

TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT

★★★★★

FIVE MONTHS

Brühl MD1900+ dryer £135

'I never knew I wanted one, but damn it's good'

Tested by Richard Newland, five months

This has to be relatively high on my list of products I never knew I needed – but damn it's good. All bikes suffer from aggravating areas that are impossible to dry, and some moisture traps cause real problems over time, especially around engines, clocks and looms. But the Brühl is the answer. This reverse-hoover blows like a hurricane and the various nozzles give you blade-like control to direct the air and expel water from surfaces and crevices with ease. It's ridiculously gratifying to use and 100% effective. The motor is 1600W, and if you want hot air it also offers a 500W integral heater (although cold air does the job very well to be honest).

There's a built-in RCD to protect you from dropped-it-in-a-bucket electrocutions, and the 3.5m hose shrinks down to 1.5m when not in use. It's pretty loud, and people look at you like you're a lunatic as they presume you're hoovering your bike, but it's superbly effective. Also brilliant for blasting all the dust out of your garage.

Quality ★★★★★

Value ★★★★★

www.motohaus.com

PROS & CONS

- +** Gets water out of all those nooks and crannies
- Loud and pricey, and people think you're mad



It's rugged and gets your bike totally dry again



Bull-it Ladies Tactical Icona II jeans £139.99

'Comfy and great protection'

Tested by Emma Franklin for two months, 1000 miles



These AA-rated single-layer jeans have become my go-to pair because they fit so well and also are comfortable, even on warm days. Styled like slim-fit fashion jeans, I like how the Icona IIs (like all Bull-it jeans) feature a high waist to prevent your lower back from becoming exposed (low-waist riding jeans are a pet hate). Abrasion-resistant stretchy denim ensures a good fit and has the bonus of holding the included Level-2 hip and knee armour perfectly in place. It's a pretty clever trick Bull-it have pulled off here, as the jeans fit just as well with the armour as they do without, so I've got no reason not to wear the extra protection. As an added bonus, the jeans are also shower resistant. Bull-it were the first to make a product to pass the old, tougher (and largely ignored) CE abrasion standard, so making good protective product is at the core of their ideals.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★

www.bull-it.com

1000 MILES

Intralabs Citric Acid Crystals 2kg £8.99

Tested by Simon Relph, 2 months

This is one of those products where you think: "How I have never heard of that?" I was chatting to a mate about a tank I had bought for my 1949 Ariel Red Hunter. The inside was sound, but covered in rust. My mate said he cleans all his tanks with citric acid (100g per litre of water). So I tried it out and could not believe my eyes. It worked an absolute treat. It's cheap... I'm cheerful!

Quality ★★★★★

Value ★★★★★

www.amazon.co.uk

