



# ARAI

## VX PRO3 HELMET

A helmet that was  
made for the stars

**WHAT IS IT?** The first total remake of the highly rated Arai VX Pro helmet in five years.

**WHAT'S IT COST?** \$587.95 (Windham), \$484.95 (silver)—Your local dealer.

**WHAT'S IT DO?** The *MXA* wrecking crew absolutely loves Arai helmets and, whether they admit it or not, every other helmet company aspires to meet Arai's standards in weight, comfort, construction, quality, protection and technology. Love Arai or not, though, there was a small cadre of *MXA* test riders who couldn't wear an Arai VX Pro helmet, because their noses touched against the front of the face guard in the heat of battle. Arai was aware of the problem; it had first surfaced back in 1996 with the original full-face Arai—the V-Kross. But awareness didn't lead to a quick fix. Why not? Arai believed, to their credit, that the less frontal protrusion a helmet's face guard had, the safer it was (which was why they stuck with the bolt-on face fender on the original Arai MX/a helmet way after every other helmet company switched to full-face designs). We admire Arai's commitment to safety, but it didn't do anything for a rider who couldn't wear the VX Pro because his nose protruded farther than the Arai's face guard. Enter the VX Pro3.

The Arai Pro3 bristles with technical innovations and Arai craftsmanship, but its most important feature is that the top of the face guard is 11mm farther forward than on the previous VX Pro. It was a concession that Arai made to reach a wider audience, but it should be noted that for safety reasons the bottom of the face guard was not moved.

The *MXA* test crew rounded up all of its riders and sent them out to race in the VX Pro3.

**WHAT STANDS OUT?** Here's a list of things that stand out on the Arai VX Pro3 helmet.

**(1) Face guard.** Riders whose noses used to touch the front of the VX Pro came nowhere near the face guard of the VX Pro3. Problem solved.

**(2) Weight.** For such a substantial-feeling helmet, the Arai is wickedly light. Our medium weighed three pounds.

**(3) Construction.** Awesome workmanship. The best in the biz. No blemishes, flaws or cut corners.

**(4) Comfort.** Somebody has to have the plushiest lining, snuggest feel and cushiest padding. That somebody is Arai. If you've never worn an Arai helmet, you'll be pleasantly surprised. The padding is full-contact. There are no gaps, ear holes or airy spots. It's very quiet in an Arai.

**(5) Safety.** We don't want to bore you with a lot of tech talk about fiberglass, foam and accelerometers, but we believe this helmet is at the top of the class. Additionally, for 2007, Arai has pioneered special cheek pads with red tabs that an EMT can pull on to remove the padding before removing an injured rider's helmet.

**(6) Venting.** Arai transferred all it learned about ventilation from its road race program to the VX Pro3's airflow system. *MXA* test riders never ever mention airflow in a helmet. It's incidental in the real world of low-speed, high-sweat motocross.

**WHAT'S THE SQUAWK?** We don't have any. Yes, we know that the price tag is way up there, but so is the quality.

### MXA RATING



The *MXA* wrecking crew had never given a helmet five stars. Now we have! This is the best helmet ever tested.