



Trusted and vetted

Product Test Report.

PRODUCT

ASGARD MOTORCYCLE PLUS

Tester

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Report

1/1 (JUNE / JULY 11)

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Background

As a keen motorcyclist and Technician / Trainer for the UK Locksmith Association my interest has always been peaked by the many motorcycle garage products available on the market. I have also been asked by many colleagues and customers for information concerning the best security for motorcycles.

On the 11th of April this year my Triumph Daytona 675 was stolen from the drive way of my residence. My partner was asleep at the front of my premises with the window open and my dog was free to roam around my home neither they nor my neighbours heard a thing.

It was only the next day that I received a phone call from my partner that informing me of the theft (I had been working during the night hours). My partner was obviously distressed and had a heavy feeling of guilt that upset her greatly. I was obviously devastated and had severe feelings of nausea / anger / paranoia / anger / depression and anger.

The Police took the information needed to churn out the necessary C.A.D number but had very little interest in anything to do with helping me recover my bike to the point that CCTV covering my residence was not even looked at (this has been confirmed to me by a friend of mine that works for the Police service). After my insurance company told me that i would be receiving my cheque within 10 days I knew that of their experience there was no way I would see my bike again (they didn't even want me to wait two weeks before paying me out).

After buying a new bike the sleepless nights started every little noise, vehicle or groan from my dog resulted in me running to the window like a mad man when I was working night time hours my partner begged me to take my bike to a friends garage or to work with me as in her words "I can't go through having to you your motorcycle was gone again". When I went out in my car i would get a sick feeling and be constantly worried about the security of my motorcycle. It was then that I got in contact with Asgard / flexiform and spoke to Andy Heath about their product the Motorcycle Garage Plus.

I was always a believer that the best security you could have would be to cover your motorcycle with the logic that if they didn't know what was there they wouldn't bother to steal it. This is a falsehood "they" will see your bike on the days you wash it, the times when you drive off or return from your place of storage or when working on it. "They" I found the hard way live in your neighbourhood. "They" are extremely observant. "They" are extremely quiet. I also had received scratches from tiny particles on the inside of my cover (minute but scratches none the less) on the petrol tank. I won't even go into the pain of kneeling on the floor in your leathers in the rain to clip fabric cover to the bike.

The Motorcycle Garage Plus seemed to be the product to let me enjoy my motorcycle again. The other major benefit to the Garage was with the insurance. I am paying a little less now for a 6 month old CBR 600 RR than I was for a 4 year old Triumph Daytona 675 even after the total loss claim of the theft. This is as a direct result of the Asgard Motorcycle Plus This demonstrated to me that the product in Insurance alone would pay for itself in a few years not to mention the peace of mind.

Installation / Assembly

Ease of assembly (including accessories).

To start with the delivery of the product was fantastic. At the time of ordering I received an order confirmation with an ETA date. In fairness the ETA date did come and go but with a quick email I received a phone call within minutes organising a delivery date of a week later which was my earliest availability not theirs (this phone call was on the Wednesday they could have delivered the following Monday). I was also told that I would receive a phone call the day before confirming the approximate delivery time.

I received the call the day before delivery and was told the product would be delivered in the afternoon and given the direct line to the delivery driver should I get any problems.

The product was delivered at 1400hrs by two guys who not only helped / unloaded everything but gave me a few pointers on assembly and wished me luck. The delivery personnel were not only very professional but polite and pleasant with it.

Each of the panels were labelled by printed sticker detailing their position in the structure. This I found was a fantastic help the only slight confusion being working out if "Rear Right" for example meant the right hand side whilst facing the front or the rear of the product. This soon became obvious when looking at the instruction manual and seeing the parts description tallied with the labels, and the stickers sped things up greatly.

As per the companies recommendations I had a second person available to help with assembly and an electric screwdriver. Both of these things had been prior recommended to me and they are points that I'm very glad I listened to. The amount of screws used to hold each panel to the next from multiple angles was numerous giving great security and sturdiness however if you were using a manual screwdriver would have become tiresome and time consuming. I would recommend that if the consumer does not have an electric screwdriver to hire one.

The instruction manual was detailed however there are a few items that have been missed. The assembly and fixing of the ramp was not listed in any of the instructions and as such we only realised after construction and sealing that the ramp should have been fitted to the final floor piece before we attached it to the rest of the structure as a result mine is stuck in place by the weight of the garage and not fixed correctly. This does not seem to affect use at all.

I was extremely impressed by the fact that little items such as the silicone sealant were included with the product which made construction seamless. Other items like the spacers used for levelling the product were simple but highly effective and useful. I do have to state at this point that although I had plenty of spare self-tapping screws I was lacking 4 hinge screws which was frustrating.

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The product flew together and was very simple to follow the instructions step by step. It may have been sped up very slightly by the instruction to apply the channel covers at the point of joining two sections but this was a minimal inconvenience and not really an issue.

Quality of parts / fixings

This was the real pleasure of the item. From examination of every piece from hinge to panel gave confidence. The internet pictures and information really fail to give a real idea of the high quality of the product. The well thought out product design and high quality of materials used is extremely impressive.

The powder coating is of a high standard and very aesthetically pleasing as it the assembled product.

I loved the inclusion of accessories namely the shelve and the hook assembly simple items that transfer open areas into useful space.

The locking system came preassembled and attached to the door which I found fantastic. This ensured the security of the product would not be affected by a mistake in assembly.

The flooring that came with the unit was a real pleasure the height is perfectly lined up with all joining sections and the ramp. The fact that the flooring is wood gives good grip even when the tyres are wet and the well fit pieces do not slide under hard braking or movement of the bike inside the structure. If the consumer was unlucky enough to get an oil leak for whatever reason I would much rather remove the bike from oil soaked wood than try to remove it from oil covered metal. Similarly putting a wet bike into the garage would cause a wet slippery floor without the wood this demonstrated the attention to detail when designing this product.

The ramp on the internet picture is illustrated with a grip tape attached, mine did not (this will be covered in more detail in the in use product test).

Recommendations

- The assembly of the ramp to the structure to be included in the instruction manual at the correct stage.
- Part labels to tally up with part number as well as part description. This is not a major inconvenience but when unloading the sections and stacking them before assembly it would make life easier to be able to stack them in the order that you would use them.
- Instructions on fitting the channel covers to be included at time of joining the two relevant sections to save needless unscrewing and re-screwing panels.
- The inclusion to the instruction manual on how to fit the spacer pieces under the corners (we found the use of a shovel slid under the corner of the garage and used as a lever to lift the area worked very well).

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- All instructions to read from the same sheet including shelving, hook section motorcycle garage and motorcycle garage plus. Having multiple pieces of paper / manuals again was not a major inconvenience but when working outside in the elements one manual would have been better.

Conclusion

A very well thought out, well designed and well executed product. Confidence is given from the moment of installation. Aesthetically pleasing, strong, sturdy and produced to a very high standard.

Power screw drivers are a must in my opinion as well as a willing / bribed assistant.

Initial product test (visual / initial inspection)

Security

I was pleasantly surprised with the high product specification and the thought given to the product especially in this area.

- Hinges are externally visibly welded to the doors demonstrating high security.
- Four hinges per door giving rigidity and secure fixing for the length of the door.
- Hinges receive extra protection from attack in the form of framing attached to the door preventing crow bar attacks.
- 5 point locking system.
- High standard Zone half-euro cylinder.
- All panels are joined from a minimum of two angles creating a much higher resistance to crow bar attacks.
- Adjoining door overlap creating a much higher resistance to crow bar attacks and access to door locking mechanism.
- The locations of the 5 point locking mechanism ensures that if any one locking point was compromised there would be at least 2 points still in use.
- Adjoining panels over lap creating a much higher resistance to crow bar attacks.
- Fitted Euro cylinder was selected well ensuring that there was little overhang for "cylinder snapping" and a good anti drill system.
- Fully enclosed unit including the product base.
- Product attachable to the ground base using included bolts.
- All sections locks hinges and bolts are to a good standard.

No security device is impregnable. It is possible to steal even the crown jewels however stealing them without being caught is another thing all together. This product will not stop the most determined of thieves however I believe that the time and noise created would highly increase the likely hood of the thief being caught. For example using a mechanical grinder would make it possible to steal the contents of the garage however the noise, time and sparks created would greatly increase the likelihood of the perpetrator being caught. The key to remember is that unless you have Valentino Rossis Desmosedici in your garage the thief / thieves are unlikely to be after YOUR bike meaning if they have a choice of a R1 in the motorcycle garage plus or continuing looking until they find an R1 not in the garage I would put my

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money on the fact that they would continue the search. Most thieves are simple opportunists!

The additional lock that has been included for testing proves the quality of lock in use. The anti drill aspect is to a high standard and the fitment of the product ensures the chances of "snapping" the euro cylinder would be a very complicated job. The lock as any is pickable but again this is not going to be the process of your average Bike thief. The 5 point mechanism is a simple yet strong and resilient mechanism that is completely shielded by the door itself making a drilling and picking exercise almost impossible without detailed knowledge of the product.

Suitability of product

The product is exactly what you would want for a motorcycle garage. I would and have highly recommended this product. The garage has a wonderful balance of being aesthetically pleasing whilst looking like it has the security of Fort Knox. The double doors are plenty wide enough to ride even a second bike straight in to the garage. The unit is water proof even in the highest downpour (obviously excluding flooding) and ventilates well. Opening and closing the product takes seconds and the unit can easily contain two motorcycles. The motorbike is away from prying eyes protected from the elements and secure. You have no worries about high winds catching your bike cover like a sail or minute stones / grit rubbing against your paint work as you would with a well used material bike cover. You can chain your bike internally which in heavy rainfall is a luxury. If you forget to chain your motorbike on the odd occasion no one will know. Great for also storing bike related items oils, chain lubes, original indicators etc. Most importantly you are left with a feeling of security and confidence a good nights sleep at ease is a wonderful thing.

Areas of weakness / caution

Because of the internal hinge support brackets the hinges are by no means an Achilles heel however the exposed hinge pins appear from the outside to be a weakness. If the hinges were compromised the garage would still be secure however there would be a hassle to fix as the hinges welded to the doors and powder coated.

Conclusion

I am extremely happy with the product and get a better nights sleep knowing my motorbike is in the Motorcycle Garage Plus. I believe that fact alone is the best testimonial I could give. I simply wish I hadn't "bolted the door after the horse had fled"

Product test (product in use)

Security

This product has given me a great sense of security. I am highly aware when getting off my motorcycle and leaving it running whilst I open the garage doors to drive it in and vice versa when taking it out. This is just the thinking of someone who has been a victim of motorcycle theft and just highlights the fact that now I worry about my motorcycle when it's NOT in the unit. I do however wish there was an anchor attached but I have seen that this is an optional extra available from the Asgard website.

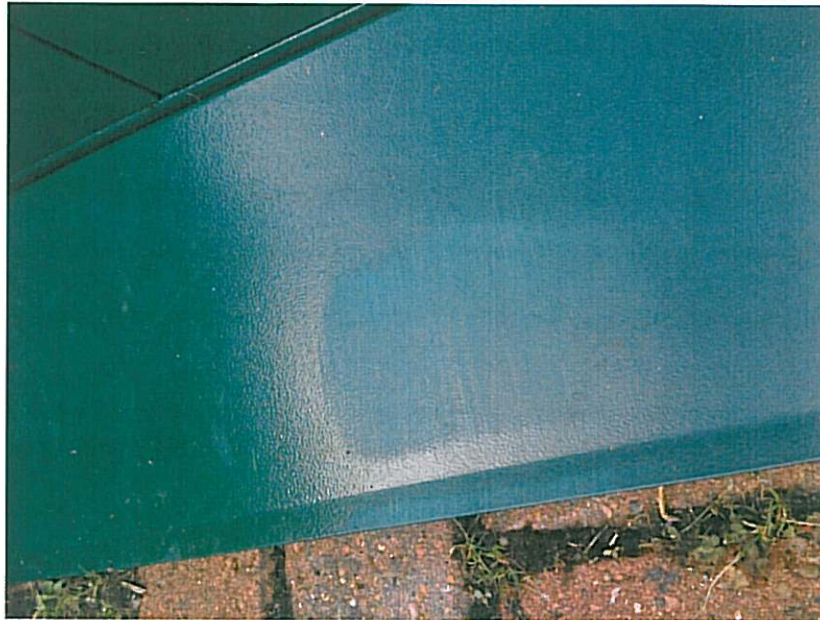
I have recently fitted the Response Electronics (known as Friedland in Europe (www.responseelectronics.com)) MA6 alarm.



We do a lot of business with Geoff Hayman the Director of response and are impressed not only with the products that they sell but also the customer service which we find second to none.

The MA6 is a fantastic product to go with the Motorcycle Garage / Plus. It is a Passive infra-red activated alarm with in-built 20 second delay and key fob activation. In simplistic terms it is an alarm that matches body heat along with movement to detect intrusion. Once fitted to the Garage a single press on the arm button of the key fob will set the alarm giving you a loud bleep confirming the alarm is armed and then giving you enough time to close and lock the doors. When you come to open the doors again you get another bleep telling you straight away that you have been detected but also 20 seconds in which to press the disarm button on the key fob. If no disarm signal is received a 90DB+ alarm is activated (After testing the unit the garage gives amplification of the already loud alarm).

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Needless to say I will be in ordering some self adhesive grip tape to attach to the ramp of the garage. Gaining entry to the garage is not my highest concern however if I walk my motorcycle backwards out of the garage on a frosty day and needed to brake with the front brake I could foresee my bike low siding on me causing damage.

The third area I have modified my product is the door. The doors themselves are not the issue and the problem is not a fault with the unit. The doors mounted on four hinges move freely in fact very freely to the point that when riding my bike into the garage the slightest wind could have disastrous consequences to my fairings. I had in stock spring loaded door fixtures that would combat this cheaply, quickly and effectively.



When the door is open by pressing down on the "arm" it will be held down by the spring and dig into the floor combating the door closing inwards. When you are done

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by simply flicking the product up with your toe the "arm" will flick back to the stowed position.

I do not have an exact price on this or even a supplier as it was something I had laying around but I would be shocked if they device came to more than a few pounds.



Sustainability / maintenance.

According to the manual maintenance should be minimal with cleaning and lubrication but this is an area that will be better covered in the following reports.

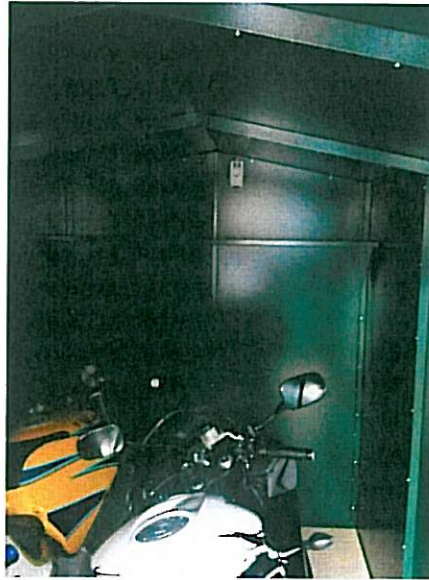
Conclusion

There are a few areas that could make every day life a little easier and more secure. I believe this would also be an area where extra profits could be made with the sale of optional extras for example the Response MA8 alarm that covers all of the benefits of the MA6 that I fitted but also has a second extension siren and magnetic component detection is currently selling for a reduced price of £7.95 (down from £37.45) to customers I believe that a wholesale price would be extremely favourable and a customer paying in excess of a thousand pounds would not balk at a minimal extra to boost their security. Geoff Haymans details are as follows I have taken the liberty of speaking to Geoff about this project and I am confident should you wish to contact him he would be very willing to explain all aspects of the mini alarms in his range.

Geoff.Hayman@ResponseElectronics.com 07836324817

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If both buttons on the key fob are pressed at the same time for 2 seconds the alarm will also sound this is a great feature to stop or draw attention to hijackings.



Fitment of the alarm was easy using one of the already in use screws and took around 5 minutes including fitting the batteries. I have included Geoff's contact details should you like a demonstration / demonstration model or more information on the product.

Usability / Suitability / Recommendations

The product is a fantastic product however I do believe there are slight possible improvements that have come to light only through daily use of the product. The first as I touched on earlier is the need for grip tape on the ramp. In the dry this is not an issue and in the wet it can be fine as long as your back wheel hits the ramp moving.

I have been asked to test this product and do not take this task lightly so on my first wet day I made a point of stopping the wet back wheel just before the ramp and then using the throttle to GENTLY roll the bike in to the garage.

Although this is not the ideal it IS something that is likely to happen at some point in the life of the product.

The back wheel predictably span freely spinning on the spot. I was expecting this and so it was not a problem however if it caught you off guard it could well be especially with an older user or a heavier bike. The only way I could enter the garage was by rolling the motorbike back-wards and gaining momentum before hitting the ramp.

The "burn out" happened at a very slow speed with very little perceived friction in the form of grip for a maximum of a second. However it was enough to wear a patch in the powder coating covering the ramp which in time I'm sure will get more evident.