



# Here's a cool way to cover your butt

## NEW JEANS LINE: Kevlar, Keptotec linings cut down on road rash

There's a new kid in town and his aim is, quite literally, to save your butt.

James Ford-Hutchinson is the man behind a brand new line of Kevlar- and Keptotec-lined jeans that will arrive in the Greater Vancouver market within the next two weeks.

Ford-Hutchinson is the president of Undercover Jeans, which are manufactured right here in Canada, and his motto is: You don't need to sacrifice safety for style.

Let's face it, those of us who ride know fairly well that regular denim provides very minimal abrasion resistance in the event of a slide — it's not nearly enough to save your skin with any real effectiveness.

That said, we're still guilty of throwing on the jeans when we're

too lazy to don the leathers or other motorcycle-specific textile protection, or when we're on our way to a destination (a restaurant, perhaps) where regular bike gear just doesn't cut it when it comes to the dress code.

Ford-Hutchinson began his motorcycle riding career just two short years ago, and quickly realized that not only did his regular denim make him feel vulnerable, but that the few pairs of abrasion resistant jeans he found still looked like bike jeans, with stitching visible from the outside. So, he decided to devise his own, testing Kevlar-based materials, sourcing denim and consulting with other jean designers.

"Many of the bike jeans I found had fairly small patches of Kevlar material sewn into them," said Ford-Hutchinson.

"What's nice about these jeans is the Kevlar lining covers the whole butt, runs from the hips down the sides, and has large patches at both knees. And I can walk around town and no one's the wiser."

For abrasion testing, a 70-kilogram test dummy was dragged by the feet over 100 metres wearing both Undercover Jeans and regular denim.

While a gaping hole was created in the denim of both pairs, no breakthrough was found in the Kevlar lining of the Undercover Jeans. See the test video for yourself at [www.undercoverjeans.com](http://www.undercoverjeans.com).

Available in both men's and women's fits, Undercover Jeans has begun to use a Keptotec material in the women's styles, a blend of Kevlar and nylon which has been found to be even stronger than Kevlar on its own.



If you're going to wear denim on a bike, you will be better protected with Kevlar or Keptotec linings.

"We tested many different Kevlar products before we found the one that was strongest, and we're now experimenting with Keptotec," said Ford-Hutchinson.

"Having nylon blended into the Kevlar material allows the material to stretch, making it, surprisingly, even stronger."

Disclaimer: While no denim product can provide the abrasion resistance of high performance motorcycle gear, those of us who insist on wearing denim around town, even

if infrequently, would be best served investing in some extra protection in the event that you dump your ride. Even at slow speed, concrete can bite through your jeans in a heartbeat.

Undercover Jeans are lined with a nylon mesh to provide better air circulation and are available in men's sizes 28-42 and in women's 26-38 with a suggested retail price tag of \$199.99.

Look for them soon at Pacific Yamaha/BMW on Westminster

Highway in Richmond (604-276-2552) and at Carter Motorsports' Granville Island location (604-736-4547).

Have fun, keep your butt safe, and if you'd like to see a product reviewed in future editions of Hot Wheels please contact Corrie Miller at [corriemiller@gmail.com](mailto:corriemiller@gmail.com).

Check out *The New Driver's Seat* on Sundays at 1:30 p.m. on A-Channel and catch Corrie weekdays on the *Bro Jake Show* on Classic Rock 101.

### Corrie's Calendar

**March 11** — Annual Daytona Race Party featuring appearances by Canadian Olympic gold medalist Ross Rebagliati, B.C. Lions alumnus Sean Millington and great prizes. All proceeds to Balding for Dollars for the B.C. Children's Hospital. Tickets at bike shops all across the Lower Mainland and at the door.

**April 14-15** — Westcoast Custom Motorcycle Show at Tradex, Abbotsford.