



## Tested: EXO2 Heated Jacket

**One way to stay warm this winter!**

December 22, 2011 by: Andy Stevens

It still amazes me how few people know about heated clothing. The cold is a major factor in why people put their bikes away for the winter but if you wear the right kit, you can comfortably ride all year 'round.



The EXO2 StormRider Bodywarmer can be plugged into your bike's battery or powered by a rechargeable battery pack. This means that you can wear your jacket on windy walks, at football matches or give it to the wife when she moans about 'how cold it is in here'. Because of the portable nature of the battery pack the EXO2 range of garments are also bought by golfers, people into horse riding and hill walking...you get the idea. (As shown the EXO2 StormRider Controller unit is easily mounted on the handlebars.)



The EXO2 Bodywarmer doesn't use heated wires as 'elements' to keep you warm. Instead, it uses sheets of rubbery-like polymer material that when introduced to an electrical current conducts heat. Because of its construction, it self-regulates the temperature so it won't overheat. The fabric has a wicking layer and is windproof, it's machine washable and because it doesn't use wire it's compact. The red battery pack means you can also go cable-free when desired.

The StormRider costs \$199.99 and if you want the heat control unit, that's \$59.99. I've found the control unit useful for turning the vest on and off when needed but its natural max temperature is 122 degrees which has been the perfect temperature to keep me warm on the way to work in the thickest of frosts, so in all honestly I've not used it and don't think it's worth the extra cost.

An added bonus of the vest is that because it heats my core, I've not found the need for heated gloves. I wear it under my winter jacket with just a t-shirt underneath and no thermal lining. You can check out the products from EXO2 at [www.exo2.com](http://www.exo2.com).

