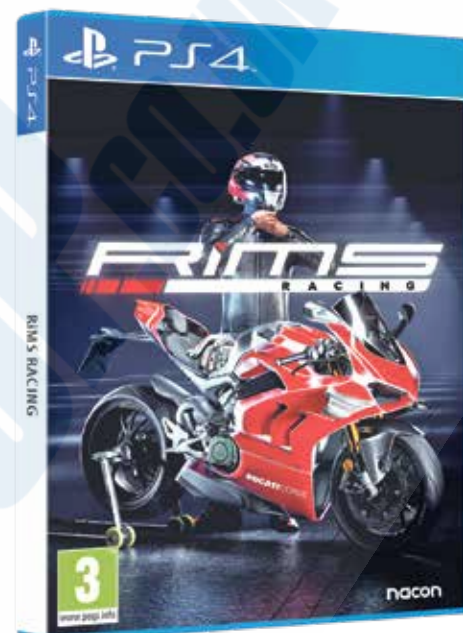


TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT

★★★★★

Don't want calls? It can always play your music, too



RiMS Racing (PS4) £39.99

'A realistic take on a racing simulator'

Tested by Dan Sutherland for one month



RiMS Racing could've so easily been like every other bike game; offering umpteen models from myriad manufacturers. However, they've taken a different route – with just eight bikes to choose from and a greater emphasis on the engineering aspects of performance riding. There are great graphics, realistic engine sounds and a number of iconic tracks to try your hand at. There are also over 500 bolt-on bits for your machine and it really gets you thinking about how your bike's set-up affects its performance. That said, it sometimes takes the engineering elements too far. For example, you have to manually remove and replace consumables like brake pads. I don't want to have to do this in reality, so I definitely don't want to spend my time doing it on a game. Great if you're fully invested, less so if you fancy a quick play.

ONE MONTH

Quality ★★★★★

Value ★★★★★

www.racewardstudio.com

Sena 50R £309

'It's a powerful communicator'

THREE MONTHS

Tested by Richard Newland for 3 months/3100 miles



There are some primary 'must-haves' for me when it comes to intercom units: The sound must be clear and loud (I wear earplugs); the buttons must be chunky; it must be intuitive to set up and use; and it must have a decent battery life. Audio integrity and button pressability aside, ease of use and battery are key for me, because I'm not an overly eager intercom user. But when I do actively use it – as opposed to it simply being 'on' in case someone rings – the 50R is impressive. I've previously used a Cardo Packtalk Bold, and I'd say the Sena is (marginally) the easier to use, and certainly better in the button department, while the Cardo's JBL

speakers do boast cleaner audio. In terms of functionality, it does everything from voice commands to app support, is Bluetooth 5 and Mesh 2.0 enabled, charges in just an hour, boasts an FM radio, and supports multi-bike Mesh intercom at up to 1.2 miles. Battery life is superb and the unit itself is compact enough not to feel like you've glued a brick to your helmet.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★ www.motohaus.com

PROS & CONS

- + Simple to set-up and use, clear and loud audio
- People can ring you when you're riding...



Pair it with your phone to use the very helpful App

Alpinestars T-shirts £24.99-£27.99

Tested by Ali Silcox for two years

Alpinestars' women's casual tops are made from polyester/cotton, which makes them very comfortable. I've worn a mixture and vests and T-shirts, which are great as a base layer and look smart off the bike. They've not the cheapest but have retained their shape and colour.

Quality ★★★★★

Value ★★★★★

www.alpinestars.com

