

Choosing the right **Cinch** & correctly applying

it is an important part of maintaining your horse's comfort as well as ensuring that your saddle stays in place during rides. To help you reach an optimal level of comfort and safety when using your cinch, we've put together a list of pointers to keep in mind.

First when choosing a cinch you must determine what shape and type of material is best for your horse. For sensitive skinned horses merino wool lined cinches are great or if you want a non-slip cinch that is easy to clean, a neoprene cinch is the way to go. However, if you want a cinch with a little elasticity or have a horse with a neoprene allergy then traditional mohair cinches are a great option. Once you know what kind of material you want your cinch made of, then you must choose a design – most cinches in the store will have information on the packaging explaining what style of riding and what type of saddle each cinch works best with to help you make your decision.

- Choose a cinch with a stainless steel roller buckle. Not only will it last longer and resist rust, but it will facilitate quick and easy fastening of your cinch.



- When it comes to determining the size cinch your horse will need you must accurately measure your horse. With the saddle on your horse, use a tape measure to determine the space from one rigging ring to the other and then subtract 16" to account for the space that the latigos will stretch down.



- When fitting the actual cinch on your horse, place the middle of the cinch behind your horse's front legs and allow the ends of the cinch to drop about 8 inches from the bottom of your saddle's D-rings when fastened with the latigos.

- When putting your new cinch on your horse, make sure to tighten it in stages so as not to over tighten at first. This could cause your horse to eventually become fearful of having the cinch tightened.

- To ensure your horse doesn't get sores from the cinch, lift and stretch out each of their front legs to make sure that no skin is trapped beneath the cinch where it could rub.

- To keep your horse comfortable and to help your cinch last longer, make sure to clean it every 2 months or when it starts to look dirty. Wash the cinch in a bucket with mild soap and cold water, and then hang dry. Just be sure to get all of the soap off as it could irritate your horse's skin if left on.

The more comfortable the horse, the better the performance.

