



» Forcefield Body Armour FREELITE BACK PROTECTOR

Forcefield Body Armour is a British company that focuses on light, but tough, protective wear for moto, snow and mountain biking. The Freelite Back Protector is a new addition to the company's expansive line of wearable body padding, offering a super-lightweight strip of focused protection only down the spine.

This nylon-covered CE Level 2 slab of honeycombed armor Forcefield calls DRI-M technology (Dynamic, Reactive, Intelligent-Material) is worn like a backpack, with stretchy, over-the-shoulder vertical nylon straps fixed to an around-the-waist elastic band joined via large hook-and-loop patch. The unit is height-adjustable, with a three-point fastening waistband. Sizes are S-M-L and run large (medium was fine for 6-foot-3, 38 waist).

The emphasis is on unobtrusive comfort, while providing an extra shield strip along the critical spinal area. What is great about this armor is that it can easily be worn under a typical motorcycle jacket that has armored shoulders and

elbows, but nothing down the back. The Freelite is so slim and stealthy that the jacket can be zipped up normally, and after riding awhile, you forget you have it strapped on.

The company says the Freelite has heat-activated, 3D body molding properties, but we didn't notice any formfitting through wear, à la shoe insoles. Thankfully, we also haven't been unfortunate enough to put the Freelite to the ultimate test.

Hopefully, riders never need the protection the Freelite offers, but like a good helmet or armored gloves and pants, it provides one more defensive shield in an area that should be second only to the head in protection priority. For the comfort, versatility and peace of mind, we recommend it. \$129 .

—Russell Evans

Forcefield Body Armour
forcefieldbodyarmour.com



and wore very well over multiple months of testing, while the perforated leather on the wrist allowed a fair degree of breathability at highway speed.

Capacitive touch with the index finger is hit or miss, since the stitching at the top of the finger panel often prevents the finger pad from lying flat on the device screen to actuate apps. Pulling the index finger back slightly inside the glove allows it to make better contact with the screen.

Although primarily designed for track use, the added degree of security is also

great for commuting duty. The useful range is 60 to 95 degrees, though in a pinch they can be used in colder conditions. They are not waterproof, which isn't expected for track gloves.

The Indonesian-made Scorpion SG3 MKII gloves offer a great deal of protective features and functionality, and are available in black, white or red, in sizes Small to 3XL. \$134.95.

—Moshe K. Levy

Scorpion Sports, Inc.
scorpionusa.com

