



# THE FIVE HARDEST HOOPS ON THE MARKET

The winter tyres we tested on broken glass. It was a bad day to be an inner tube!



OVERALL  
7  
10

## CONTINENTAL GATORSKIN 242G (25C)

### ▶ WHAT THE MAKERS SAY

The UK's most popular road tyre – fast, with a durable construction. A Duraskin external mesh make these the perfect high-mileage winter tyres.

### ▶ WHAT WE SAY

Low weight pays dividends, allowing these to spin up to speed quickly. Among the grippiest here, they still lag slightly behind Continental's race range, despite being

fairly pricy. Picking up a single puncture, a couple of big gashes eventually led to us junking one tyre, although the puncture belt did a good enough job to let us roll home first.

📍 £38 🌐 [cambriantyres.co.uk](http://cambriantyres.co.uk)



OVERALL  
7  
10

## PANARACER RIBMO 347G (25C)

### ▶ WHAT THE MAKERS SAY

Embedded technology means you can enjoy a tyre that's fast and light without compromising on toughness. The ultimate all-year, all-round tyre.

### ▶ WHAT WE SAY

What these chunky brutes lack in speed they make up for in hardwearing, multi-terrain ability – great for muddy spring roads or venturing off

the beaten track. The soft and surprisingly grippy rubber sustained multiple cuts in our test without relenting, although a single shard finally saw one tyre completely deflated.

📍 £33 🌐 [zyro.co.uk](http://zyro.co.uk)



BikesEtc  
BEST VALUE

OVERALL  
9  
10

## LIFELINE PRIME ARMOUR ROAD TYRE 301G (25C)

### ▶ WHAT THE MAKERS SAY

Speed, traction and puncture protection for high-paced road cycling in challenging conditions. Tyres that are a fast-rolling choice in any weather.

### ▶ WHAT WE SAY

Not a bad riding choice by any measure, Wiggle's own-brand tyres also leave plenty of change in your pocket. Their compound is on the hard

side, which limits traction but helped them survive with a minimum of cuts. Despite picking up a single puncture, they gave every impression of being a very robust and capable option.

📍 £14 🌐 [wiggle.co.uk](http://wiggle.co.uk)



OVERALL  
8  
10

## SCHWALBE DURANO DD 291G (25C)

### ▶ WHAT THE MAKERS SAY

DD stands for Double Defence. In addition to the RaceGuard protection belt, an effective fabric protector on the sidewall makes this one long-wearing tyre.

### ▶ WHAT WE SAY

Light, grippy and recognisable as a racing tyre, the Schwalbes lost no time in establishing themselves as our favourite tyres to ride on. During

testing they sustained a vicious gash that opened the tread up down to the puncture belt, which at least proved it's doing its job. A single puncture had us reaching for our patches.

📍 £38 🌐 [schwalbe.com](http://schwalbe.com)



BikesEtc  
BEST IN TEST

OVERALL  
9  
10

## ARISUN RAPIDE 321G (23C)

### ▶ WHAT THE MAKERS SAY

A great multi-purpose tyre for most conditions. The compound structure and arrow design tread creates greater traction, handling and stability.

### ▶ WHAT WE SAY

Not too sprightly, but capable of generating a decent level of traction, the Arisuns provide an acceptable ride for your £40. They survived our

torture test with barely a scratch, never mind a puncture. Try as we might, we just couldn't break them, leading us to conclude that they're seriously tough customers. Recommended.

📍 £40 🌐 [neocycling.co.uk](http://neocycling.co.uk)

