

Need Some New Motocross Goggles?

Buying a new pair of motocross goggles isn't rocket science. They're basically there to keep lumps of dirt and rocks from getting wedged in your eyeholes. There's four things you need to consider when looking at motocross goggles -

- Vision

- Fit

- Durability/Quality

- Tear off/Roll off system

Vision

If possible take your helmet with you when trying on some dirt bike goggles. Do the goggles give you good peripheral vision? Does the top of the frame get in the way when you've got your head down while you're looking forward?

Fit

A good pair of motocross goggles should fit nicely against your face and the frame of the goggles need to fit into the eyeport of your helmet. Check that the foam is thick enough and feels comfortable against your skin. Some have multi layered foam with a soft towelling layer which is supposed to draw sweat away and stop that annoying droplet of sweat running down the inside of the lens.

The goggles should stay put on your head and not slide down and pinch your nose.

Durability/Quality

You're going to be annoyed if you fork out the best part of a hundred bucks for a pair of dirt bike goggles and they look like crap after two or three rides. Ask what type of goggles your riding buddies use and what they think of them, you'll get a much more straight up answer than listening to the marketing hype of the companies that make the dirt bike goggles. Look for finishing touches like whether the strap has silicone beading to stop it slipping on your helmet.

Tear off/Roll off system.

This probably isn't much of a factor if you're trail riding but if you're racing you'll need some sort of tear off/roll off system. Tear offs work well for motocross because of the shorter time you're racing but if you're doing longer events like enduros or cross country then roll offs are probably the better choice as a roll of film will last a long time.

What sort of vision system do the goggles you're considering use?

Like I said earlier, choosing motocross goggles isn't rocket science, mostly it can come down to looks and how much money you've got in your pocket.

Scott goggles have been around for a long time and Scott were actually the first company to make goggles specifically for motocross back in 1970. I've had quite a few pairs of Scott goggles and never had a problem with them.



Spy goggles have been in the motocross market for a few years now. Some of the biggest names in American motocross wear Spy goggles. I was wearing Spy goggles for a couple of seasons and although I don't think they were as high a quality as Scott goggles, they're a decent product.

Smith goggles are very popular here in Australia amongst enduro and cross country riders. I've never had much to do with them myself but because of their high quality roll off systems and innovations like fan forced goggle ventilation systems (I'm not sure how well they work!), Smith goggles have a big share among the top companies that manufacture dirt bike goggles.

Dragon goggles have been popular in snowboarding and their sunglasses are a big player in the surf market but they've only been in the motocross goggles market for a few years. They've been spending plenty of sponsorship dollars here in Australia with some of the country's top MX riders wearing Dragon goggles.