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CATEYE

Sync Core/Sync Kinetic Light Set

£99.99, cateyecycling.co.uk

CatEye's Sync range has been around since 2018 and remains essentially unchanged. I can see why. The lights make starting and finishing a ride time efficient, and they're bright enough to be seen in all conditions.

As the name says, the lights work in sync via the CatEye Sync App. In the past, I've tested some bad bike tech apps. CatEye has ironed out any glitches in this one. The lights synchronised instantly, and I was able

to use all features on the first try. A long press in the app switches on all lights, though operation directly from the front light is possible – and more convenient. You can toggle light modes, disable front light options, and turn off the rear light's kinetic function in the app, too.

The rear's kinetic function – a two-second 50-lumen blast when braking – is effective in flash mode but barely noticeable in high mode. Disabling it also helps preserve battery life. I love that you can check battery levels in the app, rather than relying on vague indicators on the lights. The front light outputs up to 500 lumens. I've found it sufficient for moderate-paced rides in the dark. Its beam forms a bright circle with a fading halo. It's effective for visibility but I wouldn't

use it for fast-paced nighttime riding due to the limited peripheral lighting.

The rear light has a silicone backing and a band for mounting. It fits round and aero seatposts. The front uses CatEye's Flex Tight system, which is a bit slow to swap between bikes.

Both lights charge via micro-USB in 2.5 to 3 hours. For me the runtimes could be better, particularly the front's maximum setting, which only lasts two hours.

Emma Silversides

Other options



TOPEAK POWERLITE BT COMBO £121.99

More powerful and with longer runtimes, these lights can be controlled independently via buttons on the front unit. topeak.com



LEZYNE KTV DRIVE PRO SMART PAIR £67

All Lezyne's smart lights can be controlled via an app. The KTV Drive Pro Pair are be-seen lights. lezyne.com

Verdict

Functionality, user-friendly operation and reliable in-app controls outweigh my mount and runtime gripes. The sync function makes starting and finishing cold, winter rides hassle free, and the lights do get you seen – as well as lighting the way ahead.