is plush and comfortable, while the vents are easy to operate with gloves on. On a bright sunny day, the drop-down sun visor is ideal, as it fills the visor space and is plenty dark enough. I also like the ease of the ratchet chin strap rather than a double D-ring style. The helmet's not quite perfect though, and I find that the whistle from the visor when open at any speed more than 20mph is irritating, even when I am wearing earplugs. The cheek pads are so plush that when you look over your shoulder, they are all you can see, so I have to really exaggerate my life-saver checks.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
nevis.uk.com

1600 miles ON TEST