

RENTHAL ULTRA TACKY LOCK ON GRIP REVIEW

OCTOBER 19TH, 2015

By [Andrew Dodd](#) in [Reviews](#)

Product Full Name: Renthal Ultra Tacky lock-on grip

Retail Price: £24.95

Available From: [Ison Distribution](#)

THE ULTIMATE HANDLEBAR GRIP FOR UK RIDERS

Whilst handlebar grips are a contact point and therefore subject to personal preference, the brand new Ultra Tacky lock-on grips have a truly outstanding feature compared to all other grips that everyone can benefit from – they remain grippy when wet.

We've been riding two prototype sets for about 17months now, and haven't found anything that come close in level of grip. If you ride bikes in conditions similar to the UK – you probably want to read our [Renthal Ultra Tacky grip review](#)...



The Renthal Ultra Tacky grip may look similar to the other lock-on grips in their range, but it's totally different by feel.

THE DETAILS

Sharing the same file tread pattern as the five other grips in the Renthal range, the new Ultra Tacky are the softest and most comfortable of the lot – and have a very, very sticky feel to the touch.

Only available in the lock-on design, the Renthal Ultra Tacky grips measure 130mm wide, with 110mm of actual grip width and a 30mm diameter. Unlike ODI grips, the collars are part of the grip – and they come with end plugs that snap in place.



A week old Renthal Ultra Tacky lock on grip at the top, and a 17month old prototype below. The old grip feels every bit as grippy, and still absorbs a lot more trail buzz than many brand new grips.

Whilst a similar tread design can be found on various other grips on the market like the classic [ODI Ruffian](#), nothing out there even comes close to the exclusive sticky compound found on these grips.

The rubber shares similarities with those [sticky rubber balls](#) you had as a kid – the kind that you threw at the window and watched them slowly roll down. And just like those rubber balls, the stickiness gets rejuvenated when you clean the grip with water.



The prototype grips have had a long paper round – they're battered and the bolts are rusty, but they're still used constantly. I have no reason to remove them until they finally wear through.

The rubber is also very soft by feel – and accordingly very absorbent of trail buzz and vibration.

OUT ON THE TRAIL

I've been running two pairs of prototype Ultra Tacky grips since May 2014, and quite simply they have made every other grip I've tried in the meantime feel tough and not that grippy by comparison. Especially when riding *sans gloves*.

Ian Collins from Renthal asked me to test the early sample grips as he knew I liked to ride without gloves – when he told me they get grippier when your hands get sweaty my ears pricked up. He described the rubber having properties similar to the ear stems on [Oakley glasses](#), which also grip fast when you sweat.



These Renthal Ultra Tacky grips have been on the bike for a week and are instantly comfortable. There is no bed-in time needed – just instant sticky grips.

I tried the grips without gloves at first – Ian is absolutely right. They are the stickiest grips I've tried, and they really do stay grippy when wet or sweaty. No more rubbing hands in the summer dirt for traction.

This is a revelation for me as I love the contact of bare hands on grips, but do suffer from sweaty hands on warmer days, and slippery hands on wet days. The Renthal Ultra Tacky grip has completely changed that.

But what about with gloves?

Same thing. Gloves adhere to the surface just the same, and when wet stick to the grips like leeches – and this really does help on rough trails as you can relax your grip substantially. Obviously if you sail over the bars and your gloves are covered in mud, things are still a little slippery – but the compound definitely helps, which means if you're a racer of any kind then you'll probably see some benefits to these grips.

The only real issue I've found with the grips is when they get dusty, grip is reduced. But dust on these shores is easy to find as the end of a rainbow – and simply getting them wet makes them grippy again.

WE SAY

Handlebar grips are a personal thing – the diameter; tread pattern and even if you like the feel of a regular grip or lock-on design – but if you like any of the above associations with this grip, you really should take a look.

Nothing else on the market even comes close to the grip these things offer, and as far as I'm concerned this is the best MTB handlebar grip available – especially if you like riding in bare hands.