

Baker School of Riding



Student Manual

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Chapter 1: Farm Rules



Baker School of Riding uses the Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA) guidelines both on and off the farm. CHA promotes safety and sound horsemanship practices through education. The following rules are designed for the safety of students, observers, instructors, and horses.

Horse Sense Rules and Reasons (CHA Composite Horsemanship Manual 2002)

Rule 1. Praise often, punish seldom.

Reason: Firm, gentle treatment will gain your horse's respect. Harsh or cruel treatment will make your horse fear you.

Rule 2. Stop, look and listen. Use caution when working around horses.

Reason: Horses are frightened by loud noises and sudden movements. They may react in an unexpected way.

Rule 3. Never stand directly behind or in front of a horse.

Reason: A frightened horse may kick or run over you.

Rule 4. Horses should never be hand fed.

Reason: Fingers may be mistaken for treats and be bitten. (Your horse will enjoy her treat just as much from her feed bucket!)

Rule 5. Keep at least one horse length between your horse and the horse in front of you, (both when leading a horse or riding).

Reason: Crowding a horse may cause him to kick or bite.

Rule 6. Check equipment for proper fit and have your instructor check it before you mount.

Reason: Improperly fitted equipment may cause an accident or injury to horse and rider.

Rule 7. Always use a halter and lead rope to tie your horse and never tie with the reins.

Reason: Reins may be broken or the horse's mouth injured if tied by the bridle.

Rule 8. Treat equipment with care and always put it away properly.

Reason: Properly cared for equipment is easier to use and lasts longer.

Rule 9. Never wrap or tie anything attached to your horse around your body in any way.

Reason: Being tied may result in your being dragged by your horse.

Rule 10. Dismount to adjust clothing or equipment.

Reason: Your horse may spook from unusual movement on his back.

Rule 11. Dress appropriately. When riding, you should wear long pants, shoes with a heel or boots, and an ASTM-SEI approved horseback riding helmet.

Reason: Long pants will prevent sores on your legs. Hard shoes will protect your feet, and the heels will prevent your feet from slipping through the stirrups. Helmets protect from most head injuries.

Additional BSR Rules



- ◆ Never ride alone- there needs to be at least one other person on the property who is able to dial 911 if an emergency occurs. If going on a trail ride, ride with a buddy and notify someone back at the farm where you are going and when you will be back. If possible, bring a cell phone. Ride smart, stay safe, and have fun!
- ◆ **Use Caution! The pasture fence is electric!** Do not touch it without first making sure that it is unplugged or you could be shocked.
- ◆ Use Caution when approaching a horse. Whenever possible approach from the horse's shoulder. If a horse is on the crossties and you must approach from the rear, say the horse's name to get his attention and be sure he looks at you before approaching to avoid surprising him.
- ◆ Young children should be supervised by a parent or guardian at all times, especially children not in the lesson. If your child who is not in the lesson becomes upset, please remove him or her to a location separated from the horses and away from any ongoing lessons. Loud noises could startle or frighten the horses and pose a safety risk to anyone working around them.

- ◆ Horse treats are OK for lessons horses to have, but please check with the instructor before feeding them anything in the event we have a sick horse. Horses should have treats in their buckets so fingers are not mistaken as carrots!
- ◆ Do not enter a or pasture unless given permission by the instructor or the horse's owner.
- ◆ Do not remove a horse from his stall or pasture unless given permission by the instructor or the horse's owner.
- ◆ Horses should be brought in from the pasture one at a time, never two or more at a time.
- ◆ Halters should be removed for turnout and when horses are relaxing in stalls.
- ◆ Tack and equipment used should be cleaned and put away after every use.
- ◆ Do not leave a tied horse or a horse on the crossties unattended.
- ◆ Please clean up after yourself and your horse. Manure should be cleaned up immediately. Possessions left around the barn will be donated to charity or become the property of BSR.
- ◆ Dogs must be on a leash at all times and have proof of an up-to-date rabies vaccine. We also recommended that your dog be wearing his/her license and name tag. Dogs that are aggressive towards people or other animals should remain at home.



Thank you.

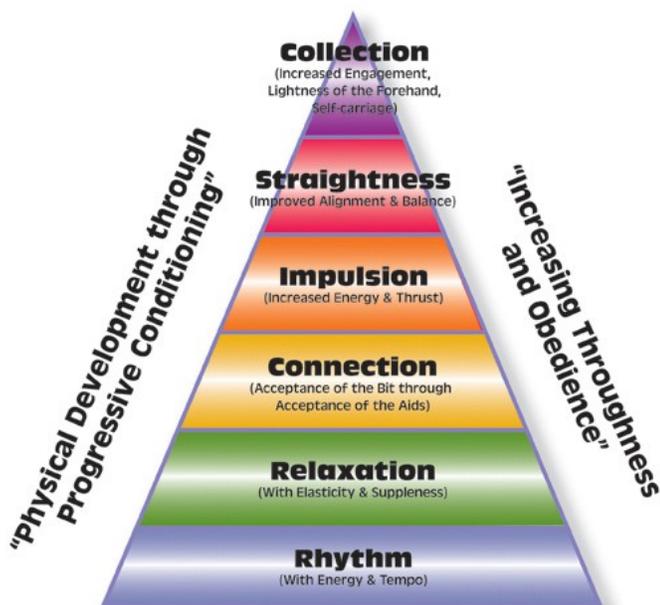
Chapter 2: Lessons



At Baker School of Riding, we believe in teaching more than just horseback riding. Our goal is to create well-rounded horsemen and women from the ground to the competition ring, and everything in between. Whether you are just interested in pleasure riding, or are interested in participating in horse shows, we are here to help you succeed. Our hope is that every person who loves horses will one day be able to ride, lease, or own one of these wonderful animals, and will be able to carry on the art of equestrian sports for the future.

We approach lessons from the perspective of being horse owners and trainers. We want to provide each student with a broad base of knowledge that extends beyond the saddle. Whether you are just getting started or are an experienced rider, we want to help you excel and can help you reach your goals. We believe in taking the time necessary to develop safe handling and horse care practices, ground work knowledge, and secure and balanced seats in every rider. This develops confidence and excellence in both the rider and the horse. We desire to foster lasting partnerships between the horse and rider, where communication, patience, and understanding are key.

Pyramid of Training



We teach from a classical dressage perspective and make use of the training scale daily. We believe that dressage is an essential foundation for every horse and rider. Dressage helps develop the horse in a way that builds strength and flexibility through his body, and helps teach the rider balance, timing, accuracy, and clarity with the aids.

Lessons are currently available for students aged 5 through adult in dressage, huntseat and beginning/intermediate western. Students ages 3-4 may participate in hand led lessons.

Students are welcome to bring their own horse or use a BSR lesson horse. All students are required to wear ASTM-SEI approved riding helmets (helmets are available to rent for \$3/ per ride), long pants, and shoes with a smooth sole and one inch catch heel. Ground lessons and Balance Rider lessons are also available. Please visit bakerschoolofriding.com for the latest prices and information.



New Student Lesson Package

If you are just starting riding lessons for the first time, we highly recommend purchasing our "New Student Lesson Package". We know that there is a lot to learn when first entering the world of horses and to help every student get off on the right track, our "New Student Lesson Package" has been designed to offer a comprehensive foundation in the basics. You will receive a total of 8 lessons in one month- 4 riding lessons and 4 non-riding lessons. In non-mounted lessons (ground lessons) you will learn how to safely interact with horses, haltering, leading, grooming, tacking, basic horse terms and saddle and bridle parts and much more. During riding lessons, you will learn how to safely mount and dismount, and will begin to learn how to communicate with the horse under saddle. This package is also available for more advanced students, and can include a wide range of topics based on each individual's interest, such as saddle fitting, basic first aid, and communicating through body language to horses.

What should I expect during my first lesson?

To have fun! Our lesson program is designed to meet your individual needs as a rider. We want to get to know you and your horse experience, and learn what we can do to help you meet your goals.

If your first lesson is also your first visit to Baker School of Riding, we would be happy to give you a tour of the farm and facilities. If you are new to riding, a good portion of the lesson will be spent learning how to safely interact with horses and learning how to groom and tack up. We will also move to the arena and start learning the basics of riding, and finish with properly putting our horse away when finished riding.

If you have previous horse experience, we will take some time reviewing the basics to help our instructor gauge your previous knowledge and experience to develop an individual plan for you.



Chapter 3: Rider Apparel



For safety purposes, staff members, students, boarders, volunteers, observers and guests must be dressed appropriately while at the farm. Continue reading for places to shop.

Helmets

For your own safety, all riders are required to wear an ASTM-SEI approved horseback riding helmets every time they are on a horse. In the event of a fall, a riding helmet greatly reduces the risk of a head injury.



Approved Riding Helmets

Footwear

All riders are required to wear riding boots when mounted. Paddock boots, tall boots, or cowboy boots are acceptable. They should have a smooth sole and 1” catch heel. The smooth sole prevents the rider’s foot from becoming stuck on the stirrup iron and the catch heel stops the rider’s foot from slipping all the way through. Non-riders may wear any close-toed shoe with a back, such as boots or sneakers. Flip-flops, crocks, clogs, high heels, sandals, or other shoes with open toes or no back are not safe to wear around the barn.



Examples of Safe Footwear

Pants

All riders are required to wear long pants when they are on a horse. Breeches with tall boots or half chaps and paddock boots are preferred for older students. We recommend that younger students wear jodhpurs with garter straps and paddock boots. For students in their first few lessons, any kind of comfortable, stretchy legging that goes all the way to the ankle can work very well for riding. Jeans are permitted for students riding western. Shorts, cropped pants, capris, or any pant that does not come all the way to the ankle should not be worn while riding, but may be worn when not on a horse. In very cold temperatures, winter weight breeches, or snow pants (there are companies that make them for riding) are OK to wear while riding.

Shirts

Shirts should be appropriate for riding. Polo shirts, t-shirts, regular tank tops, sweaters, sweatshirts, etc. are fine. Shirts should be long enough to cover the top of pants and tucked in. If wearing a jacket, it is too long for riding if you can sit on the bottom of it.

Jewelry/Accessories

Dangling earrings, necklaces, bracelets or loose-fitting watches should not be worn at the barn—they may catch on something and injure you. Post earrings and snug-fitting watches are OK to wear. Sunglasses are OK both on and off the horse. In warmer months, we recommend wearing sunscreen and/or insect repellent. We also recommend wearing gloves when riding, doing barn chores, or when it's cold!

Brands we Love

There are a lot of great products on the market, but these are some of the products we use ourselves and love! These are our personal choices, and you don't need to pick the same things we did, but if you don't know where to begin, here are some ideas to help you get started.

Breeches/Jodhpurs

- **On Course Cotton Naturals** – a heavyweight cotton that is a nice weight year round. Soft and durable, they can be worn for schooling or shows, and usually start around \$60/pair.
- **Ashley**- A lightweight cotton that is comfortable for schooling in warm temperatures, and can usually be found on sale at horseloverz.com for around \$10-\$15 a pair. Very reasonable!



Gloves

- **Roeckl**- Incredibly soft and comfortable. They never overly stretch out, but move with your hands like a second skin. They make summer and winter weights. Pricey, but should last years. Very nice gloves that are show-ring quality.



Boots

- **Treadstep**- They make good quality products that last. Moderately priced.
- **Muckboots**- They make a neoprene and rubber boot that is very comfortable, warm, and waterproof, that is awesome for wearing around the farm when not riding. They clean up easily with a garden hose.



Riding Helmets

- **International Riding Helmets (IRH)**- They make a wide range, from schooling helmets to show helmets, are well made, stylish and comfortable. I have worn various models over the past 20 years \$35+
- **Tipperary Sportage**- A very reasonably priced traditional fit helmet that does not contain a dial system. Modern style, wide range of colors, including matte black, which would be acceptable at schooling shows. I personally prefer a traditional fit helmet. They run around \$70, which is quite reasonable.
- **Troxel**: They make a wide range of helmets, from schooling helmets, to western style helmets, to English show helmets. Most of their helmets contain a dial fit system (allows the helmet to be adjusted somewhat), which can be helpful for younger students who are still growing, or for people who might like an additional layer in the winter. \$35+



Places to Shop

There are several good stores and websites that stock affordable helmets and footwear if you need to purchase these items. When purchasing a helmet, please be sure that it fits correctly. It should fit snugly without giving you a headache. When you move the front of the helmet up and down it should move your forehead up and down as well. It should not slip side to side, and the harness should be properly adjusted so it will not slip over your chin. When buying a helmet for the first time, it is sometimes best to go to a store where knowledgeable staff can help you choose an appropriate fit.

Tack Shops:

Hope Hill Tack Shop 1481 Gunbarrel Rd Baldwinsville, NY 13027 (315) 638-9935	Nedrow Saddlery 6500 S Salina St Nedrow, NY 13120 (315) 492-2902	CountryMax 5808 Crabtree Ln Cicero, NY 13039 (315) 699-1918
Mitchell's Western Store 7523 Potter Rd Auburn, NY 13021 (315) 252-1708	Tractor Supply 3580 State Route 31 Baldwinsville, NY 13027 (315) 652-5885	CountryMax 3179 Erie Blvd E Syracuse, NY 13214 (585) 924-4850

Online Stores:

www.horseloverz.com	www.doversaddlery.com	www.horse.com
www.statelinetack.com	www.smartpak.com	

Chapter 4: Horse Boarding



We believe in caring for every horse as if it was our own. Boarded horses receive personalized care, ample turnout up to 24 hours per day in nice weather, matted stalls, and a feed plan designed to meet their individual dietary needs. Boarders have use of the indoor and outdoor riding arenas with sand and crumb rubber footing, multiple tack rooms including a heated viewing lounge with kitchenette and restroom, trails on the farm and access to the state trail system- a short 5 minute walk away. BSR offers several boarding options to suit your needs, including Full-Care Stall Board, Partial-Care Stall Board, and Self-Care Stall Board. Please inquire for current prices.

Full Care Stall Board

Each horse will have a 10x10 stall. Full stall board includes bedding and daily stall cleaning, daily turn-out (weather permitting), feeding, and watering. BSR will provide up to 1 bale of hay per day, 6 pounds of grain per day divided into 2 feedings, and plenty of fresh water. Hay is fed up to 4 times per day including night checks depending on the season, and grain is fed 2x daily. For very hard keepers, third feedings of grain are available for an additional cost, as well as additional first or second cutting hay. Supplements will be fed at no additional charge per the owner's request. We ask that all supplements be pre-measured by the owner in either baggies, some other container, or Smart-Paks. All amenities are available to the boarder including tack room, riding arena, grooming areas, and trails. Blanketing of boarder-provided blankets within reason is included.



Partial-Care Stall Board

Partial-Care Stall Board includes daily feeding, watering, and turnout. BSR will provide up to 1 bale of hay per day, up to 2 pounds of grain per day divided into 2 feedings, and plenty of fresh water. Hay is fed up to 4 times per day including night checks depending on the season. For very hard keepers, third grain feedings are available for an extra cost, as well as additional first or second cutting hay. Supplements will be fed at no additional charge per the owner's request. We ask that all supplements be pre-measured by the owner in either baggies, some other container, or Smart-Paks. Owners are responsible for buying their own bedding and cleaning their own stall daily. All amenities are available to the boarder including tack room, riding arena, grooming areas, and trails.

Self-Care Stall Board

Each horse will have access to one 10x10 stall with rubber mats. Boarders are responsible for providing all of their own hay, grain, and bedding, and cleaning their own stall. Horses will be fed, watered, and turned out by BSR. All amenities are available to the boarder including tack room, riding arena, grooming areas, and trails.



Additional Services Available

(Please Inquire for Prices)

Training Rides/ Lessons	Heated Stall Bucket or Stall Fan (you provide)	Mane Braiding for Shows	Extra Hay
Fly Masks on/off	Holding for vet/farrier/dentist	Tail Braiding for Shows	Extra Grain
Boots on/off	Horse Bathing	Clipping (Face Trims)	Third Grain Feeding
Blanketing (add/remove including fly sheets)	Mane Trim/Pull	Clipping (Legs including whites)	Feet picked when brought inside

Training:

Training is available on a select basis. Starting, retraining, and finishing are all training options. Please Contact us for additional information.

Chapter 5: Programs



BSR offers several programs for riders and horse lovers to participate in, including the Working Student Program, The Apprentice Program, and Pony Pals Club

Working Student Program: Ages 16+

Baker School of Riding offers an intensive program designed to give students a realistic idea of what working in the horse industry is like. This is an unpaid position. Students will participate in free lessons, and will receive free self-care board for one horse, or, if available, a partial lease on a suitable horse. Students who are interested in pursuing riding instruction may also receive additional mentorship toward those goals, and information on how to pursue instructor certification will be provided.

Duties May Include:

Feeding	Cobweb removal	Lunging horses	Tack Cleaning
Turnout	Cleaning and Organizing Community Spaces	Schooling horses	Property Maintenance
Stall Cleaning	Helping Students tack up	Assisting with horses who come in for training	Assistance with Clinics, Horse Shows, Camps
Cleaning buckets/troughs	Helping to organize programs	Driving farm machinery	Working with green horses
Sweeping	Grooming	Lawn care	Other duties as required

Requirements:

- Previous horse experience, be able to catch, lead, groom, and tack up without help
- Have your own reliable transportation
- A positive attitude, friendly towards staff, boarders, students, and guests
- Ability to work hard, and work independently
- Ability to lift a minimum of 50 pounds

The Apprentice Program: Ages 10+

The Apprentice Program is a great program that is designed to help future horse owners learn more about how to care for their equine friends. Students will come one morning a week for 2 hours to help with feeding, turnout, cleaning stalls, and other farm chores. Students will work directly with a BSR staff member or an experienced working student. We believe it is important for every student to have a thorough understanding of horse care to enable them to provide the best possible care for their own horse now or in the future. This is a free program, and all students who wish to gain more experience are welcome to participate.



Summer Day Camps!



We are now offering Summer Day Camps!
Perfect for the first-time rider or more seasoned camper,
there are multiple camps to choose from to suit a wide
range of interests!

Horse Lovers Camp Session 1: Ages 8-17 Perfect for campers who are new to horses. Campers will ride daily, learn all about horse care including grooming, tacking up, leading, feeding and barn maintenance, and much more! Make great friends, get creative with arts and crafts, play games, and have fun! The last day of camp, campers get to show off all their new skills in the saddle during our Family Fun Show! Parents are invited to come join us for our final ride time and see what exciting things their camper has been learning!

Horse Lovers Camp Session 2: Ages 8-17 All the great features of Session 1, but is open to both more advanced riders as well as beginners.

Musical Freestyle Camp: No age restrictions. Campers must be able to walk trot and canter on their own. Join us for a really fun camp learning about the basics of Musical Freestyle! You do not need to be a dressage rider to join in! Topics include music selection, how to adjust music to your horse, required elements, and how to put those in your freestyle in fun and creative ways. Time will be spent in the saddle starting to work on the basics of riding to music or with a partner. Students may bring their own horse or use a BSR horse.



BSR Camp-out: Love horses? Love camping out under the stars? Well you're in luck, because we have both! Come for an overnight of riding, campfires and more! Pitch a tent, build a bonfire, roast some marshmallows, and have a fun camp-out with fellow horse lovers! Call us to register.

Chapter 6: Emergency Protocol



Incidents

Rider Fall

In the event that a rider falls off his or her horse, the rider should stay on the ground until checked by their instructor or another person. If other people are riding with the fallen rider, each rider must halt, dismount, and hold his or her horse, and someone should be deployed to catch the loose horse. If the fallen rider has no dizziness or pain, they should slowly sit up, and if possible stand. If the rider is experiencing pain or dizziness of any form, is bleeding, are unable to catch their breath, vomiting, confused, or otherwise injured, medical personnel should be consulted. If severe injury has occurred (ie concussion, broken bone, etc) call 911 immediately or have the rider seen by a physician as soon as possible. An incident report must be filed.

Kicked, Bitten, or Stepped On

If someone has been kicked, bitten or stepped on, an incident report must be filed. The injury should be examined by the instructor. If serious, a physician should be consulted.

Weather Emergencies

(from *Weathering Emergencies* by Amy K. Habak)

In any event where you are in danger, call for help if possible

Lightning/Storms

Lightning is attracted to the area's highest object. If riding, dismount and stay away from single trees in an open field. If you're in the woods, look for the shortest stand of trees. Try to find low-lying areas or depressions. If you're on a hill, get to the bottom as quickly as you can. After a thunderstorm, wait at least 45 minutes before riding outdoors again. If the horses are outside, they should be brought into the barn if they do not have access to shelter. No one should be outside while the storm is going on.

Flash Floods

If no lightning is present, ride to the highest point you can find. Wait for high waters to go down before



attempting creek crossings. If you're on a hill where there's lightning risk, dismount and lead your horse only halfway down the hill. If at home, do not leave the horses trapped in the barn if it is flooding. Get them to high ground as soon as possible. If necessary and possible, they will be evacuated to a safer location until the danger has passed. If horses must be turned loose, use a breakaway halter with an identification tag, or a tag with contact information on it braided into their tails.

High Winds

Avoid dead trees and branches, which could blow off and cause an injury. Seek shelter behind hills and in low-lying areas, which are natural windbreaks, secure your clothing so it doesn't spook your horse. Tuck a long rain poncho or duster between your thighs and your saddle. If it is also raining, riding him into the wind may become all but impossible. His protection instincts will tell him to turn his tail to the wind and lower his head. Wait out the storm under shelter, if you can. If not, dismount and lead him home.

Hail

Find any safe shelter you can, such as a rock outcropping or nearby barn. If no shelter is available, dismount, remove your saddle from your horse and use it as a shield. Avoid tying him to a tree, where he'll be vulnerable to falling branches. If you can't hang on to him, also remove his bridle and turn him loose, preferably with a leather or breakaway halter with an ID tag for catching/relocating ease. Left loose, he has the best chance of naturally finding the safest area.



Tornadoes

With this life-threatening weather event, prevention is best. Before long rides, check the weather forecast. Heed warning and watches. If you do spot a tornado while riding, find shelter in a low-lying area or at the bottom of a hill. Keep the hill between you and the tornado, using the hill as a shield. Untack your horse, turn him loose, and use your saddle for protection; He'll be safer when free to seek shelter on his own. At home, don't leave him trapped in the barn. Evacuate to a safe area if you have time. If not, turn him loose in the pasture. If horses must be turned loose, use a breakaway halter with an identification tag, or a tag with contact information on it braided into their tails for later recovery.

Open Fires

Be prepared to evacuate in a timely manner. Keep a leather halter or a breakaway halter handy with ID tags for each horse on hand. If there's no time to evacuate, the horses may have to be turned loose with the halters and ID tags. If you are caught near flames, keep natural firebreaks, such as roads and rivers between you and the fire. If you meet fire on the trail and cannot get home, ride to the nearest road and find help. If you cannot get your horse home, remove all tack (except a breakaway or leather halter with an ID tag) and turn him loose to give him the best chance for survival.



Stable Fires:

If a fire breaks out, first get yourself to safety and call 911. The meeting place is halfway up the driveway between the Old and Lower barns. Prevention is key. Learn the planned escape routes. Regularly remove fire hazards such as cobwebs and dust. Make sure the hayloft and manure pile are always well ventilated to prevent spontaneous combustion from too much heat. All people should be evacuated from the barn first. Second, Call 911 and get the fire department on their way. Safety officials will want to know the farm address, which is **811 State Route 264 Phoenix, NY 13135**. If possible after calling 911 and only if it is safe to do so, get the cats and horses out of the barn and into the pasture if they are still inside. If necessary, blindfold each horse to safely lead it from the fire. To horses, the barn is a safe haven. Once evacuated, they may try to return to it in a panic.



Old Barn Evacuation Plan: If inside the barn when a fire breaks out, exit through an end door if possible. If access to a door is blocked, there are windows at both ends of the barn- one in the far stall, another in the tackroom. If you cannot open them, cover your eyes and use something to smash the glass and escape. If in the hayloft and access to the stairs is blocked, escape through the window on the back side of the barn and climb down the overhang. If that is blocked, the front of the hayloft does open. If a ladder or safer way of escape is available, use it to climb down. If not, wait for emergency personnel to arrive.

Indoor Riding Arena/New Barn: Exits are located at the far side, round pen side, and two doors at the front of the barn. Exit through any of the doors, and meet at the designated meeting place halfway down the driveway between the Lower Barn and Old Barn. If you are in the hay loft when a fire breaks out, use a ladder located at each end of the hay loft to climb down and vacate the building.



Lower Barn: Each stall has direct outdoor access, and the tackroom has 2 direct outdoor exits. Use any exit and meet at the designated meeting place halfway down the driveway between the Lower Barn and Old Barn.

Chapter 7: Brushes, Blankets, and Tack

A basic guide to help you remember the names of grooming tools, tack, horse parts!



Shedding Blade: Used in short downward strokes on the neck and body to remove excess hair and mud



Curry Mit: Used to remove dirt and hair, and is gentle enough to use on the face and legs.



Curry Comb: Used on the body and neck in a circular motion to remove loose hair and dirt under the hair



Hard Brush: Used in short flicks, starting at the neck and working towards the tail to remove hair from the coat



Soft Brush: Used in long smooth strokes, starting at the neck, working towards the tail to remove any left over dust and hair. Can be used on the body and legs.



Face Brush: A small soft brush used to remove dirt and extra hair from the face.



Hoof Pick: Used to remove dirt and rocks from the bottom of the hoof



Mane Comb: Used to remove tangles from the mane and tail. Start at the hair ends and work up towards the root, brushing down.



Sweat Scraper: Used to remove excess sweat or water from the coat. Long strokes from neck to tail



Large Sponge: Used for cleaning horses



Show Sheen: Used to help untangle manes and tails



Fly Spray: Used to help keep flies off of horses

Blanketing:

How to:

Putting a blanket on: “Front to Back” Start with the chest buckles, then the belly surcingles, then the leg straps

Taking a blanket off: “Back to Front” Start with the leg straps, then the belly surcingles, then the chest buckles

*****Remember, a blanket will stay on with just the front fastened, but it will NOT stay on with just the belly or leg straps fastened.****

Why Put on Blankets?

Blankets help our horses stay warm and dry all winter long. As the temperature drops, horses need to consume more food to maintain their body weight. When a horse eats his food, there is a process that occurs during digestion that helps to warm the horse from the inside out, so the more he eats, the more he can warm himself. By adding a blanket, it helps keep the horse warm so he doesn't need to eat as much to heat his body. If a horse becomes wet in very cold weather, it makes it much harder for him to stay warm. By using blankets, it helps to keep our horses dry and comfortable in all weather, and helps reduce the amount of excess feed they would need to consume if we chose not to blanket.

We believe in turning our horses out in the fields as much as possible, because they are healthier and happier when they are not in stalls all the time. Blankets help make this possible year round, so even in snowy or rainy weather, the horses can enjoy being outside and can stay warm and comfortable at the same time.

Do horses need blankets in order to survive? No, they can survive without one just fine. Some horses prefer to not wear blankets ever, and will remove them themselves! There are some horses who will only wear a blanket when it is extremely cold, and some not even then. As long as they have adequate shelter from the wind and weather and lots of hay, most of them will be OK without a blanket all winter long.

Types of Blankets:



Cooler: A fleece or wool blanket used for helping horses dry after sweating during a workout on a cool day or after having a bath.



Turnout Sheet: A waterproof blanket with no fill used to keep horses dry in wet weather, or to use as a wind break.



Lightweight Turnout Blanket: A Sheet with a small amount of fill for added warmth. Usually waterproof.



Medium Weight Turnout Blanket: A warmer blanket used in winter to help horses maintain their body temperature. Usually waterproof.



Heavyweight Turnout Blanket: The warmest blanket, designed for below freezing temperatures and extreme weather. Usually waterproof.



Stable Blanket: Available as a sheet, lightweight, medium weight, or heavyweight blanket, they are designed for indoor use or as a layer under a waterproof sheet or blanket.



Cotton Scrim Sheet: Designed to keep horses clean before a show or clinic.



Fly Sheet: Designed to keep insects off horses in hot weather. Very breathable.

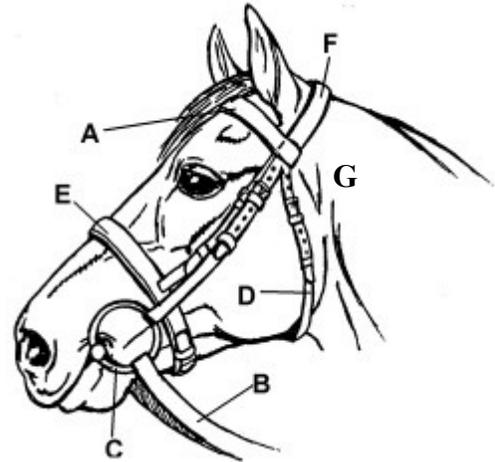


Quarter Sheet: Designed to help horses warm up and cool down in chilly weather. Can also be used for the duration of a ride.

English Saddle Parts

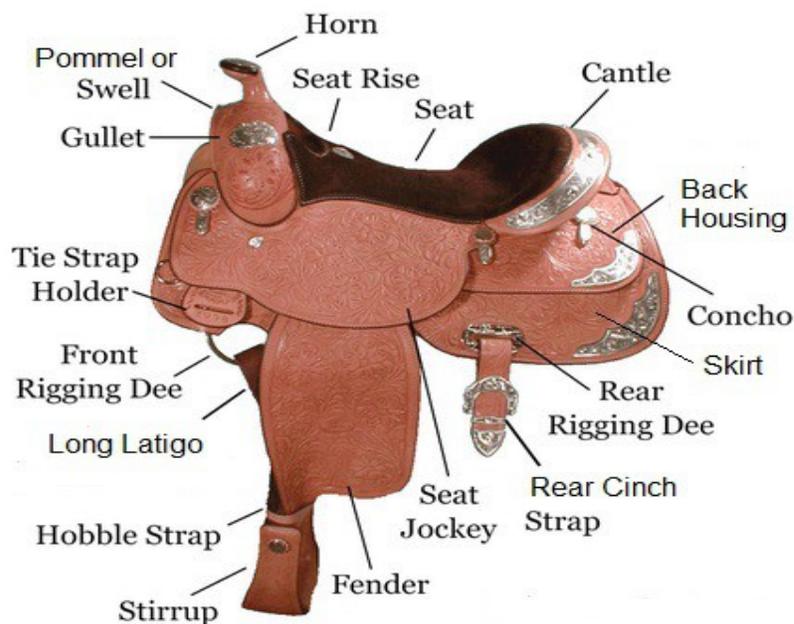


English Bridle Parts



- A: Browband
- B: Reins
- C: Bit
- D: Throat Latch
- E: Noseband/Cavesson
- F: Crown Piece
- G: Cheek Pieces

Western Saddle Parts



Other Types of Horse Equipment

Halter



Lead Rope



Cross Ties



Lunge Line



Exercise Saddle



English Side Saddle



Western Side Saddle



Iberian Saddle



Australian Stock Saddle



Mechanical Hackamore



Bittless Bridle



Bosal



Western Bridle



Figure 8 Bridle



Double Bridle



Standing Martingale



Running Martingale attached to a 5 point breastplate



German Martingale



Breastplate



Breast Collar



Western Saddle Pad



English Half Pad



Western Spurs



English Spurs



Riding Crop



Saddle Bags



Sports Medicine Boots



Splint Boots



Fetlock Boots



Jumping Boots



Shipping Boots



Polo Wraps



Bell Boots



Standing Bandages



Parts of the Horse

