

AEROSTICH RIDERWEAR UTILITY

PANTS OWNER'S GUIDE

1. INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your choice of Aerostich Utility pants. Your Utility pants offer the fit and comfort of traditional jeans-cut styling, combined with the rugged, all-weather protection of Cordura® GORE-TEX® fabric, making them an excellent choice for riding, as well as everyday activities. To receive the best performance from your Utility pants, please read this owner's guide. Call us at (218) 722-1927 if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions.

CAUTION: Cordura® fabric melts at about 450° F. Contact with superheated exhaust components may damage the fabric.

POCKET SAFETY WARNING: Tools, cameras, etc. carried in your pockets can injure you during a crash. For safety, do not carry hard or pointed objects in the pockets.

LEGAL NOTICE: These garments are not considered to be personal protective equipment as defined in, or within the scope of, the personal protective equipment (EC Directive) regulations 1992 (S.I.1992/3139). No liability will be accepted arising out of these garments' non-compliance with such regulations.

2. ABRASION INFORMATION

Your Utility pants are not designed to be used as a substitute for heavy leather pants. However, this lightweight fabric outperforms denim, ordinary synthetics, and fashion weight leather. Low speed crashes will usually only scuff the fabric, but as speeds exceed 30–40 MPH, repairs may be required. Pants should be returned to us for examination after an impact or abrasion.

Cordura® fabric is very strong, but it differs from leather in several important ways. Cordura® is more “slippery” than leather, so you may slide slightly farther in a crash, but roll and tumble less. The optional hip pads will increase the pants' crash protection.

3. BREAK-IN

Initially, you may find the fabric feels a bit stiff. Riding several hundred miles will help soften and break in the fabric. Laundering will also shorten the break-in period. (See section 10, Laundry and Care.)

4. SIZING AND FITTING

Utility pants are offered in even waist sizes 30" thru 46". Sizes are generously cut to maximize freedom of movement, to permit the use of the optional hip pads, and to allow for layering in colder conditions. Custom length alterations are available.

5. WATERPROOFNESS

The GORE-TEX® Cordura® fabric that your Utility pants are made from is one of the most waterproof materials available. Inside, all of its seams are factory sealed using Gore-Seam® heat applied tape. Nevertheless, there are compromises in the design that may limit the ultimate waterproof performance. The front fly zipper is protected when worn underneath a Darien jacket, but if the Utility pants are used with a shorter jacket, this zipper may become exposed to rain.

Fabric care is important for maximum comfort in severe conditions. To help your pants work best in the wet, or after long use and multiple laundering, use a wash-in repellant like Nikwax® or spray its exterior with Scotchgard® or a similar product. For most riders, about half a can of one of these spray-on products, applied every year or two, will prevent water from saturating the outer weave of the Cordura. This makes the pants lighter, drier, and more breathable in wet conditions. Just as water beads on the surface of a waxed car finish, treating your pants helps water to bead and run off the surface of the fabric.

In conditions that combine very high temperatures, high humidity and severe rain, you may not feel comfortable. For GORE-TEX® fabric to work best, the climate outside the pants must be slightly less hot and humid than the micro-climate that exists between your skin and the inside of the pants. In other words, at +98°F and 100% humidity, you might be miserable; but at anything less (in temperature, humidity, or both) you will be drier, more comfortable and well protected in your Utility pants than in anything else.

6. **TF** IMPACT ARMOR

Like the hydraulic shock absorbers on a car or motorcycle, **TF**'s remarkable characteristic of stiffening in a high-speed impact yet remaining soft and moldable for comfort make it the perfect armor for your Utility pants. Somewhat more sensitive to temperature than conventional materials, **TF** performs best between 65°F and 85°F. Fortunately, your body keeps the **TF** within this temperature range even when the ambient temperature is much warmer or colder. If you leave your pants outside in freezing temperatures, the **TF** may become stiff enough to split when flexed sharply; however, it is easy to repair this damage using any brand of contact cement. Knee pads are removed from their pockets by first detaching each pocket from the pants. Pocket openings face the hook & loop attachment strips used to hold each pad in position. Always remove the **TF** before laundering.

7. ADHESIVE HOOK & LOOP AND SEAM TAPE

To make your Utility pants as lightweight, cool, and ventilated as possible there is no lining. This highly functional design exposes the seam sealing tape to wear, and also requires the use of adhesive hook & loop to locate the impact armor (without any stitching or snaps that would be visible from the outside of the garment). The adhesives used in the seam tape and hook & loop armor mounts are very reliable and should last the life of the pants, but if a part of the adhesive begins to detach, repairs are easy. The adhesive can be reactivated with heat or solvents, but the easiest way is to simply repair where needed using an adhesive like Seam Grip, or any other general purpose contact cement. If you send it to us, mark the areas that need to be checked. If you need adhesive hook & loop or seam tape, call and we will send it to you.

8. LAUNDRY AND CARE

Machine wash recommended. Do not dry clean unless clear distilled hydrocarbon solvent is used for rinsing and spray DWR (Durable Water Repellent) is applied to fabric before drying. Remove **TF3** pads and contents of all pockets before washing. Close all zippers and pockets. Wash on a warm permanent press cycle (105° F/40° C) using a small amount of liquid detergent. Run the complete wash/rinse cycle a second time with no soap. Do not use powder detergents or any products that contain fabric softeners, conditioners, stain removers or bleach as they will affect garment performance. Do not wash with other heavily soiled clothing. Line dry or machine dry on a warm, gentle cycle. Once dry, tumble dry your garment for 20 minutes to reactivate the DWR treatment on the outer fabric. Do not use any anti-static spray. If unable to tumble dry, iron the dry garment on gentle setting (warm, no steam) by placing a towel between the garment and the iron in order to help reactivate the DWR treatment. Reinsert the **TF3** pads. Your suit's hook & loop fastener will pick up lint if you wash the suit with towels, etc. When the factory applied DWR treatment can no longer be reactivated (after long use and many wash/dry cycles), apply a new water-repellent treatment (available as a pump-spray or wash-in product) to the garment's outer fabric. This will help water to "bead" on the suit's surface fibers in rainy conditions. Silicone spray or Aerostich Zipper Lube on the zipper chain will help the slider move easier.

After you have put thousands of road miles on your suit, spots, stains and accumulated dirt may be difficult or impossible to entirely remove, but the following technique may be useful (it may, however, compromise your suit's waterproofness). First, spray Clorox® prewash on the soiled spots and rub in by hand. Let stand for 10 minutes. Next, scrub the spots with a brush and a little liquid detergent and let stand for another 10 minutes before washing normally. For individual oil stains, waterless hand cleaner can be worked into the spot by hand and rinsed out thoroughly with very hot tap water.

9. EXCHANGES AND REPAIRS

Please send all items insured and prepaid. Include your name, address, a daytime phone number and the reason for the return. Exchanges and returns for refund must be in new condition. Returns for repair must be clean. If your pants require additional cleaning before being repaired, you will be charged. Some sewing, upholstery, or boat cover shops in your area may be able to patch or repair your pants. If needed, call us, and we will send any materials you require (such as fabrics, reflective material, zippers, etc.). If major repairs are required, we will contact you with a quote before beginning work. If repair costs exceed half the pants replacement value the pants are "totalled", and will not be repaired.

10. FINALLY

Your Utility pants were made by hand by a team of experts who are proud of the quality built into each garment. You can expect your pants to last 5 to 10 years or 50,000 to 100,000 miles. We hope that you will experience many miles and years of safe, comfortable motorcycling while wearing them. Good riding!

WHICH PANTS? DARIEN VS. AD1 VS. UTILITY...REGULAR VS. LIGHT?

AD1 pants fit me a little better than Darien pants. Their rise is less, so the waistband rides a little lower, and it's slightly curved, which I also like better. The AD1's included belt is a 1.5" Aerostich money belt, versus the stronger 1.5" side-release-buckled belt on the Darien pants. And compared to the Darien pant the AD1's knees are 'bent' a couple of degrees more, which is nice for bikes with a little more rear-positioned footrests. The radius of this bend is a little bigger, too, so there is a bit more space for knee pads. Darien pants fit and feel a lot like Khaki's or regular pants and AD1's fit and feel a little more like jeans.

Regular Utility pants are made from rugged 500 Denier Cordura® GORE-TEX for excellent abrasion and all-weather protection in a wide variety of riding conditions. Light Weight Utility pants are built with lighter weight HT200 Denier Nylon GORE-TEX fabric to provide all-weather protection with greater comfort in a wider range of temperatures and conditions.

Up to about 70°f I wear my AD1 Lights over regular jeans or khaki pants. When it's warmer they go over Aerostich cotton riding shorts...which we sew right here, too. The new Utility Pants fit like the AD1's, and have all the function, protection and styling of those, but without the full-length side-zips, belt, or reflective on the leg adjustment tabs. You can slip them on and wear them all day, whether logging hundreds of miles or just riding across town to run errands. Remove the TF3 kneepads and these super-tough pants are practical as everyday off-bike wear, too.

— Mr. Subjective, 2013

LIMITED GUARANTEE: To the original purchaser, Aero Design & Manufacturing Company, Inc., the manufacturer and seller of Aerostich Riderwear products, guarantees all Aerostich RiderWearHouse products against defects in materials and workmanship for two full years. Since no Aerostich product is indestructible this guarantee does not cover: ordinary wear, soiling and aging; or damage due to contact with super-heated components, misuse or accidents. Repairs due to normal wear and tear over time or accidents will be done at a reasonable charge.

MONEY-BACK SATISFACTION: If you are dissatisfied with any RiderWearHouse Catalog product in any way, you have 30 days from the date of delivery to return the item in an undamaged and unsoiled condition for a full refund, by prepaid delivery to: Aero Design and Manufacturing Company, Inc., 8 South 18th Avenue West, Duluth, Minnesota, 55806.

