

## 4 DXR Bernie £64.99 www.sportsbikeshop.co.uk

Not only are the DXRs the cheapest here, they are also extremely comfortable when first put on. Like most others, they come well over the ankle and feature an upper in leather that feels well-made yet lightweight and supple. The rear allows easy movement and when walking, they are comfy with the feet well located.

There is hard armour over the ankle bones though this felt out of position on the right-hand boot and there are solid toe and heel cups with double-layered leather forming a gear-shift 'pad'. On the bike, they feel just as supple as when walking with good feel for both the brake and the gear pedal.

As the ride went on, the hard armour over the ankles started to become noticeable but confidence was good and an amazing price.

However, the water test was their undoing; they began to leak very early and our feet were quite wet by the end. A shame.



▲ A good looking pair of boots that were comfortable

▶ Easy to walk and ride in though a bit stiff to lift toes



▶ Ankle protection solid but slightly out of place

### THE FACTS

**Upper** Full-grain leather

**Protection** Hard ankle, reinforced toe & heel cup

**Waterproof** ✓

**Membrane** ✓

**CE rating** 1-1-2-2

**Colour** Black, brown

### THE SCORES

**FIT**



**COMFORT**



**FEEL**



**CONFIDENCE**



**WATERPROOFING**



**Total** 36/50

## 3 RST Hitop £109.99 www.rst-moto.com

The RST Hitops were a reasonable fit, with a thin lining and supple material. The length was spot on though the width on one of the boots felt slightly narrow. However, this eased as the test went on, suggesting it would improve with additional breaking-in.

The ankles are protected by a large, padded circle with a smaller circle of harder armour but this isn't centred on the outer section nor on my ankle bones. They felt quite heavy with solid toe and heel cups and as a result, reasonably confidence-inspiring.

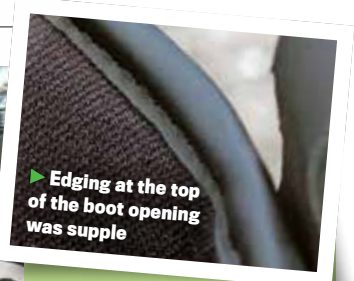
My heels also didn't feel very well located – they moved as I walked as well as riding and rucked up my socks. I could also feel the edges of the hard protection on the ankles as the ride went on. Feel was reasonable with the gear lever ahead of the edge of the toe cup.

In the water test, they did well with no real ingress and only a very slight damp feeling by the end.



▲ Overall fit was good, though they felt slightly narrow

▶ Protection good though ankle pads weren't central



▶ Edging at the top of the boot opening was supple

### THE FACTS

**Upper** Nubuck leather

**Protection** Soft/hard ankle, reinforced toe & heel cup

**Waterproof** ✓

**Membrane** SinAqua

**CE rating** 1-1-1-2

**Colour** Black, brown

### THE SCORES

**FIT**



**COMFORT**



**FEEL**



**CONFIDENCE**



**WATERPROOFING**



**Total** 37/50