



Knog Qudos action cam lighting

\$149

The key to this product's design is its simple functionality, reminiscent of the action cameras it's designed to sit next to, such as the Sony Action cam or GoPro.

With variable brightness settings, to suit whatever you're shooting on the go, you can really get the ideal lighting on your subject. We tested this light in a few different places on the bike. For testing we used a GoPro Hero 3+ on 1080p.

Mounted to face backwards, we found the 'high' setting of the 'action sports' mode was too bright for the rider facing the light. The 'low' setting was less blinding but the 'ambient' and 'target spot' settings (which also both have a 'high' and 'low' setting) were better for flood lighting the general area.

When put onto a helmet mount next to a GoPro, the Qudos felt just a little too heavy to comfortably ride with. However, when mounted to the frame or handlebars, the weight was barely noticeable and you still got a well-lit, high quality shot.

A single button cycles between the different light modes. It is easy enough to operate with cold hands, underwater and with gloves on. Included is a Knog custom designed bracket to suit an action camera that is easy to adjust to get a great shot. You also get a cold shoe to fit into most DSLR flash mounts and a few other thoughtful inclusions.

One addition we'd love to see in the future, is the ability to pop on different coloured gels to change the light colour, as it is a stark white light that gave the subject a somewhat clinical look. A red gel would ensure you don't ruin your night vision when filming.

The availability of spare batteries is a great feature. While the battery life on this light is impressive considering how compact it is, if you're doing a few hours of shooting on the higher settings it's good to know you can have a backup on hand.

Overall, this is a rugged light with simple functionality that is perfect for illuminating night time action on or off the bike.

Review by Stu Moysey

More info and to buy, www.knog.com.au

RATING

85%

Function	36/40
Quality	32/40
Price	8/10
Appearance	9/10

Don't let the dark spoil your action cam filming.



Henty Wingman backpack

\$219

I was immediately impressed with the Wingman shoulder bag when it came out a couple of years ago. It perfectly protects a suit in a roll instead of a fold, provides a waterproof utility bag for toiletries and shoes and has outside pockets for all your personal effects.

What's more, it's cleverly designed to sit comfortably on the rider's back. All this in a tough, water-resistant, adjustable and good-looking bag.

This new backpack version will suit people who don't like the strap-across-the-body format of the original. The backpack straps provide a more secure position on your back, particularly with the waist strap as well. The new format also provides a sleeve for stashing a laptop of up to 15 inches and the suit hanger attachment is improved. On the bike, the Wingman backpack sits high on your back, obscuring a quick glance over your shoulder.

The secret skeleton of the Wingman are semi-rigid ribs to keep the roll from collapsing and crushing your clothes. On the outside, reflective piping improves visibility and there's a loop for attaching a bike light. It also comes with a bright-coloured rain cover that stashes away. A outside zipper reveals a nest of organiser pockets for your tablet, phone, book, headphones, keys, etc.

There are handles where you need them to haul your luggage through transit, and a separate strap for toting the utility bag to the shower or gym. Within a couple of uses you can tell the Wingman has been thoroughly prototyped, tested and refined.

I've used the original Wingman as luggage for a few short interstate trips by plane and coach. I love how it cleverly stashes everything I need and still qualifies as carry-on luggage for airlines. For an interstate funeral, the Wingman did a perfect job of transporting my suit and formal shirt crease-free, along with casual clothes and personal gear for a few days. Having carried a suit in a pannier for riding to a wedding, I can tell you the Wingman does a far superior job.

Review by Simon Vincett

More info and to buy, www.henty.cc

RATING

96%

Function	39/40
Quality	39/40
Price	9/10
Appearance	9/10

A peerless solution for carting formal clothes on a bike