



TEXTILE BUYER'S CHECKLIST

What style do you want?

- ☐ Practical all-weather commuting
- ☐ Adventure with separate waterproof liner
- ☐ Waxed cotton
- ☐ Softshell
- ☐ Mesh
- ☐ Casual-style

Fit and comfort

- ☐ Stretch your arms out – is there a gap between your gloves and the sleeves?
- ☐ Is it comfortable to walk around in?
- ☐ Does the armour sit correctly on your limbs?
- ☐ Is it comfortable on the bike while wearing your boots, gloves and lid?
- ☐ Do you have room for any changes in your weight?
- ☐ Can you fit any other clothing you like to wear underneath?
- ☐ Is the fit adjustable when you have fewer layers underneath?
- ☐ If you wear an airbag, does it fit with room for expansion?

Pockets

- ☐ Can you fit everything you carry in easily?
- ☐ Can you access the pockets with gloves on?
- ☐ Are the pockets secure?
- ☐ Would you lose anything if you forgot to close one?
- ☐ Are the pockets you'll use waterproof?
- ☐ Sit on the bike with your stuff in the pockets

Main zip

- ☐ Is the zip easy to operate, or does the lining catch in it?
- ☐ If you'll ride in the rain, is there a storm-flap?
- ☐ Is there any chance of the zip scratching your tank?

Safety

- ☐ What level are the jacket/trousers tested to; A, AA or AAA?
- ☐ How big is the armour – does it cover you properly?
- ☐ Does the armour stay where it's meant to be when you're on the bike?
- ☐ Is there any adjustment in the knee armour's position?
- ☐ Is the armour comfortable when you walk around?
- ☐ Is the armour comfortable when you're on the bike with your gloves, boots and helmet?
- ☐ Is hip armour included?
- ☐ Is a back-protector included?
- ☐ What level is the armour tested to; Level 1 or Level 2?

Ventilation

- ☐ Do the open vents let cool air direct to your body? Check with your phone's torch.
- ☐ Will the vents be blocked by a rucksack?
- ☐ Can you remove any thermal liner?

Warmth

- ☐ Is a thermal liner supplied?
- ☐ Can you fit your winter clothing underneath?
- ☐ Is the liner that touches your skin comfortable?

Waterproofing

- ☐ Laminated or drop liner?
- ☐ What's the hydrostatic head? 10,000mm is the minimum you should find, though the quality of construction is also important
- ☐ Can you seal your gloves around the sleeves?
- ☐ Can you seal the trouser legs around your boots?

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kit reviews at**
BikeSocial.co.uk

