1 LS2 Vector II £180 – £200

Ls2helmets.com

The LS2 Vector II is fairly typical of the brand's design – quite angular but with a middle-of-the-pack weight. It uses a huge optically-correct visor with adjustable posts for the included Pinlock Max Vision insert. The main visor is very easy to remove and refit, fitting to rotating three-pronged mounts on gear wheels. The helmet comes with an impressive array of accessories; the Max Vision Pinlock anti-fog insert, an inflatable ring to support it when changing the visor and a torx key, as well as reflective stickers.

Pulling it on, it slides effortlessly into place and instantly settles into a good fit with excellent comfort and a plush lining against the skin. It is not specifically prepared for spectacles but they fit fine, the arms reaching the ears. The sun visor, operated by a simple slider on the bottom-left edge, misses glasses too, though it does cast an LS2-characteristic lilac-blue tint across the view. This is excellent from the huge aperture and clear visor, but comfort is hampered by the chin strap, which our tester found was too far rearward, pressing against his larynx.

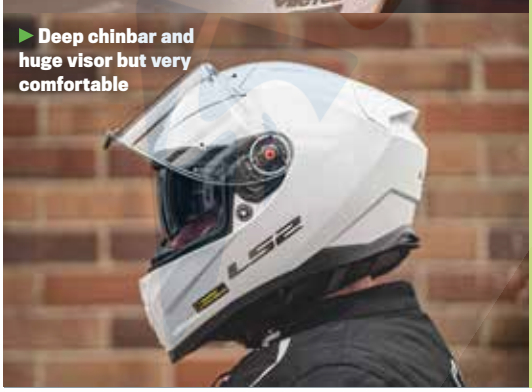
There are multiple vents; two on the chin and two on top of the head. The two chin vents are easy to find and use, even in gloves, though the two top-vent operating lugs can be tricky to find. The main visor latches closed for security and is easy enough to open although if in a hurry, it can be a little harder to find than others, because you have to press the release button to be able to lift the visor.

In use, the Vector II looks and feels the biggest here but doesn't actually ride like it. It is stable and doesn't get pushed or pulled around and the deep chin-bar doesn't interfere with shoulder armour on life-savers It does mean you may have to dip your head to look at the dash on bikes with a low-mounted screen, though.

The visor aperture is huge and vision is excellent, even if the instant blue colour-cast when dropping the sun visor takes a few moments to get used to. Venting is nice: the choice of two sizes of chin vents means a variety of options, although it's slightly annoying that one opens by pushing down, the other by pushing up. The top vents are also effective but they're noisy and tricky to operate on the move, particularly the right-hand one. Overall, a quality, well-made and well-specified helmet that feels great in use. And £20 less than the top-end of the budget.

RIDE MAGAZINE BEST BUY

◀ Angular design but stable in use



▶ Deep chinbar and huge visor but very comfortable

THE FACTS

Material	Fibreglass composite
Weight	1609g inc Pinlock
Fastening system	Ratchet
Pinlock included?	Yes, Max
Integrated sun visor?	✔
Removable interior?	✔
Quick-release cheekpads?	✔
Spectacles preparation?	✖
Intercom ready?	✔
Vents	4 front, 2 rear
No. shell sizes	6
Warranty	2 years
Sizes	XXS-4XL
Sound level, vents closed	105.6dB
Sound level, vents open	106.7dB

THE SCORES

Fit	8/10
Comfort	8/10
Ease of use	7/10
Venting	8/10
Noise	10/10
Total	**41/50**