

Peak stays nicely rigid at speed

5000 miles ON TEST

It could do with more venting

## Shoei Hornet ADV Sovereign TC10 £569.99

### 'There's no sting in this tale'



**Tested by Richard Newland for five months**

This is my first Shoei, ever – and it's made me regret not picking one up sooner. The quality, fit and features are all superb and more than on-par with the Arai Tour-X 4 I've worn for the previous 40,000+ mile to this. The Hornet ADV is an ECE 22.05 helmet, meaning it's not the latest standard (ECE 22.06), and will need to be replaced in the line-up soon.

But if you need an adventure helmet right now, this is still a great option. Available in four shell sizes to deliver the best fit possible, the Hornet's shell is organic fibre composite, with a multiple density EPS. The peak is pleasingly rigid, meaning no flex or vibration in the airflow even at speed (my Tour-X 4 peak flaps like a seagull in turbulence), although those who like a removeable peak, or to have the option of wearing goggles, will need to look elsewhere.

The visor system is excellent, allowing for simple click-out, click-in replacement with the peak

fitted. The only niggle here is that it's very hard to locate the tabs when you're fitting a dark visor back onto the helmet as you're effectively blind. Clear visors are easy. The fitment is very good, and I've suffered no leaks riding in heavy rain. It comes with a Pinlock insert, which also works well, although I have had one Pinlock post snap off when switching the insert between clear and tinted visors (it comes with spare posts).

Venting is decent, but certainly not amazing. There are vents at the chin, brow and crown, and all allow enough air in to keep you relatively fresh – but on very warm days, or if you're working hard on the bike on a trail, there's not enough volume pushing through. Removing the optional chin curtain is wise if temperatures are high.

The lining is removable and washable, and the cheek pads are quick release in case of emergencies. After 5000 miles, there's no hint of wear, rubbage or furring of the lining, and the lid still smells new, too. The chin strap is a D-ring type.

In use, it's quiet in clean airflow (I always wear earplugs), comfortable and stable. Even turning your head in the wind doesn't result in any dramatic pull from the vented peak.

**Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★**  
[www.shoeiassured.co.uk](http://www.shoeiassured.co.uk)

Easy to fit and rugged too

200 miles ON TEST

## R&G Brake Lever Guard £42.79

### 'A trackday must that's easy to fit'



**Tested by Dan Sutherland for 200 miles on track**

Pretty much all trackdays these days require you to have a brake lever guard fitted to your bike.

This one from R&G has been tested on our Suzuki GSX-8S, but it also fits the 2017-on GSX-R1000 range.

Compliant with BSB regulations, it's made of a glossy black plastic, which colour matches perfectly with the GSX-8S, and is installed in a matter of moments – leaving plenty of room for brake lever movement with even the furthest level of span adjustment.

Although no tools are included, you'll just need an Allen key and spanner from your toolbox, with the fitting instructions found online to save paper. That said, a quick glance at the five parts in the box, and it becomes obvious how it will attach the to the bike.

We tested this guard for two days on track at Cadwell Park and it remained tightly in place – never moving around or loosening over time. It doesn't noticeably hamper movement when hanging off the right side of the bike, despite the flat upright handlebars.

**Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★**  
[www.rg-racing.com](http://www.rg-racing.com)

Great value and waterproof too

## DXR TTR Waterproof CE Gloves £34.99

### 'Comfy, top-value summer gear'



**Tested by Stuart Prestidge for four months**

Hand protection and comfort during the summer can be a compromise, some favouring cooler but less protective gloves for warmer weather. The DXR TTR gloves deal with that dilemma well, blending comfort in warmer weather with CE-approved protection. Made from goatskin leather with a waterproof and breathable inner membrane, the gloves are supple and remained dry through summer showers. A visor wiper on the thumb is a nice touch. It has been my glove of choice this summer, especially when the weather doesn't play ball.

**Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★**  
[sportsbikeshop.co.uk](http://sportsbikeshop.co.uk)

500 miles ON TEST

Comfy and ideal for summer

## Alpinestars Ladies J-6 WP Boots £179.99

### 'Ditch the pink'



**Tested by Alison Silcox for two years**

When the sun comes out, so do my shortie boots. Made from leather and suede with a waterproof membrane, they are showing few signs of wear so far. Approved to CE Level 2, they offer an element of protection at the ankle and heel plus a reinforced mid-sole. There's padding at the rear of the ankle, which makes them comfortable both on and off the bike.

Unlike other shortie boots I've tried which often feature a zip on the inner ankle, they're lace-up only. And, while I love the grey colour, one thing that irks me is the pink piping; just because I'm female, I don't need pink piping on my shoes, I'm not three!

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

2500 miles ON TEST