

# PROTECTIVE GEAR

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Last month, someone asked me to do an article on riding boots.

So, after a long conversation with Google, this is my thought.

Leather is my favorite but, there is no perfect answer.

When it comes to boots, leather is the cool one, the synthetics are hot. Leather is also water resistance but, once it is wet, it's wet and hard to dry.

Some of the synthetics have lots of holes to help with cooling, which allows water in, but they dry quicker, especially the Gortex type liners.

The leather holds up better than synthetics in abrasion test. The game changer in abrasion is plastic or metal inter-shields.

Riding boots incorporate these in as well as the inner-sole has steel or composite to give us support on the pegs like the running boards do.

Riding boots are the best choice but, can be expensive. Work boots are more economical but you need to re-search the components like steel toe and shank. Cow-

boy boots can be a good choice, they have great shanks in the innersole for the cowboy to standing up in the stirrups.

Pull on boot can be pulled off in an accident, lace up or zipper are better.

Whatever pair of riding boots you pick, they need to be boots over the ankle. The taller the better. The internet has a lot of convincing pictures of why you should wear boots!

Back to leather, it's hot when it comes to jackets but remember, they hold up in the abrasion test.

I have a cool jacket and love it. It totally lives up to the name. I'm more comfortable than just in a t-shirt.

Oh yeah, Gloves too. Remember to protect the corners, feet, elbows, hands and the head!

RIDE SAFE!

Lee

