

# WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN MOTORCYCLE BOOTS

Motorcycle boots are an essential part of motorcycle safety gear because they protect the wearer from abrasions and broken bones. Road accidents are a common phenomena and one can never be too careful when riding a two-wheeler.

They're not often given due importance but boots must be made part of the list of gear to purchase. As we know, the legs are heavily used when riding and are instinctively put down if the motorcycle being ridden appears to be falling.

Ordinary shoes do nothing to protect the legs and feet from possible fractures and cuts so it's only logical that protective gear is purchased.

Like helmets, boots are of various types. Those engaging in moto crossing or professional off-roading events must wear specifically designed shoes which are hardier and more rugged than boots meant for street riding. The same principle applies to touring which will have features that make them comfortable to wear during long trips. Let's look at the distinctive characteristics of each.

**Touring boots:** Touring boots are flexible enough to be walked and ridden with. They may have waterproof features too. Leather, plastic and fabric are the three types of material used to make any motorcycle boot, including those for touring. Long trips on a motorcycle can leave riders tired and stiff. Touring boots help

minimize aches and pains by allowing wearers to comfortably walk and even jog by incorporating flexible soles and breathable uppers.

**Cruiser boots:** Everyday riding and the occasional road trip can be taken with a pair of cruiser boots. Similar to touring boots but with lesser protection, they nonetheless perform well if you don't plan to do some rough riding or miles of walking. If you're a road trip lover, ditch cruiser boots for touring boots. You'll spend more but save in the long run as they outlast cruiser boots.

**Motocross boots:** Riding over rough terrain can inflict havoc on your legs if you aren't careful, not to mention on your shoes. With motocross boots, you actually save money as they're made out of tough composite fabrics which last for a few years

Unlike touring and cruiser boots, however, motocross footwear is extremely uncomfortable for walking because the material is very stiff. So while it protects your legs excellently, don't bother trying to take a walk all geared up.

### **Ditch laces in favor of Velcro**

There's a reason motorcycle boots don't have laces: they're just too easily tangled. You may find buckles and will always find zippers. Velcro too is popular. When shopping for touring or cruiser boots, avoid anything with laces in favor of plain boots with a zipper at the side and straps to secure the shoe in place.

### **Look for boots offering weather-protection**

The same way you'd pick a waterproof riding jacket, do the same with boots.

There's no point protecting your legs if the inner parts of the boots get soaked.

You're likely to get weighed down and will have trouble riding. The same with boots that have no vents. You'll work up a sweat and build up a temperature.

### **Toe sliders are useful**

Boots with toe sliders protect the footwear from premature wear and tear which commonly occurs when touching down while cornering. They also provide some grip so your feet don't slide out from under you.

Motorcycle boots are an essential accessory that can prevent the user from injuries.

These boots come in various types and user can choose any one according to his comfort and need.

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