

TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT



Classy looks and no turbulence at speed



The aperture offers a wide field of vision

1100 miles ON TEST

HJC C10 helmet £89.99

'The latest safety for under £100'



Tested by Emma Franklin for 1100 miles

All-new for 2023, the C10 is HJC's entry-level model and replaces the CS-15. It is the first sub £100 helmet to meet the latest safety standard (ECE 22.06), which all new helmets sold after January 2024 must meet. It's also ACU Gold approved for trackday use.

As entry-level lids go, the C10's a classy performer with excellent build quality, inoffensive styling, and ease of use. In terms of comfort, it's fit-and-forget – providing all-day comfort with nothing to cause any grumbles.

Internally, the C10 feels similar to an Arai in that it's fairly rounded and neutral, and, for me at least, there aren't any pinch points on the brow. The cheek pads are plump and haven't shown any signs of flattening after 1000 miles of use, so it gives quite a snug feeling overall – but in a reassuring way, not excessively tight. The fabric used for the interior is reasonably

comfortable against the skin – it's by no means scratchy but it's not exactly super-soft either. The cheek pads can be easily removed for washing via internal press studs.

One of my favourite attributes of the C10 is the super-wide visor aperture – 10mm wider than the helmet it supersedes. It provides an excellent field of view, both when sitting on upright bikes and also when tucked in on a sportsbike, too. The visor itself is Pinlock ready, although the C10 doesn't come with one as standard, which isn't unusual for a lid at this price point. I'd recommend getting one (£25) as the visor will fog without it, unless you ride with it slightly ajar – which the 10-position mechanism will allow, although it is a little stiff to open from this position.

I always ride with earplugs, but even so, this is one seriously quiet lid. I think the smooth shell shape and flush-fitting visor mechanism contribute to excellent airflow over the lid as there's no hint of noise from turbulence. The

C10 comes with a chin curtain as standard, which can be removed via internal press studs. However, it does fit quite snugly, so whilst it does contribute to the quietness, riders blessed with more than their fair share of chins may find they have to ride without it.

While we're talking chins, the C10 fastens via a micrometric buckle which is super easy, even with gloves on. Likewise the vents, one on the chin and two on the top, are highly effective and really easy to toggle.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
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PROS & CONS

- + Brilliant value, very quiet, comfortable, good ventilation
- Nit-picking here, but the visor is a little stiff to open

Micrometric fastener is a breeze to use – even with gloves – and feels secure



Effective venting but get a Pinlock insert