

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

For the price it's hard to ignore (as are the graphics)

**500 miles ON TEST**



Plenty of vents, shame they don't achieve much

**MT Targo S £89.99**

# 'Quality lid, budget price'



**Tested by Ben Clarke for six months**

You've probably seen disruptively cheap helmets from Spanish firm, MT, on offer through UK retailers and assumed that they're not for you – which is pretty much what I used to do, too. Well, think again.

The Targo S meets the current and tougher than previous ECE 22.06 regs and I have no qualms about putting it on my head, despite its price. Its predecessor, the 22.05 Targo, was awarded three Sharp stars but other new lids in MT's 2024 range have managed a full five.

I deliberately chose this bawdy paint job (yes, really) because cheaper helmets will often attract a younger and less inhibited customer who may fancy a brasher option. It may not be to my taste, but it's well-executed and the matte finish gives it a quality look.

Away from the graphics I chose, the Targo S is a good-looking helmet with a sporty

silhouette complete with an obligatory rear spoiler. Even the inexplicably blue interior – which prompts almost all who pick it up to say, "oh, it's blue," – has grown on me.

I've often found that cheap lids give themselves away by the noise they let through at speed. It's a bit like the way a quality car can be detected by assessing the thud you get when you close a door.

This isn't the case with the Targo S, though, which is so quiet at motorway speeds I had to change the settings on my noise-cancelling earbuds to let in more ambient sound.

The only place you feel that they've pinched the pennies is the visor. The mechanism is notchy and flimsy and has no option for opening 'just a crack' which would be handy because without a PinLock fitted the Targo S steams up a lot. This is probably linked to the ineffective ventilation which has left me hot and sweaty even in temperatures below 15°C.

The general wisdom is that you should buy

the best helmet you can afford, but as with all motorbike kit, more expensive doesn't always mean better. The MT Targo S certainly backs this up and punches well above its weight, which at 1550g on my scales is considerable.

The bugbears wouldn't put me off buying one because the positive of the price far outweighs the negatives. Whether you're shopping for a helmet of your own on a budget or just looking for a cheap pillion lid that will do the job, this should go onto your shortlist.

**Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★**  
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## PROS & CONS

- +** Incredible value for money, striking graphics design
- Poor ventilation, visor mechanism, quite heavy

**There is no option to just crack the visor to clear fogging in bad weather**



Micrometric strap offers easy adjustment