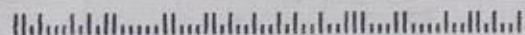


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BMW OWNERS NEWS

Sidi Crossfire TA

By Stephen Burns #111334

After breaking my leg last year while dirt riding on my GS in leather dual sport boots, I figured it was time to step up the protection in the boot department. I read and researched opinions, reviews, and articles on the ultimate dirt riding boot. Over and over, one name kept coming up: the Sidi Crossfire TA.

The Crossfire's rigid heel is anatomically shaped for maximum protection and my size 12 feet fit perfectly into the size 46 boots, feeling comfortable and secure. The tip of the toe is covered with plastic to protect the base material from abrasion. There are plastic shift and brake lever guards on the top of each foot area. The four cam-lock buckles are adjustable and can be set to a memory-custom fit. The calf area can be expanded up to 22 inches by removing a few screws

from the heat shield for those who wear large knee braces. My Rev'it Dakar pants zipped up over the boot with a little coaxing.

Many people ask whether to get the TA or SRS model. SRS or Sole Replacement System is \$50 more, has a much stiffer sole, and is designed for intense motocross. The TA sole is much more comfortable to walk in and the sole can be replaced by a cobbler. The TA is recommended for GS riding. Sidi has moved away from the bootie design of other dirt boots to cut down on bulk and heat retention. They've integrated a top grain leather base material with breathable Lorica being used in the tongue area and a fast-drying Cambrelle lining. There are no claims of these boots being waterproof, but so far they have been water-resistant. There are many replacement parts available for these boots including the main hinge, inner kickstart/footpeg guards, buckles and soles.

I adjusted my gear shift lever up a notch on my R1200GS to provide better shifting for the large boot, but after a day of riding I moved it back to the normal position. The up and down ankle shifting motion loosens up after a while. Standing on the bike, I felt planted as the boots gripped the pegs well as I climbed through the dust and bumps on Mount Madonna Road. These Crossfires are going to enjoy the ride to Copper Canyon next year and many more adventures to come.

The Sidi Crossfire TA boots retail for \$425. They are available in black and white, sizes 7-15. They are available online at MotoNation, www.motonation.com

or Toll Free (877) 789-4940.



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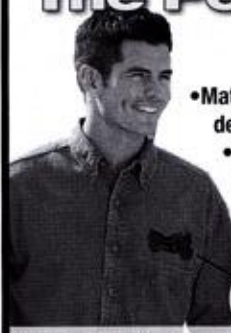


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