



Grouptest

Cycling cameras

Video footage lets you share your favourite cycling moments, either for fun or use as evidence after a road incident. **Guy Kesteven** tests four cameras



GUY KESTEVEN

As well as being a prolific bike tester, Guy has created route guides and videos for Cycling UK. His own YouTube channel is GuyKesTV

Today's action cameras produce better quality video than ever and are increasingly easy to use. So it's no surprise that more and more cyclists are fitting them to their bikes. For some it's a way to record ride highlights to post online (vlogging). For others it's a way to capture the low points of the daily commute – those all-too-common occurrences of bad driving. (In any road incident, one of the first questions the police will ask is whether you have video footage.)

Wading through tech specs and marketing claims to work out what sort of camera will best suit your needs can be hard. As you'll see from this test, some models fall well short of expectations when it comes to real-life use. To give you an insight into what to look for and what to avoid, this test features cameras from different categories: front and rear safety cameras, a classic action camera and a micro camera.

It would take another article to explain how to edit and share camera footage but it's worth noting here that video files require a lot of storage space. If there isn't enough on your home computer (or, potentially, your phone), you'll need to consider an external drive or cloud storage.

Details

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

1 Looping footage

Safety cameras need to have looping footage that automatically captures crashes or can easily be accessed/edited to see close passes and so on.

2 Extra features?

Combining a light and a camera sounds like a good idea for safety but it's often more expensive and lower in performance than separate items.

3 Resolution

High resolution (e.g. 4k or 5k) is great

for TV/big monitor replays but 1080p is good enough for most safety incidents, where number plate visibility is the key aspect.

4 Settings

Lots of recording options sounds impressive until you get lost in endless scrolling menus or accidentally select the wrong settings. Simpler can be better.

5 Mounting options

Make sure the mount options and size/weight of the camera enable you to put it where you want.



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