



Never suffer a mouthful of petrol again...

Remember to go with the flow

8 years ON TEST

Laser Fuel Transfer Pump £28.63

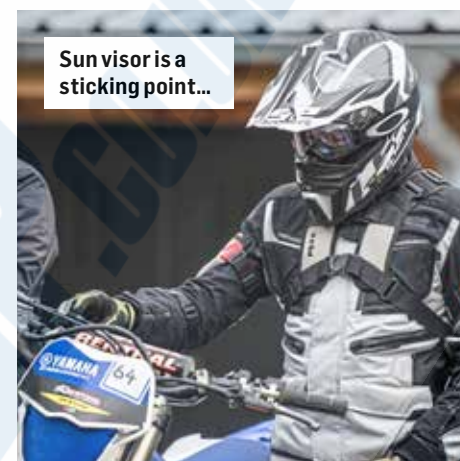
'It sucks, in a good way'



Tested by Richard Newland for eight years

With six bikes, three cars and a petrol lawnmower in my garage, I've lost count of the number of times I've needed to press this pump into action to solve a localised fuel crisis. Simply pop one end of the kit into the container/vehicular victim you're siphoning from, and the other into a petrol can – or direct into the thing that needs fuel – paying attention to the flow arrow on the pump body, then give the bladder a few quick squeezes 'et voila!' you're pumping gas... The flow rate is decent, and if the giving end drifts free of the life juice, simply pop it back in and give the bladder a few more squeezes. There's no release valve to stop the flow, so simply lift the donor end free of the liquid when you're close to your target level, and let the pipe-full run through. You can pump any liquid with it, but I probably wouldn't use the same pump for multiple liquid types. I can't imagine how I used to manage before.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.lasertools.co.uk



Sun visor is a sticking point...

LS2 Explorer £239.99

'Good for road, but not dirt'



Tested by Steve Herbert-Mattick for 10 months

This aggressive-looking adventure lid's composite fibre shell is littered with aerodynamic wings and fins. With purposeful styling and classy graphics, a Pinlock-ready visor, sun-visor, removable peak for road and track use and reinforced chin strap with a metal buckle, the Explorer from LS2 has an awful lot going for it.

The comfortable-if-firm padding has a tight collar, making it quiet and stable on the road. The vents work well although the tabs can be a little hard to locate with gloves on. The breath guard comes up quite high so checking the clocks sometimes needs conscious effort to look 'over' it and occasionally the strap gets caught if I'm wearing a high-collared jacket. The sun visor is effective but as the bottom edge sits in your eye-line it can be distracting and personally, I'm not a fan of the blue/purple tint.

I've used this helmet for full days on and on/off road riding and it's always proved comfortable and doesn't get tiring after long and strenuous stints in the saddle.

As good as the LS2 is on an adventure bike on tarmac, it's best kept off the dirt. After a couple of dusty trail rides (visor up, goggles on) the sun visor stopped dropping down on one side and no amount of force on the switch would move it. The only way I could get it to drop into place was to grab the edge of the visor and pull it down by hand. Hardly ideal.

When riding with the main visor up – especially off-road – dust and grit fouls the drop-down visor mechanism. If this happens, it's within warranty and if returned to the dealer it came from, LS2 will collect, service and return it. But after getting mine back and using it with goggles on a day at an off-road school, it's stopped working properly again. I've spoken to another Explorer owner who had the same experience.

Stick to the road, or keep the main visor down and this is a nice lid. But anything more adventurous seems likely to cause problems.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
ls2helmets.com

1400 miles ON TEST



Very warm but not too bulky

18 months ON TEST

Alpinestars WR-1 V2 Gloves £149.99

'Zero degrees? No problem'



Tested by Michael Neeves for 18 months

I lose all feeling in my fingers just opening the fridge door, so wear thick winter gloves when the temperature is around 5-12°C. Anything less it's heated gloves all the way. I only reach for summer gloves at the melting point of tarmac. But thanks to their 'Primaloft' thermal insulation these leather WR-1 V2 gloves have proved so warm I can use them in close to zero-degree temperatures without a problem. They're comfy, lightweight, waterproof, not

too bulky and have worn impeccably. I barely know they're on thanks to softshell textile sections and stretch panels that allow unhindered movement. Crash protection comes in the form of hard knuckle armour and reinforced sections around the palm, fingers and thumb. And there's a leather bridge to keep your little finger secured to the ring finger to stop it flailing in a crash. Touchscreen-compatible fingertips are perfect for satnavs and smartphones, too.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.alpinestars.com



Brühl MD1900+ Single Turbine Dryer £149

'No corrosion'



Tested by Saffron Wilson for one year, eight months

I'm always worried about excess water lingering, especially when cleaning my Harley-Davidson with all of its glorious engine fins on show. The Brühl dryer has calmed these fears. The extra 500W heat setting (which comes on the MD1900+ but not the MD1400) is great for blasting the nooks and crannies, including pipes and connections. Plus, the different nozzles are great at adapting to any job.

The hose can comically fly out of my hands if I don't grip it tight enough and the tube gets very warm when using the extra heat setting – but it's great for keeping hands toasty!

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
bruhl.co.uk

20 months ON TEST