

SHARK SPARTAN GT CARBON

FROM £429.99 (COLOURWAY PICTURED £479.99) |

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**GEAR
REVIEWS**



In 1986, the Teston brothers created Shark helmets, their bid to tackle the sub-standard lids they'd worn throughout their careers as racers.

Their simple motto, 'design for a function', meant that every feature had to provide riders with a safer, more comfortable helmet. With this philosophy in mind, I couldn't wait to get my hands on the Spartan GT Carbon, the brand's entry into this group test.

From the outset, the Spartan GT impresses. The carbon/red/blue colour scheme has a stylish, retro look, and the entire ensemble has a premium feel that's reassuringly well put together. This high quality is further evident when I slide my head into the washable interior padding, which feels plush and proved comfortable over a 10-hour day in the saddle.

The Spartan GT is made up of carbon fibre and fibreglass shell over EPS foam, which is designed to provide a high level of protection in a light-weight lid. It weighs in at 1,440g, making it the third lightest on test. This is noticeable in the

saddle where it feels exceptionally well-balanced, with its aerodynamic spoilers and foils helping to keep it stable at speed.

The Spartan GT comes with a selection of handy features, including an internal sun shield which is easily operated with either hand. There is also a Pinlock insert in the box, and the visor features an ultra-soft notching system to allow you to crack it open in multiple positions.

Airflow from chin, chimney, and exhaust vents is good, although on very hot days I did find myself wishing for a little more.

9/10

ABR VERDICT

Comfort: 9/10

Weight: 9/10

Ventilation: 8/10

Value for money: 8/10

In a line: Comfort and quality combine in a strong performing helmet.