



Muc-Off Mobile Pressure Washer £250

‘Easy cleaning anywhere’



Tested by Charlotte King for five months

Living in a first floor flat, my motorbikes are kept in a garage that's too far away to have mains water or power, so this was the perfect answer. Thanks to a power tool style rechargeable battery and large water tank, it's portable.

The pressure it provides through the multiple different lances is plenty to clean a bike, without causing damage. It has made cleaning my bike less hassle, and I get a better result with less effort.

The battery has only been charged once so far and I have managed to do two full bike cleans and my little car, and the battery indicator still shows one bar of charge remaining. I found that I needed one full tank of water to do a wash and rinse.

The snow foam lance allows you to enjoy the novelty of covering your entire bike in a sudsy froth, simply attach the bottle to the lance, spray and leave for five minutes to work, give it a rub over with a sponge and rinse off again with the regular lance.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.muc-off.com



Easy foam on the go

Five months ON TEST

Knox Shield Hoodie £329.99

‘Individual and worth the cash’



Tested by Carl Stevens for seven months

A few issues ago, I reviewed the Knox Shield tracksuit bottoms – a set of CE-approved trousers that have the fit and feel of joggers, but with CE approval and a rating of AAA, which is the highest on offer. They are incredible in fit, feel and quality, even though the price is on the higher side of things – and the hoodie to complete the set follows that trend.

Made from a mix of materials that I can barely pronounce and fitted with supple, yet solid Micro-Lock Compact armour in the shoulders, elbow and the back, the Shield Zip hoodie feels resilient and built with quality and safety in mind. Yet even so, the best thing about this new hoodie from Knox is just how comfortable it feels, and snugly it fits. The sizes are true to life and even when it's brand new, there's no wearing in period needed in order to get a good range of movement around the arms and shoulders.

The fit is on the skinnier side of things (so bear that in mind if you wear additional armour or an airbag underneath) but it's not restrictive or too tight, and it makes for a jumper that is nice to wear on anything with a little wind protection, as it almost sits like an armoured shirt, rather than a big, bulky jacket.



Great fit and comfort from Knox

The hood is the perfect size and shape as to not catch too much wind at higher speeds, and the pockets are deep enough to stash all of your essentials securely, with some nice, quality ZKK zips throughout too.

Seven months ON TEST

There's also a handy internal pocket for your phone and earplugs, and get this... a visor wipe too. The hoodie is light and offers a good amount of airflow for those warmer, sunny days – although with that in mind, it does let the chill in on colder days, and you don't want to be caught wearing it in wet conditions either. But that's not what it's made for, and the Shield is now my go to piece of kit for those shorter rides or for just heading out for a few hours in the sunshine, especially as it washes well too, with no sag from the elastic on the cuffs or the bottom. Oh, and it does look the part as well – if you're happy going to down a slightly pricier route (which it is) the Shield Zip Hoodie from Knox is individual, and worth the cash.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.planet-knox.com

Oxford Montreal 4.0 MS Dry2Dry £59.99

‘A best friend throughout the winter’



Tested by Dan Sutherland for 3000 miles

These have been brilliant at keeping my hands dry this winter. I've ridden in some absolutely sodden conditions since the clocks went back, but the Oxford Montreal 4.0s have seen off the worst of it – only ever letting in trickles of water as the result of a sportsbike riding position in a heavy downpour, which often encourages water to run down your sleeves, into your gloves on the clip-on bars.

They are CE certified with a 1-KP rating (the lower of the two ratings), there's a hard TPU knuckle protectors, and the left index finger has a visor wipe to keep your vision clear during wet rides.



Hard armour and a secure fit too

Six months ON TEST

They're fairly warm too and work perfectly well without heated grips to around seven or eight degrees, or cooler on slower urban trips. Riding at high speeds for prolonged periods during anything colder would call for some additional layering, or a heated element on the bars.

Although it would be nice to have some hard protectors in the palm area, the gloves are tricky to fault at £59.99 and well worth a punt if you're on a budget.

Plenty of adjustment on the wrist strap and an elasticated cuff allows for the right level of comfort, and there's just about enough of a gap in the end to feed the glove over a thin textile jacket sleeve.

After 3000 miles the Montreals still look basically brand new, with only a few frayed stitches on the palm. I hope to use them for many rides to come.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.oxfordproducts.com

Merlin Curborough D30 Heated Gloves £229.99

‘Makes winter riding fun’



Tested by Robin Kirkley for three months

The Merlin Curborough heated gloves are as toasty as they come when the temperature drops way down low. They keep my pinkies warm for around 3.5 hours on the highest setting and five hours on the lowest. On long rides I alternate the settings so the batteries last the journey, since they do take 4.5 hours to charge fully.



1500 miles ON TEST

Five hours of warmth on the lowest of the settings

They're fully waterproof, and are protected on the knuckles and palms with D30 technology. This winter has been cold and wet, but I've been riding safely and comfortably throughout, making these gloves well worth the money.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
merlinbikegear.shop