

PRODUCT REVIEW BY SAM WHITEHEAD

LET IT RAIN

H-D's Rainmaker Boot

WHAT'S COOLER THAN BEING THE MAN WITH the worst boots? I mean, you can't get more hardcore than owning the position of lead marauder: soaked to the bone, freezing, and loving it. Come on. All those pretenders with their Gore-Tex; their Thinsulate, plug-in Eskimo bombs; their triple-waxed titanium jumpsuits — whatever. They're usually the first to find a hotel, lean-to, or highway overpass when the going gets rough.

Far be it from me to brag, but I believe that arriving at your rain-drenched campground looking like a prune is an undeniable badge of courage. That is exactly why I was filled

with trepidation when handed a pair of H-D's Rainmaker boots (\$160). Did I want to join the legions of other watertight enthusiasts and turn soft?

As much as I'm loath to report it, the boots in question are top-notch. Full-grain leather uppers meld into the most heavenly patented ShockAbsorbers Twin Pad soles. They also feature a removable, dual-density, polyurethane, sock foot bed; lightweight, flexible midsoles; and Goodyear welt construction.



Anyone who digs zippers (that's not me) will be thrilled to find a heel-to-calf zinger running the distance. They're also about as cool looking as the H-D footwear line gets.

Truth told, I received these stompers shortly after I was run down by a car while walking on 105th and Broadway in New York City. As such, I haven't been able to put the miles on these boots that I normally would before weighing in. However, I can say that they were instantly comfortable, felt tough, and seemed solid.

One thing I left out is that the Rainmakers are 100-percent waterproof. I spent several hours (at different times, of course — I'm a busy man) standing in water up to the top of the boots, and never once did my feet feel wet. Nice. AIM

SOURCES

Harley-Davidson Footwear
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