VARIANT HELMET
INSTRUCTION MANUAL
VARIANT INTRODUCTION

The wind tunnel-tested Variant unleashes street-based performance specifically made for your style of riding. For a street rider, perhaps the most important consideration is environment. ICON analyzed common street-specific situations - impact protection, comfort, ventilation, visibility - and addressed those concerns with the Variant.

Remember: a helmet will only protect you if you wear it. Further, the helmet must fit properly and be securely fastened on your head.
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CONSTRUCTION

The Variant is engineered to the ICON WORLD STANDARD, which meets or exceeds DOT FMVSS 218 (US), ECE 22-05 (EUROPE), SAI AS1698 (AUSTRALIA) & SG (JAPAN) Helmet Safety Standards. Over 50 countries officially recognize these extensive head protection standards. Refer to the diagram below to familiarize yourself with specific names and terms used on the Variant helmet before attempting to repair or replace parts on the helmet.

1. VISOR
2. EYEPORt GASKET
3. GEAR PLATE
4. FACE SHIELD
5. BREATH DEFLECTOR
6. MOUTH VENT
7. SIDE VENT
8. DOUBLE "D" RING
9. SPOILER
10. EXHAUST PORT
11. OUTER SHELL
12. IMPACT ABSORBENT LINER
13. SIDE PLATE
14. COMFORT LINER
15. BASE GASKET

MAKE NO MODIFICATIONS. To maintain the full effectiveness of this helmet, there should be no alteration to the structure of this helmet or its component parts. Paints and adhesives may damage and render your helmet ineffective, without the damage visible to the user.
Using industry-leading pneumatic molding processes, the Variant’s Fiberglass, Dyneema and Carbon Fiber composite shell sports a proprietary interlacing system crafted to emphasize superior strength along with centralized mass and minimal weight.

1. FIBERGLASS  
2. DYNEEMA  
3. CARBON FIBER  
4. GRAPHICS AND CLEARCOAT

The Variant’s dual-density EPS liner is actually two separate expanded polystyrene liners engineered to offer maximum impact absorption and force dissipation. Additionally, both liners are channeled with an extensive series of directional air ducts to distribute airflow from the outer ventilation system.

5. AIR DUCTS  
6. COMPOSITE SHELL  
7. SOFTER OUTER LAYER  
8. STIFFER INNER LAYER
PROPER FITTING

No helmet can protect the user against all foreseeable impacts. For your safety, please choose a helmet in the size which fits your head (refer to the helmet size chart on page 4). For maximum head protection, your helmet must be of proper fit, and the retention system must be securely fastened under the chin.

To ensure a proper fit, please follow the steps below:

1. Position the helmet on your head so that it sits low on your forehead. If you can’t see the edge of the brim at the extreme upper range of your vision, the helmet is probably out of place. Adjust the retention system so that when in use, it will hold the helmet firmly in place.

2. With the chinstrap still fastened as tightly as possible, take hold of the helmet with both hands. Without moving your head, try to move the helmet up and down, and from side to side. You should feel the skin of your head and face being pulled as you try to move the helmet. If you can move the helmet around easily, it is too big. Try a smaller size.

3. Now, with the chinstrap secured, put your hands flat on the back of the helmet and try to pull the helmet off by rotating it forward. Then, put your hands on the front of the helmet, and try to push the helmet off by rotating it toward the rear. If the helmet starts to come off in either direction, the helmet is either too large, or the chinstrap is not fastened tightly enough.

### HELMET SIZING CHART

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SHELL</th>
<th>XS</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>XL</th>
<th>2XL</th>
<th>3XL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HAT SIZE</td>
<td>6 3/4 - 6 7/8</td>
<td>6 5/8 - 7</td>
<td>7 1/8 - 7 1/4</td>
<td>7 1/4 - 7 1/2</td>
<td>7 1/2 - 7 3/4</td>
<td>7 3/4 - 8</td>
<td>8 1/4 - 8 1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INCHES</td>
<td>20 1/8 - 21 1/4</td>
<td>21 1/8 - 22</td>
<td>22 1/4 - 22 1/2</td>
<td>23 1/8 - 23 1/2</td>
<td>24 - 24 1/8</td>
<td>24 1/4 - 25 1/8</td>
<td>25 1/2 - 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENTIMETERS</td>
<td>54-55</td>
<td>56-57</td>
<td>57-58</td>
<td>59-60</td>
<td>61-62</td>
<td>63-64</td>
<td>65-66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Wrap flexible tape measure approximately one inch above eyebrows and ears
2. Use this measurement to find your “inches” or “centimeters” head size in our helmet sizing chart
**CHIN STRAP**

In order for your helmet to function properly the chinstrap must always be securely fastened while in use. With the chin strap fastened, it should not be possible to remove the helmet from your head by pulling up at the center rear. Check periodically to see that the vibration has not caused the chin strap to loosen. Just give a little tug to make sure it is still tight.

To securely fasten the D-ring retention system, thread the end of the chin strap through the D-rings only as shown in the diagram below. Fasten the female snap of the chin strap to the male snap to secure the loose end of the chin strap after the chin strap is securely fastened. The only function of the snap fastener on the end of the chin strap is to keep it from flapping in the air stream. It is not part of the retention system and should not be used independently without passing through the D-rings as illustrated below. To remove the chin strap, reverse the fastening process as shown in the diagram below.

Please make sure that the chin strap is fastened as instructed above. Failure to do so may result in fatal injury.
The Variant’s optically correct face shield features a fog-free coating so your view of the street is always clear. A sophisticated coating technique ensures a super-thin layer of anti-fog treatment is precisely applied for optimal optical qualities. Icon shields are also offered in a variety of tinted styles, and meet or exceed Vehicle Safety Commission Regulations (VESC-8) and/or ECE safety regulations.
**SHIELD CHANGE & SIDE PLATE REMOVAL**

1. Remove the sideplate covers using the small detent at the front of the sideplate cover. The sideplates come out, and then forward. Do not use a screwdriver or any other sharp object that may scratch or damage your helmet.

2. Use the supplied shield key to remove the gearplate bolt. During reinstallation of the face shield, tighten the screw until the washer is no longer able to turn freely. Do not over tighten the screw.

3. Carefully pull on the visor to release it from the gearplate mechanism.

4. Open the Variant face shield.

5. Align the tabs of the gearplate with the tabs on the face shield. Pull the face shield away from the helmet freeing it from the gearplate and remove the face shield from the helmet. During reinstallation, the face shield should slide over the gearplate post.

6. To reinstall the face shield, reverse steps 1 - 5. When reinstalling the face shield, attach one side of the shield at a time. Doing so will allow for both ease of installation and help avoid damage to the gear plates. Once reinstalled check for proper movement of the face shield before riding in helmet.

*The face shield should not be excessively cold when the side plates are being re-fitted, otherwise damage may occur.*
INTERIOR

Icon helmets feature a fully customizable HydraDry™ moisture wicking interior comfort liner. The size of a helmet is based on a combination of three factors: outer shell size, inner eps thickness, and cheekpad thickness. The fit of the helmet can be customized by replacing your existing cheekpads with thinner cheekpads (for a looser fit), or thicker cheekpads (for a tighter fit).

*PLEASE NOTE: YOUR HELMET SHELL SIZE CAN BE FOUND BY FOLLOWING THE STEPS ON PAGE 5
COMFORT LINER REMOVAL

Follow these steps to remove your interior for cleaning or replacement:

1. Release each cheekpad from the helmet by pulling inward, freeing it from the three snap system. It is easiest to do this by reaching through the helmet eye port.

2. Flip your helmet over and pull on the cheekpad. Note how the cheekpad plate slips between the helmet shell and EPS liner for reassembly.

3. Remove your comfort liner by releasing it from the two snap system on the back of the helmet. Then remove the crown comfort liner attachment point, taking note of how the crown plate attachment slips into place between the shell and EPS liner.

4. To reinstall the interior, reverse steps 1 - 3. For more information, instructional videos can be found at www.rideicon.com in the technical video section which is located under the culture tab.
The Variant elaborates on existing helmet cooling technology with a design that actively captures moving air and funnels it into specifically-designed channels. Vents are strategically placed around the helmet – two at the chin bar, two on either side of the forehead and two large scoops integrated at the visor peak for a ram-air effect. The harnessed airflow is then directed into EPS channels for a more complete cooling process. Large, glove-friendly switches let you fine-tune the cooling level on-the-fly while two large dorsal exhaust ports release hot air rearward.
The Variant incorporates air ducts within the chin EPS liner for safety and comfort. These channels are precisely placed to fight face shield fogging by reducing condensation and moving stale air away from the face shield.

The Variant supervent system is controlled by 2 forehead vents and 2 switches located in the visor. Both sets of switches are designed to be glove friendly. Fine tuning of airflow into the helmet is handled by the mouth vent and internal chin bar vents.
CARE AND CLEANING

Let’s face it, Icon helmets look cool and you want to keep them that way. We’ve found the following methods work really well to keep our helmets looking sharp and ready to roll. Remember, never use gas, pre-mix, carb cleaner, brake cleaner or any other random unlabeled spray can lying around the garage. Chemicals and harsh solvents can break down the materials in your helmet; it’s like using brake cleaner to polish your plastics—don’t do it!

**INTERIOR CLEANING**
1. Remove interior lining as shown on page 10.
2. Soak your interior in a mild solution of baby shampoo.
3. Rinse in clean water several times until all soap is gone.
4. Let interior air dry and replace accordingly.
   * Never machine wash or dry your helmet interior.

**EXTERIOR CLEANING (GLOSS HELMETS)**
1. Lay a warm wet, cloth towel on the exterior of the helmet for at least 5 minutes to soften dried on bugs. (Don’t skip this step!)
2. Using a fresh, wet, clean cloth and mild dish soap wipe down the exterior to get rid of road grime and softened bug guts.
3. Use another fresh dry cloth towel to dry the helmet and get rid of any water spots.

**EXTERIOR CLEANING (RUBATONE HELMETS)**
1. Lay a warm, wet, cloth towel on the exterior of the helmet for at least 5 minutes to soften dried on bugs.
2. Remove the now softened bugs and road grime with a light blotting action. For this use the soft part of your helmet bag provided or a clean microfiber cloth.
   * Never rub aggressively with anything on the Rubatone or you can ruin the finish.

**EXTERIOR POLISHING**
1. For gloss helmet finishes, use spray automotive wax that is specifically designed for cars with a clear coat. (Available at any automotive store.)
2. For matte finishes, you know better than to polish a matte finish don’t you?

**STORAGE**
It is a good idea to protect your helmet if it is stored for a period of time. Store your helmet inside the helmet bag we have provided in a secure, dry place out of direct exposure to sunlight.

**CARE AND CLEANING VIDEOS**
Care and cleaning instructional videos can be found at www.rideicon.com in the video section which is located under the culture tab.
**SHIELD CLEANING**
Your helmet is equipped with a scratch resistant fog free shield. Common household cleaners such as Windex® and Pledge® can leave behind unwanted residues, or in some extreme cases damage the shield itself. It is our recommendation the same steps outlined above for cleaning the exterior of your helmet should be applied to cleaning the exterior of your shield. Use no cleaners or detergents on the inside of your shield. Using anything other than a clean soft cloth, micro fiber cloth, or the bag supplied with your helmet, will ruin or reduce the effectiveness of the fog free coating.

**ADVISORY**
Although your helmet is solid and very well constructed, it should be handled with care, dropping a helmet on the ground, or other hard surfaces may eventually degrade the helmet’s performance. Additionally, if the helmet falls to the ground at highway speeds unoccupied, the owner must be aware that some unseen damage may have occurred.

**ICON RECOMMENDATION**
ICON Motosports advises that if you are participating in an activity that requires you to wear a helmet, it is strongly recommended that you avoid hitting anything with your head. If you suspect your helmet has been compromised, or the helmet has been involved in an impact while in use, replace it.

- **DO NOT USE THE SUPERVENT VISOR OR SPOILER AS A HANDLE. THE SUPERVENT AND ITS PARTS ARE ENGINEERED TO BREAK AWAY IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH.**
- **REVIEW THE “SIDEPLATE REMOVAL” SECTION OF OWNERS MANUAL BEFORE REMOVING SIDEPLATES.**
- **DO NOT REST YOUR HELMET ON THE GAS TANK. GAS VAPORS CAN DESTROY THE HELMET’S IMPACT-ABSORBING LINER.**
**REPLACEMENT RECOMMENDATION**

The five year replacement recommendation is based on a consensus of all helmet manufacturers, which certifies all Icon helmets. Glues, resins and other materials used in helmet production can effect liner materials over time. Hair oils, body fluids and cosmetics, as well as normal “wear and tear” also contribute to helmet degradation. Additionally, petroleum based products present in cleaners, paints, fuels, and other commonly encountered materials may break down materials used in many helmets, possibly compromising performance. Experience indicates that helmet standards are revised every five years. This, coupled with advances in materials, designs, and production methods suggest that it is in the riders best interest to replace his/her helmet at a minimum of every five years.