

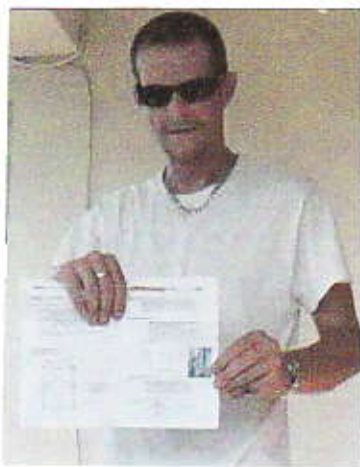


If you have been following the magazine, or if you live in the great state of Florida, you know it's right in the middle of our rainy season. This means that pretty much everyday, someplace here is going to get a good soaking rain. And of course, everyplace gets some rain sometime too. So if you have a real nice bike, or a custom paint job like we talk about in this issue, are you doomed to spending everyday cleaning off water spots and dust even if the bike never leaves your drive or carport?

The good folks at *RideInn* don't think you should have to and they have created a storage system to make sure you don't!



I was introduced to this innovative system by *Mark Stevens*, the exclusive national distributor in the US for this Canadian invention. After a few conversations Mark asked if we would like to try one and we happily agreed. On a warm August day, as if there is any other kind in Florida,



Mark showed up with the new *RideInn* system a miniature model, and instructions in hand and a smile on his face. I had enlisted the help of our newest staff member, my nephew Branden, to help with the project, and since Mark had an appointment back up in Tampa that afternoon we got right to work. Actually Branden got to work, I got started with pictures and interviewing Mark.

The instructions for this storage system are very well done and complete. There isn't any guess work involved. Mark tells us that the original instructions left a little to be desired and he was responsible for the ones we were using. After laying out the parts, Branden started putting things together.

While Branden was getting started, I talked a little more with Mark about this unique system. It's inventors designed this to work in small spaces and give people some protection from elements and damage for their bike that they might not have otherwise. My situation was a perfect way to test this system. I have a carport instead of a garage and with the way things are arranged, I have a limited space to park my bike. And since it's not enclosed, when it rains my bike gets wet. How wet depends on the wind direction and intensity on the given day! But it's "generally" protected there.

Mark agreed that this kind of application is what the system was designed for. He was also showing me how the construction of the unit was also tough enough to keep a good bit of snow off a bike. This is a definite plus to those in the North. It's constructed of 100 pounds of rugged .060" steel framing and a UV resistant and waterproof cover. The cover is made of a heavy nylon layer and a waterproof PVC underlayer and every seam was double stitched. This thing won't stand up to a hurricane or a tornado, but it will keep your ride from UV damage or bumps and nicks to the paint. And as I said before, for our friends in snow prone areas, it is designed to take up to 50lbs of load between supports!



By the time Mark and I were done talking, Branden had most of the unit assembled. Talk about simple, it was completely assembled in less than an hour and only had about 18 bolts to tighten total! With a little help on the final steps attaching the canopy, we all looked at the completed unit. It was more than large enough for my bike when opened fully, yet folded up to only 18"!

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Product Review

One of the nicest features of this storage system is the ride in ability. This unit is 46" wide and with the way the frame slides and accords out, you can ride your bike in and cover it without waiting for the motor or the exhaust pipes to cool! Or there is enough room side to side to store your ATV or garden tractor if that's your thing!

This is a very interesting product and it has already proven it's worth by saving me hours of polishing time since we installed it. Without all the water spots from rain on it, it wipes down pretty quickly. Everything about this system was exactly as promised in their brochures. It set up in less than an hour with a minimal amount of work and tools. My ONE complaint or piece of advice about the unit had to do with the guides that the system runs on in the base track. Mark assured me had already been taken care of in newer models by removing certain jam nuts that aren't needed and were binding. I might also suggest that they look into spring loading those guides so they in essence self adjust in the event of not perfectly flat base surface.



This is a sure winner and we heartily endorse it. It does everything that they advertise it to do. It sets up very easily, and it protects my bike a lot more than sitting in the open the way it was! You can get more info about all the uses and specifics of the *RideInn Storage Shelter System* on their website at RideInnUSA.com.

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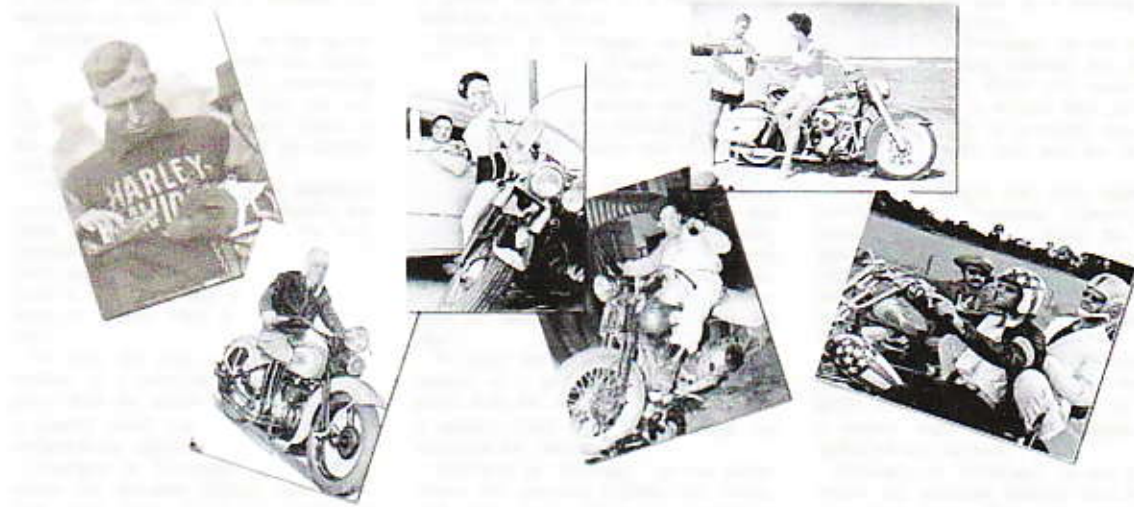


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