

Scorpion EXO-ST1400 EVO Helmet

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Scorpion's new EXO-ST1400 EVO helmet is an updated version of the company's EXO-ST1400. The original helmet's primary benefits of a resin-infused 3K carbon fiber shell and "Airfit" cheek pads (which can be rapidly inflated or deflated via onboard valves) have now been supplemented with improved optics on the main shield and internal sun visor, reduced wind noise, and a redesigned top ventilation system.

As before, the EVO's CAD-designed aerodynamic shell itself is constructed of a "TCT-U" 3K carbon fiber composite weave, which results in extremely light weight – just 3.1 pounds for our size L test model. Three shell sizes are available over the standard sizing range of S-2XL for a more precise fit. Styling is contemporary with very good fit and finish on our glossy carbon fiber test model. A three-position chin vent aims airflow either at the shield (to help prevent fogging) or direct to the face when fully opened, while another three-position vent at the front peak channels the airflow over the head before exhausting it through a passive vent on the helmet's rear. The standard clear face shield is scratch resistant, 95% UVA+B blocking, and anti-fog coated. An additional clear shield with Pinlock anti-fog insert is also included. An integrated drop-down tinted sunshield eliminates the need to swap sunglasses on and off during day rides.

The interior is plush for a helmet in this price class. Controls for the aforementioned "Airfit" cheek pads are

in front of the rider's chin and can be actuated with gloves on. The cheek pads themselves feature a clearly marked emergency quick-release mechanism, should the need arise. The KwickWick III anti-microbial liner is soft and luxurious, and the crown, cheek pads, and neck roll are all easily dismantled and fully washable. A removable "aero skirt" is also included to effectively block wind from blowing up into the chin area, for more comfortable cold weather riding (and reduced road noise, as an added bonus.) Large speaker cutouts beneath the helmet liner can be removed for even more room if desired.

To gauge the new EVO variant against the original EXO-ST1400, I ran both in a back-to-back comparison over 1,000 miles of backroads riding. The EXO-ST1400 EVO's subtle improvements resulted in a more satisfying experience, starting with the reduced wind noise. For this review, I had no way to objectively quantify the wind noise differences within the helmets, but I did record that listening to music comfortably on my Sena comm was a full two clicks lower on the volume scale using the EVO helmet versus the original design. This indicates a significant reduction in ambient noise within the helmet's interior, which also has the added benefit of extending my comm's battery life on long rides. Next up, a shield optics comparison. The original EXO-ST1400's optics were already very good straight on, but the new EVO shields offer slightly more clarity in the peripheral ranges, with less distortion



on the sides, even with both main and sun shields deployed simultaneously. As for the redesigned top vents, I could not detect any functional difference in air flow while riding.

Aside from these updates, much like its forefather, the EXO-ST1400 EVO performed very well on the road. The interior has a snug "intermediate oval" shape, not unlike the premium Japanese brands. Its light weight made all-day jaunts comfy, with no hot spots or sore points detected after many hours in the saddle. The face shield has solid detents which were effective at speed, and shield sealing against wind noise and water leakage was excellent. My only minor niggle involves the location Scorpion chose for the face shield actuator, which is located directly above the chin vent. As a result, it's very easy to accidentally toggle the chin vent while opening or closing the face shield. Eventually you get used to it, but with thicker gloves, it becomes harder to avoid. Moving the actuator a bit to the left would solve this issue.

Ultimately, between the carbon fiber shell, the Airfit cheek pads, and the overall functionality, it's clear the Chinese-made DOT-approved Scorpion EXO-ST1400 EVO is a compelling value proposition if you're shopping for a midline full face helmet. MSRP is \$429.85 in sizes S-2XL.

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Product provided by vendor for review