

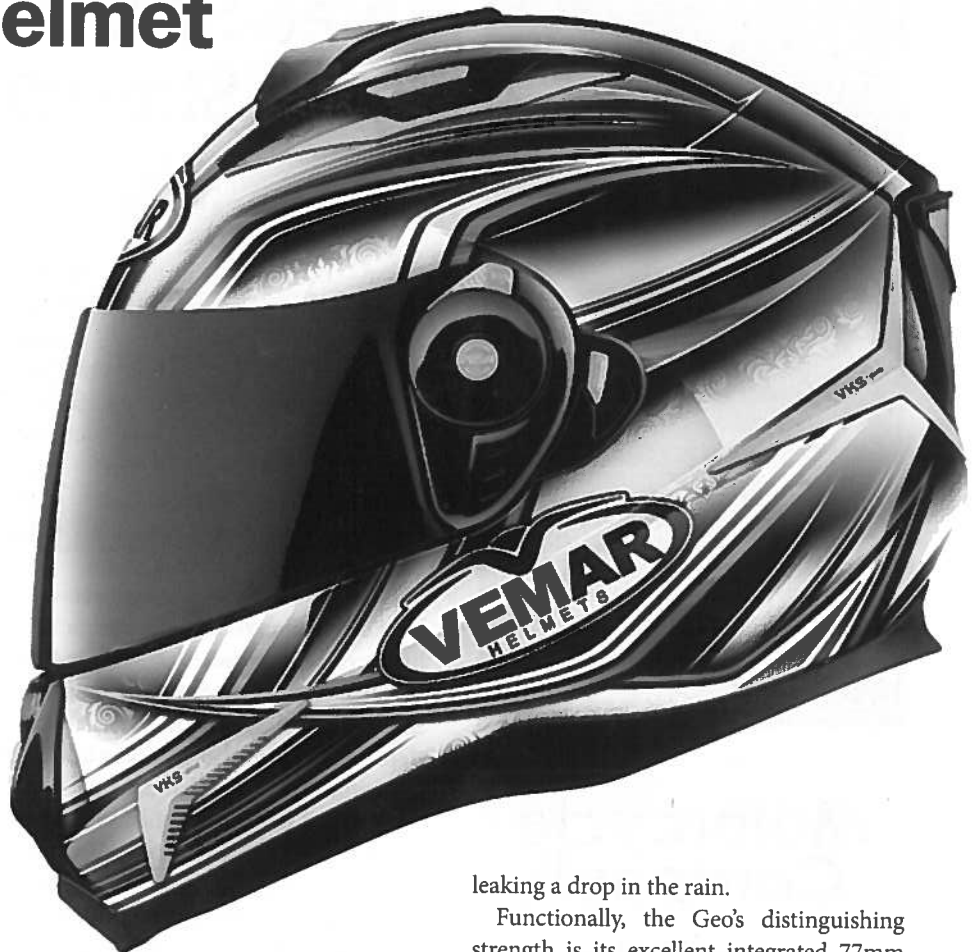
# Vemar Geo Helmet

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**BMW RIDERS ARE CELEBRATED FOR** their appreciation of safety gear, and for any readers shopping for a mid-priced helmet, the Vemar Geo deserves to be on the short list. The Geo differentiates itself from its competitors via several unique features, including a “tricomposite” shell (comprised of a carbon fiber/aramidic fiberglass blend, instead of the usual polycarbonate), distinctive vent styling, an optional flamboyant paint scheme and an exceptional integrated sun visor.

The first thing I noticed about the Geo was its rather provocative “Cruel Black” paint job, which has two ornate, shadow-gray tribal patterns running along the top of the shell, along with sweeping black, gray and white stripes throughout. The overall effect is rather busy, but solid colors are available for those with more conservative aesthetic preferences. All models have chrome-tipped grills on the air intake and exhaust vents, adding more bling to the presentation. The overall fit and finish are very good.

The interior opening is quite large and the removable/washable lining is of average plushness for this midline class of helmet. It proved durable and comfortable over months of testing, as expected. The interior head shape itself runs closer to “round,” a more neutral fit that should accommodate a fairly wide swath of the riding public. My head would be considered more of an “oval” shape, perfectly served by the old Arai Quantum F, for example, and yet I was comfortable in the Geo as well. I experienced no hot spots, even after hours in the saddle. It should be noted that the ear pockets are rather shallow – mock-installing speakers from my Chatterbox comm module led to some interference in on/off fitment, and this would only get worse with a rounder head shape than mine. However,



there was no space issue when using in-ear isolator speakers, such as Etymotic’s ER6-I, which sound exponentially better than helmet speakers anyway.

My size L (59–60 cm) Geo weighed in at 3.7 pounds, about average for this class. Likewise, out on the road, noise levels and ventilation were about average as well. The 2.2mm thick, anti-scratch and anti-fog face shield moves through three detents, each of which held up flawlessly against strong headwinds at extra-legal highway speeds. The detents take some breaking-in, however, and the shield does twist slightly as it’s moved up and down using its tab – a typical price to pay for the shield’s stability at speed. The sightline afforded by the shield is very good, and it always sealed tightly, never

leaking a drop in the rain.

Functionally, the Geo’s distinguishing strength is its excellent integrated 77mm sun visor, which is absolutely the finest sun visor I have ever tried on any helmet at any price. The visor is of a fairly dark tint as shown in the picture, and is easily actuated via a lever on the left side. The lever is glove-friendly, and the visor itself provides ideal coverage throughout the entire sightline – indeed, this is truly the gold standard helmet when it comes to sun visor design and execution.

The Vemar Geo is designed in Italy, manufactured in Vietnam, and meets U.S. DOT as well as European CE standards. It also carries a full five-year warranty, which is better than average for this class of helmet. Solid-color MSRP is \$275, while graphic models run \$295. The Vemar Geo helmet is available from Motonation. Visit [www.motonation.com](http://www.motonation.com) or call 619-401-4100 for more information. ☺