

### DeFeet Dura Gloves - 30/12/08 (Rich Land)

Mention the name DeFeet and socks instantly spring to mind. But this isn't the sum total of all the products that they make, what with base layers and gloves also in their portfolio.

Upon first inspection the Dura glove looks like it will provide little in the way of comfort or warmth. Two versions are available for cycling, the Standard (made from Coolmax/Cordura mix) and the Wool (yes made with 80% wool and some cordura); but a third version created for runners called Handskins is gaining popularity with some US cross racers. Three sizes are offered on most colours except for those deemed for Ladies, the large size is then omitted. Colour wise you have either black, white, red or blue available in all sizes with pink available for the ladies (yes I think this is sexist)

The Standard version worked for me around to the 5-6 degree mark, but anything below that I would opt for the Merino version, as they are like having a pair of Woolie Boolie (DeFeets warmest winter sock for the uninitiated) for your hands. Surprisingly the three sizes offered cover most people apart from those with very small or large hands.

The Dura glove is very flexible, as I have used them on their own, with a pair of mitts underneath (I used this at combo at Flanders this year) and finally they make an excellent under glove. I like products that can punch above their weight in multiple seasons; it really transcends them from useful to essential.

As gloves go these are about as simple as they get with no padding at all and a very simple construction. For less than £15:00 you will have bought something that will become an essential item and you may wonder how you managed to survive without them. With Christmas just around the corner these would make an ideal present, you could always buy a pair of socks to go with them.

