

# SIDI SDS DENVER WATER-RESISTANT BOOTS

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I've dropped the bike with the case tops unlatched and the Acme boxes didn't deform at all. I ventured into a mudhole one rainy day, entirely submerging my rear tire. When human power and pulleys failed, we attempted to raise the rear with a felled 6" diameter tree, using one of the Acme bags as a fulcrum. The branch broke, the bike didn't budge, but the luggage was undamaged. I called a friend with a big truck.

Despite my abuse, the Acme Moto 2 cases remain watertight thanks to a thick silicone rubber gasket bonded into a deeply molded channel.

For mounting, round acetyl pucks bolted to the inboard side of the case slide downward into key slots machined into the mounting plates. Cases are secured in place from inside by a stainless steel quick release pin, so once the lids are closed and locked, the bags cannot be removed.

The cases stay closed via beefy rubber catches borrowed from the 4x4 market, where rubber outperforms metal latches in the high shock and vibration environments. Two keyed-alike locks per lid keeps thieves out.

Acme Moto 2 is confident that their 5 mm powder-coated aluminum mounting plate will adjust to most rack systems on the market. The system adjusts 4" laterally, and 2 1/2" vertically, which allows the installed position to be optimized for rider preference.

A pair of 33 liter bags costs \$889.00 (as of this writing they on sale for \$755.64). Price includes everything you'll need: shipping, bags, mounting plate, and quality hardware; plus, a 15-day hassle-free return policy and a one-year crash damage warranty. After the warranty expires, all of the bags parts are field replaceable.

I've abused these boys for 18,000 miles, the locks still lock and the seals still seal. The AcmeMoto2 bags are still my favorite travel companions.

[www.Acmemoto2.com](http://www.Acmemoto2.com)

*Arthur Treff is a freelance power sports writer, MSF instructor and work in progress. As noted in the review, Arthur received the panniers from Acme Moto 2 for evaluation.*

Sidi's new SDS Denver Water-Resistant boots combine casual work-wear styling with the safety features serious riders expect. The exterior shell is constructed of top grain black leather which is fortified in the ankle, toe, and heel areas, as well as double-stitched for additional protection. The non-slip, deep tread rubber lug sole takes some walking to break in, but eventually becomes supremely pliable.

There are two modes of donning these boots: First, with the traditional seven metal eyelets and standard shoelaces, and second, with the more conventional YKK zipper up the inside of the boot uppers. The shoelaces are likely more for aesthetics than functionality, but each rider can decide what fastening method feels best to him/her. Either way, a pull tab on the rear helps the boots slip on and off easily. SIDI logos dress up the exterior on the back and outside surfaces, and a small patch of reflective material on the rear helps enhance conspicuity at night.

The interior is luxuriously padded with a soft fabric around the upper, while a vented polyester mesh lining allows the boots to "breathe" on long days. As their name implies, these Denvers feature a water-resistant membrane sandwiched between the exterior leather shell and the aforementioned internal polyester liner. The inner sole is removable for cleaning.

Out on the road, the SDS Denvers impressed me with their overall performance, so long as I was utilizing them as intended. Their primary purpose seems to be threading the needle between routine (mostly fair-weather) riding and outdoor activities,



without the appearance of traditional Mad Max motorcycle boots. Indeed, their informal styling allowed them to perform double duty on hikes or outdoor work incognito, where they proved to be very rugged and comfortable over my test regimen. Although not suitable for very long slogs during downpours like their Sidi Gore-Tex brethren, these "water resistant" Denvers stayed dry during short rides in light to moderate rain. Ultimately, at an MSRP of \$239.99, these Sidis represent a solid value for motorcycle riders who prefer the workboot aesthetic.

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