



So smart it even detects the polarity



5 MONTHS

### CTEK CS ONE battery charger £219.99

## 'A very clever box of tricks'

Tested by Richard Newland for five months across six vehicles



Not only does it do everything you'd expect: charging, recovering, conditioning and maintaining whatever vehicle

battery you connect it to (and yes, it's does them all from Lead Acid to Lithium-ion in all wet, AGM, Gel and other forms) – it does it without any programming from you. Simply connect the leads – both black because the CS ONE is so clever that it detects polarity so you can't connect it wrong – and the Adaptive Charging Technology will check every facet of your battery. The display keeps you up to date with progress, and once you've got a full white ring of illumination, your battery is tip-top. And if you do want or need deeper intervention, download the CTEK app and connect to the CS via Bluetooth, giving you an on-phone control panel and additional functions. If you prefer a wired battery connection so you can just plug-n-charge without needing battery access, the required lead is £4.99 extra and extension leads are £14.99.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★  
www.ctek.com / www.halfords.com



### Shoei X-Spirit III £609.99-£729.99 (colour dependant)

## 'Expensive, but so well finished'

Tested by Dan Sutherland for 1000 miles across four motorcycles



Even in its base colours, the Shoei X-Spirit III is an undeniably expensive helmet. However, after

1000 miles of spirited road riding, and a couple of stints on track, I can confirm that your sizeable wodge of cash buys a quiet, capable, and beautifully finished lid.

Sure, this striking Daijuro Kato replica livery won't be to everyone's tastes and is sadly not available from Shoei directly anymore, but I think it looks fantastic and there's a wide range of other colours to choose from – plus a removable, washable liner to keep things fresh between sweaty trackdays.

Other features include emergency quick release cheek pads, a tear-off and Pinlock-ready visor, plus multiple vents at the forehead and chin and a spoiler to the rear. I'd recommend factoring a Pinlock into your purchase as the visor will mist up quickly in colder conditions and at a standstill, despite featuring a snug built-in nose piece.

Another feature I took advantage of was the adjustable interior, opting for slightly different padding to cater for my cuboid head. Wearing a medium, the standard design caused me discomfort after around an hour in the saddle, but I cannot criticise it too heavily for this, as everyone's head shape is different. With the adjustments made, it's much more cosy, but can still sometimes ache on longer rides. Passing ECE 22.05 standards, it's also arguably not as advanced as the rival Arai RX-7V Evo, which now meets more stringent ECE 22.06 regs, however costs slightly more money in colourful designs.

Elsewhere, the field of vision is brilliant – allowing you to keep an eye on vehicles either side of you, as well as see ahead whilst tucked in on track. I always notice the bright yellow fasteners on the visor in my peripheral vision, but you soon get used to it. It's also nice and light, with all vents easily accessed with a gloved hand – the base chin vent proving to be the hardest to operate and often confused with the larger one above it.

Those looking to make snap visor changes in pitlane will also be pleased to know it's a doddle – removed using a simple lever on either side.

Value ★★★★★ Quality ★★★★★  
www.shoeiassured.co.uk

1000 MILES



### Richa Tina 2 WP textile glove £49.99

## 'Perfect for our climate'

Tested by Saffron Wilson for 3500 miles / one year



These Richa gloves are ideal for a British summer. The Level 1 CE-approval gives protective peace of mind on every ride, meanwhile the lightweight fabric keeps you comfortable and cool even when temperatures are rising.

But it's not all about the sun. After all, we are in the UK. I have been caught out wearing these in a light shower and can confirm my hands stayed dry and warm, and the Aquashell LTZ membrane wasn't too constricting or hot. Plus, because of the thin membrane, you get all that waterproof capability and extra warmth in a glove that isn't bulky in the slightest. I personally found the fit on my fingers a

bit short in length (I have long digits) but the fit across the palm fit was great, and since the fabric itself was thin and light, even on long, hot journeys, they weren't irritating or uncomfortable.

The only slight discomfort came on a particularly long ride when the Temperfoam impact protection technology in the right thumb rubbed on my knuckle a little.

I didn't have any success with the touchscreen-activating materials on the finger and thumb, either, which could possibly be blamed on my phone's screen protector.

Overall, I think the simple design means they'll be ideal to wear with a wide range of jackets. Plus, they're available with a bit of pink on them, too!

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★  
www.sportsbikeshop.co.uk

3500 MILES



### Oxford CO<sub>2</sub> Tyre Repair Kit £39.99

## 'This kit has saved the day'

Tested by Justin Hayzelden for two years/35,000 miles



There's nothing fun about waiting for recovery with a puncture, but carry a repair kit and you're soon rolling again. This pack has been

part of my essential kit for the past two years and has saved the day when road testing on more than one occasion, paying for itself at least twice over. It comes with full instructions and includes everything you need to plug a hole, though it can get a bit messy once you start squirting the glue around – a good tip is to stuff some latex gloves in the accompanying storage pouch. There's enough material to fix five punctures, however the CO<sub>2</sub> canisters supplied will only inflate one tyre. Top-ups are available separately though (£9.99 for four), so replace them as you use them. Use it to limp home, then get the repair properly inspected and plugged by your preferred tyre specialist.

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

35,000 MILES