

TRIED & TESTED
 MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT
 ★★★★★

Drop visor is excellent and overall the Nexx is a pleasure to use

2500 miles ON TEST



Aggressive, street design is bold, but the X.WST3 works well

Nexx X.WST3 Fluence £359.99

'A great alternative'



Tested by Steve Herbert-Mattick for six months

I'm a long-time fan of Nexx helmets, having used them on-and-off since 2016. The feature-laden X.WST3 is the Portuguese manufacturer's latest street style product and includes a drop-down sun visor, quick-release cheek pads, built-in intercom and action camera integration, great ventilation, F.R.S fast release safety system and all-day comfort from its high-quality lining.

This is the third helmet brand since the introduction of ECE 22.06 where I've had to go up to a medium, having always been a small. The shell is slightly on the large side (there are three shell sizes covering eight helmet sizes). The silky-smooth, anti-allergy, anti-sweat, fully

removable and washable lining is super comfy. Six excellent intake vents promote great airflow. There are no pressure points, and while 1675g isn't exactly light, it's comparable to other, similarly-specced helmets on the market.

You get a clear visor as standard, plus a drop-down sun visor (each design comes with an iridium visor in the box). The visor has a generous aperture providing a wide field of vision, comes with a mist-free pinlock, and a ratchet opening so it can easily stay open for extra airflow on the move. The drop-down sun visor gives full coverage with no disruption to your eyeline or distraction in your peripheral vision, although as with all drop visors it is prone to misting.

I don't love the visor change – it's a little on the fiddly side, but it does pull the visor nice and tight to the shell.

Riding with earplugs the Nexx is comfortably quiet, but I prefer it with the optional chin curtain (included) fitted. Buffeting is minimal, helped by the EPS liner's new rubber trim to dampen vibrations at speed.

If you are riding with all the vents open in hot weather you'll notice the increase in decibels, but not uncomfortably so. Often with helmets designed to take an intercom the lack of padding around the ears (where the speakers would be) can lead to increased noise, but it's not especially noticeable here.

Everything about the Nexx feels quality. There's nothing loose or floppy. The lining is secure and vents operate well. That said, the chin vent switch acts as a 'winter dust cover' and it's fallen out twice – once on the move when, luckily, I caught it. The chin strap is also long, which can

sometimes make threading it through the double D-rings tricky.

Loaded with useful features and a great experience when riding, the Nexx is competitively-priced. The bold styling and aggressive appearance might not be to everyone's taste, but this form has function and barring a couple of very minor niggles over the chin vent and strap length the whole unit functions exactly as it should.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.nexx-helmet.co.uk

PROS & CONS

- +** Comfortable, great airflow, large aperture, sun visor
- Fiddly strap, mouth vent cover pops off easily



Chin strap seems excessively long



Quick-release for emergency services