

Riding Equipment (Purpose, Use, & Care)

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Information Development

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- developing accurate/current information
- incorporating appropriate pictures/graphics
- providing proper credit of pictures/graphics
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Basic Riding Equipment

- Bit and Bridle
 - Western Type or English Type
 - Bits (Curb or Snaffle)
- Saddle
 - Western Type
 - English Type
 - Blanket



Purpose Of Bits

- Method of controlling the horse's head
- Means of sending cues to the horse
- Transmit the cues to pressure points
- Basically, it is a communication tool



Pressure Points Of Bits

- Seven possible pressure points on a horse's head for bits/headgear to act
 - Direct pressure points (from bit)
 - bars
 - tongue
 - roof of mouth
 - corners of mouth
 - Indirect pressure points (from bit)
 - poll
 - bridge of nose
 - chin groove (chin)

Types Of Bits & Headgear

- Broad Categories:
 - Snaffle (a bit without shanks)
 - Curb (a bit with shanks)
 - Bitless (noseband replaces bit)
 - Combinations of both



Snaffle Bit

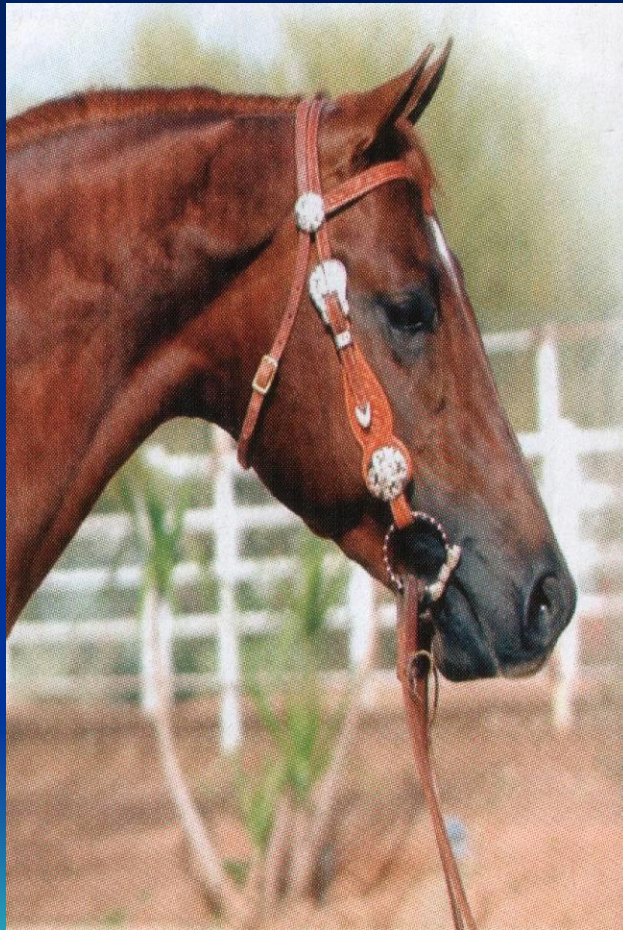
- A snaffle is a bit with no shanks
- It has no leverage action
- It acts directly on the horse's mouth



Snaffle Bit



Snaffle Bit



Curb Bit

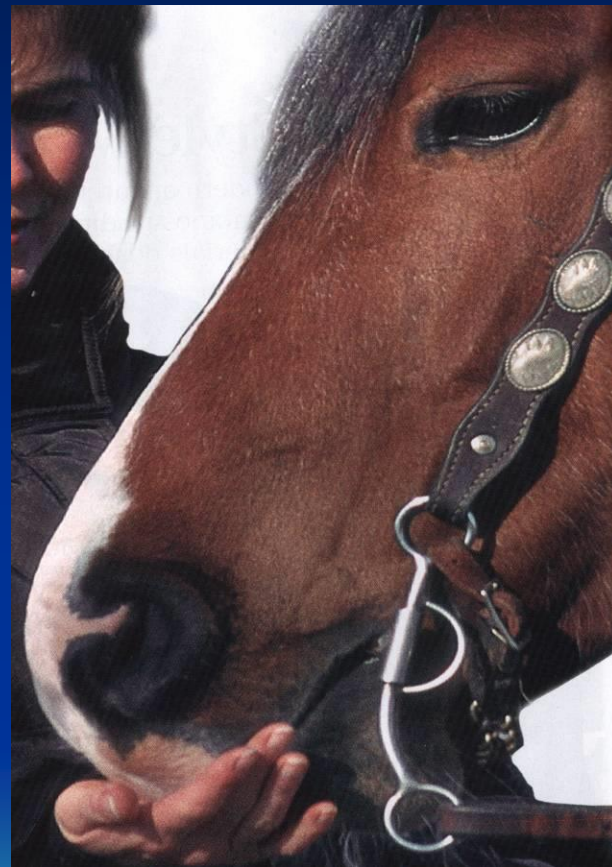
- A curb bit has shanks
- Works with leverage action
- Utilizes a curb chain or strap for function



Curb Bit



Curb Bit



Bitless

- Training (jaquima)- utilizes a Bosal nosepiece
- Mechanical Hackamore- nosepiece made of various materials, shanks and curb chain
- Side-pull...similar to training hackamore, but rope noseband is used, pull is on the side and on bridge of nose, not much under jaw



Bitless---Hackamore



Bitless----Hackamore



Combination Bits

- Pelham English Bit - used with two reins, has both curb and snaffle action
- Kimberwicke Bit - can be adjusted for more curb action or more snaffle-like action
- Full Bridle - includes a snaffle and curb
- Side-pull snaffle bit combinations



Combination Bits

- Pelham English Bit

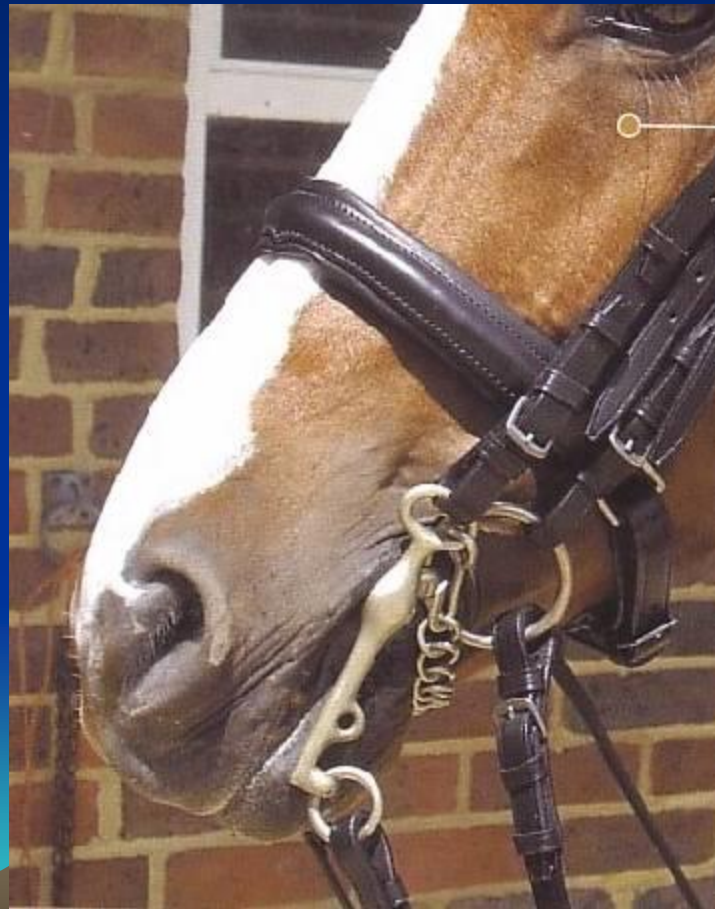


- Kimberwicke Bit



Combinations

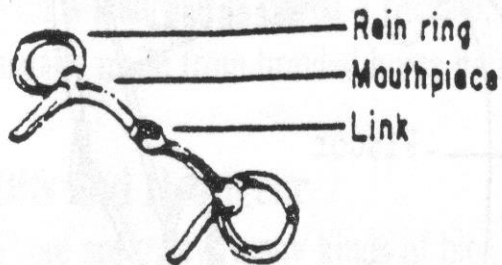
Full Bridle: Includes Snaffle Bit and Curb Bit



Bit Types---Curb & Snaffle

SNAFFLE

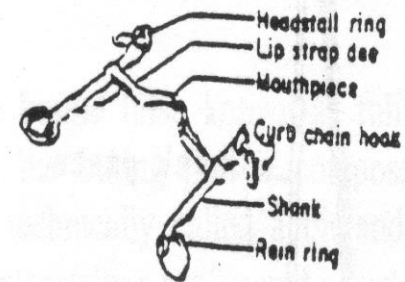
Parts of the Snaffle Bit:



HALF-CHEEK SNAFFLE BIT

CURB

Parts of the Curb Bit:

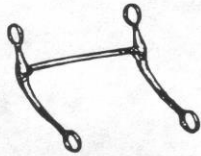


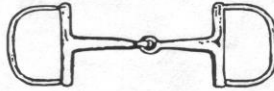
WEYMOUTH CURB BIT

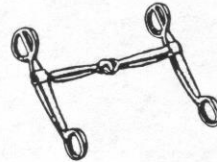
Examples Of Bit Types

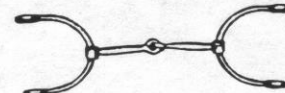
Identify each of the following bits.

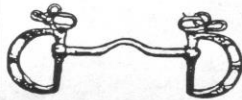
- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Pelham | 6. Tom Thumb "snaffle" | 10. Curb with high port |
| 2. Kimberwick | 7. Gag snaffle | 11. Curb with mullen mouth |
| 3. D-ring snaffle | 8. Twisted wire snaffle | 12. Snaffle with slow twist |
| 4. O-ring snaffle | 9. Curb with donut mouthpiece | 13. Mechanical hackamore |
| 5. Grazing bit | | |



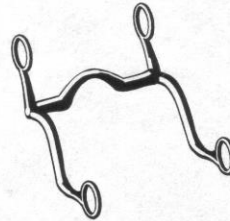




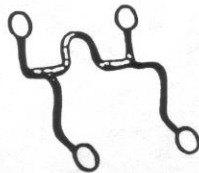


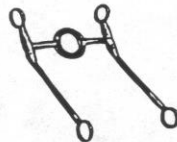




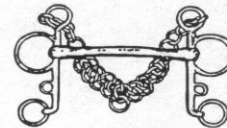






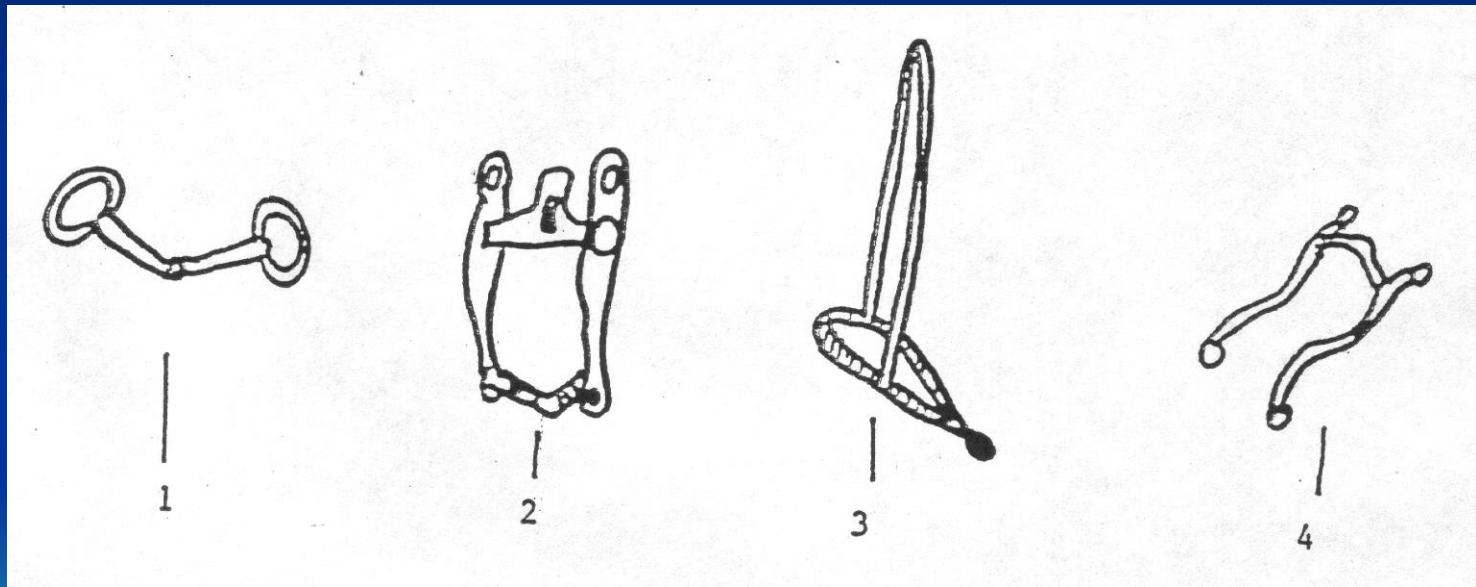








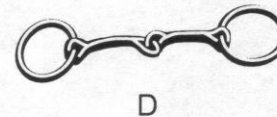
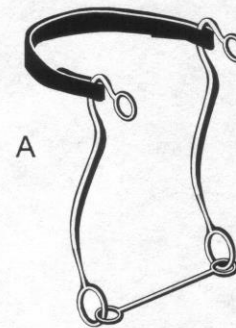
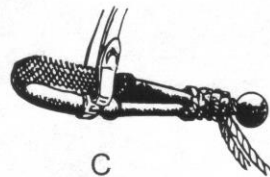
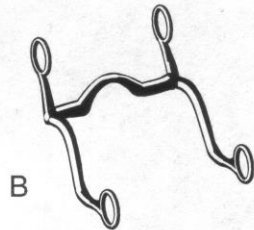
Examples Of Bit Types



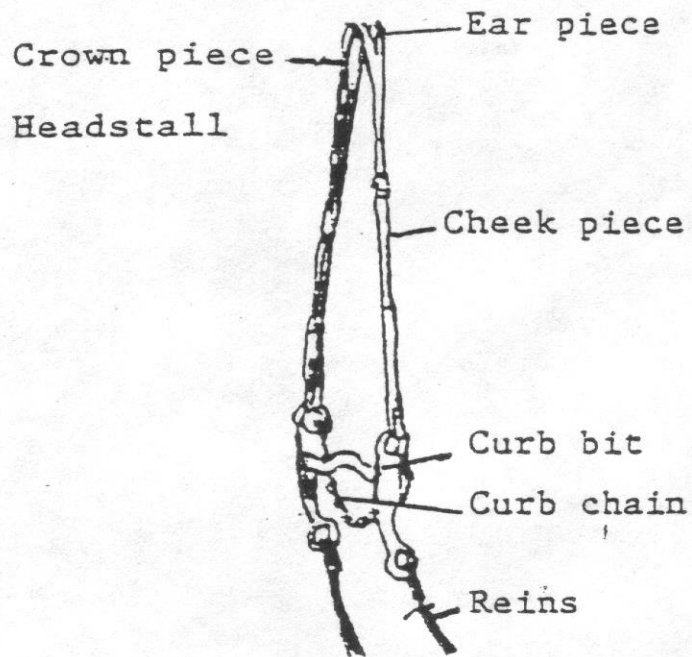
Examples Of Bit Types

Bit Identification

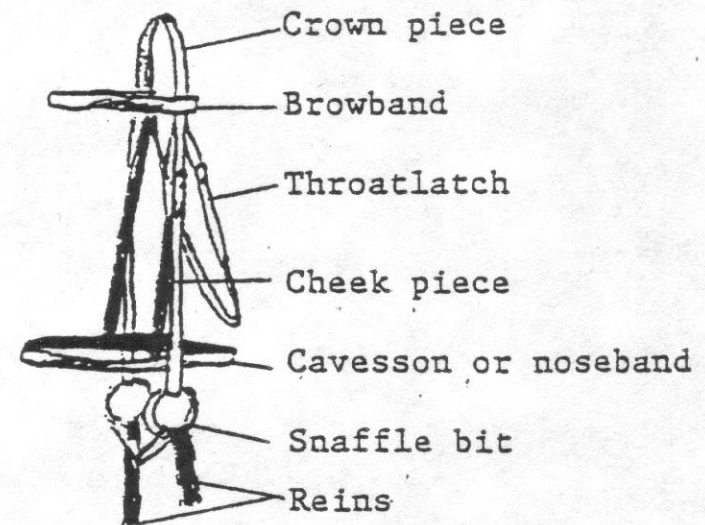
- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Which bit is called a curb bit? | |
| 2. Which bit is a snaffle bit? | |
| 3. Which of the illustrations is a bosal? | |
| 4. Which of the illustrations is a mechanical hackamore? | |
| 5. Which bit would commonly be used on speed event horses? | |
| 6. Which bit or bits are used for training 2-year-olds? | |
| 7. Which bit would you use on an experienced western pleasure horse? | |



Western & English---Bit & Bridle

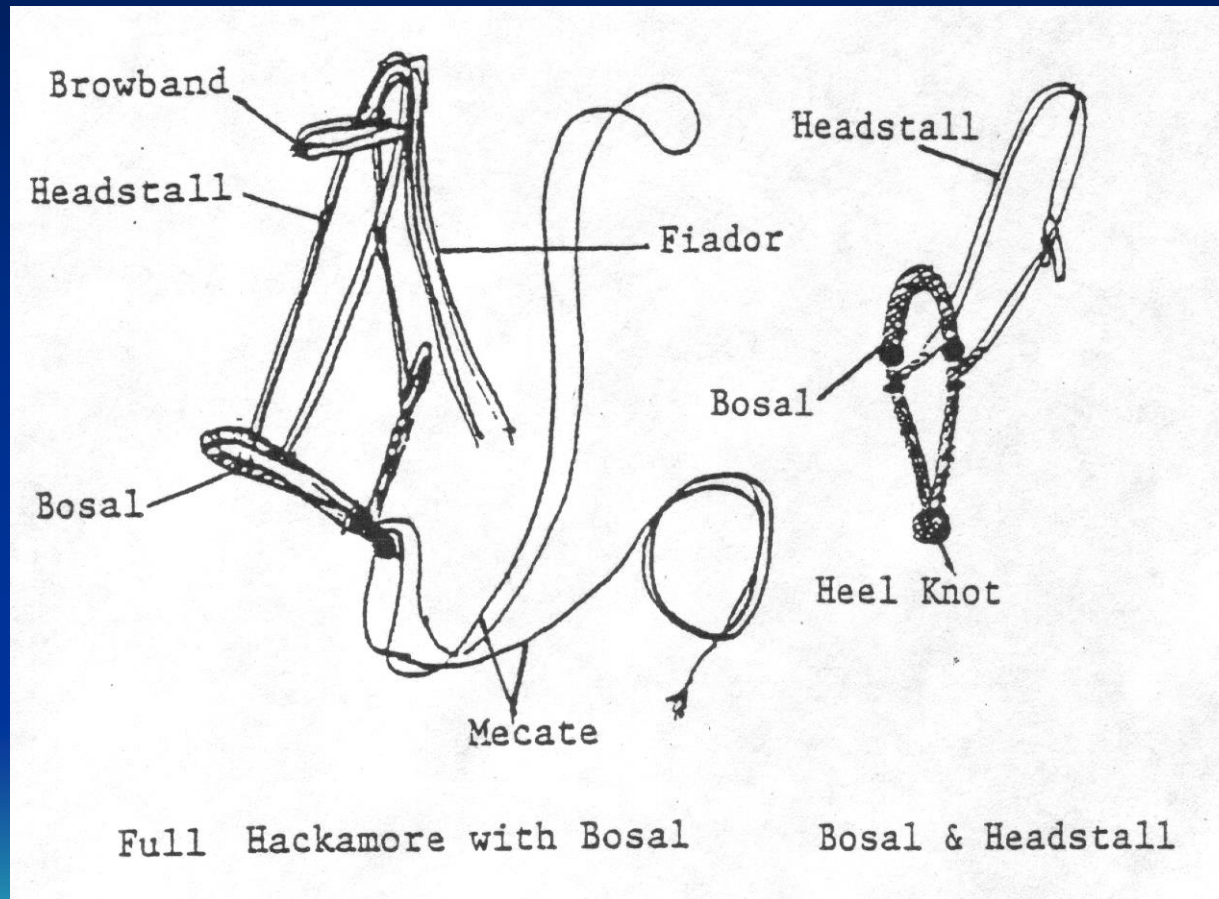


Western One-Ear Bridle
with Curb Bit



English Bridle
with Snaffle Bit

Bitless Setups



Bitting

- Process of getting the horse used to the bit and to the headgear being utilized, of course this can change with the age of the horse or the intended purpose of the ride
- For the horse to become accustomed to and responsive to cues given by the rider
- The objective is to get the horse to flex at the poll (vertical flexion) and carry the head and neck in a relaxed manner while responding in a timely manner and calm manner to the rein cues given by the rider



Artificial Biting Aids

- Martingales
 - running
 - standing
- Side Reins
- Draw Reins



Purpose Of Saddle

- Method of controlling the horse's body
- Means of sending cues to the horse
- Basically, a communication tool
- Safety and comfort of the rider



Saddle Cues

- Leg movement and pressure
- Thigh movement and pressure
- Weight shift of rider's entire body
 - forward or backward in the saddle
 - side to side in the saddle



Two Main Types Of Saddles

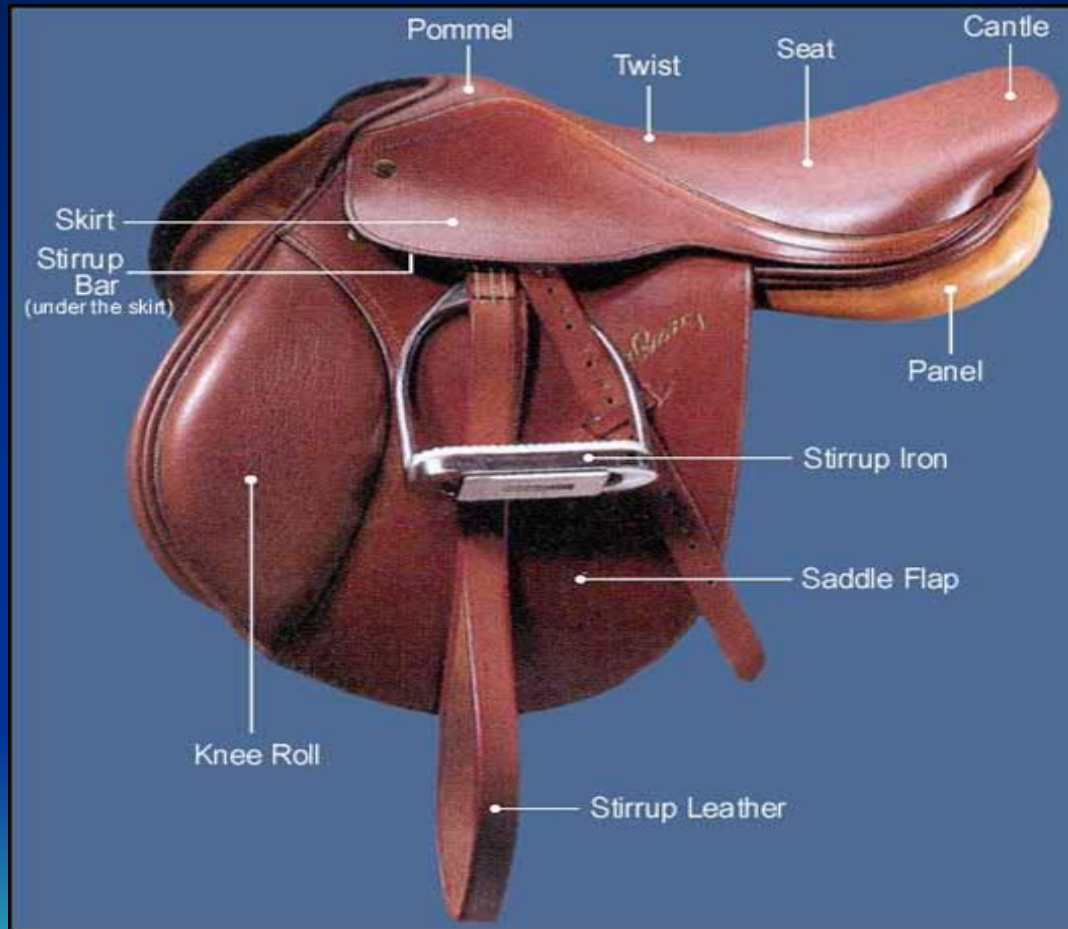
English



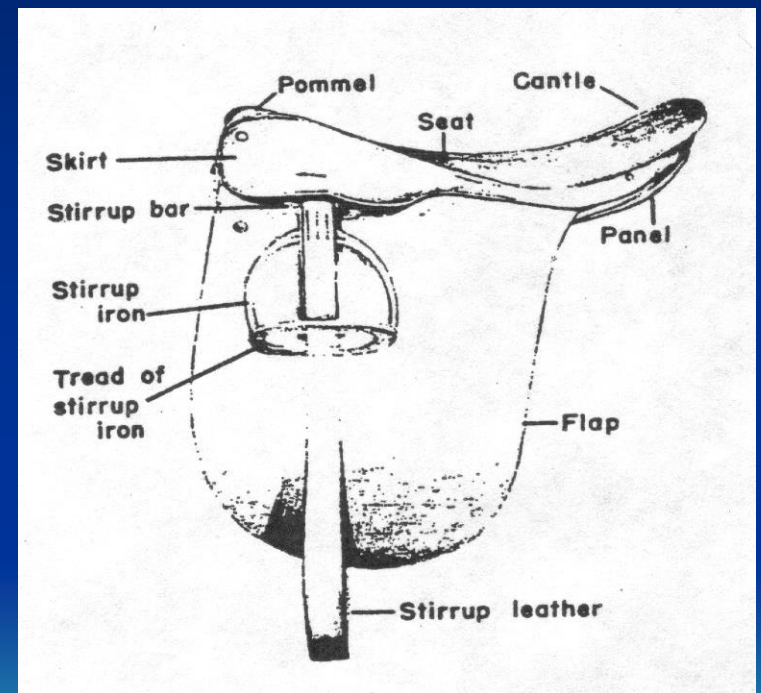
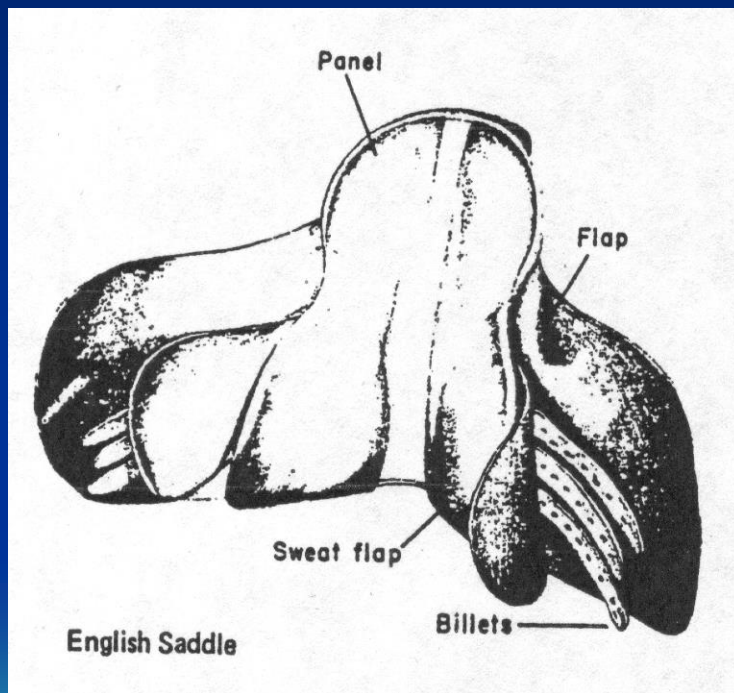
Western



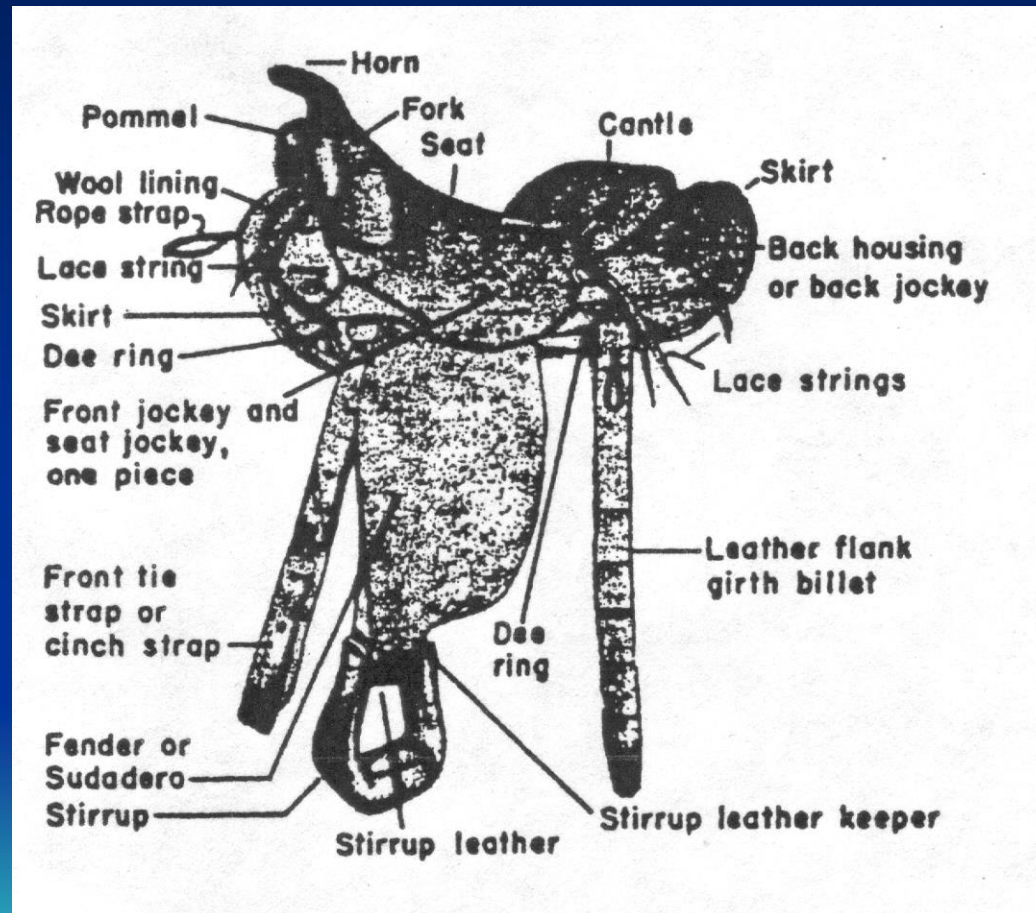
Parts Of English Saddle



Schematic Of English Saddle



Schematic Of Western Saddle

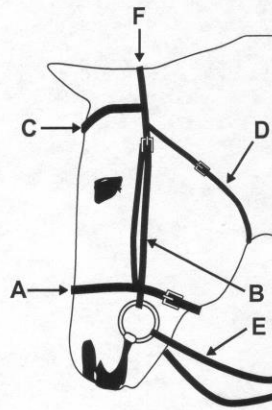


Distinctions: English & Western

For each of the diagrams, identify the labeled part.

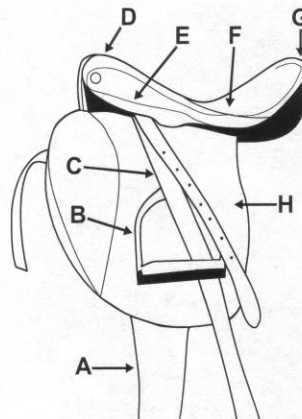
ENGLISH BRIDLE

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.
- F.



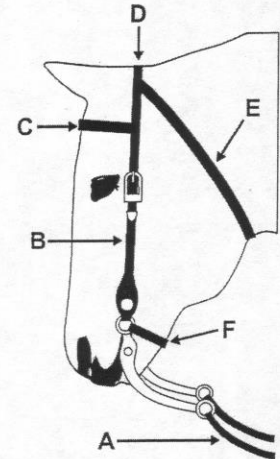
ENGLISH SADDLE

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.
- F.
- G.
- H.



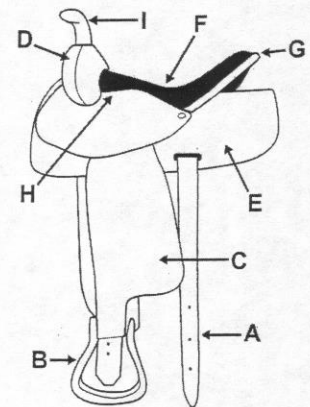
WESTERN BRIDLE

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.
- F.



WESTERN SADDLE

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.
- F.
- G.
- H.
- I.



Riding Equipment: Care & Cleaning

- Remove mud, dirt, etc after every use or as needed
- Clean with a mild soap
 - saddle soap, especially for leather items
 - ivory or other gentle cleaning soap
 - oil-based (Murphy's, for example), especially for leather items
- Moisture (leather items)
 - add, with oils (in dry places like Arizona, Wyoming, etc)
 - Remove, with dryers (in humid places like Southern US)
- Seal if desired, tends to be personal preference



Riding Equipment: Care & Cleaning

- When cleaning, also check equipment for:
 - rips or tears
 - broken or loose straps
 - frayed or wore items
 - anything that is not in proper working condition
- Proper care, cleaning, results in:
 - Equipment that work correctly
 - Equipment that looks good
 - Greater safety and comfort for the rider
 - Greater safety and comfort for the horse

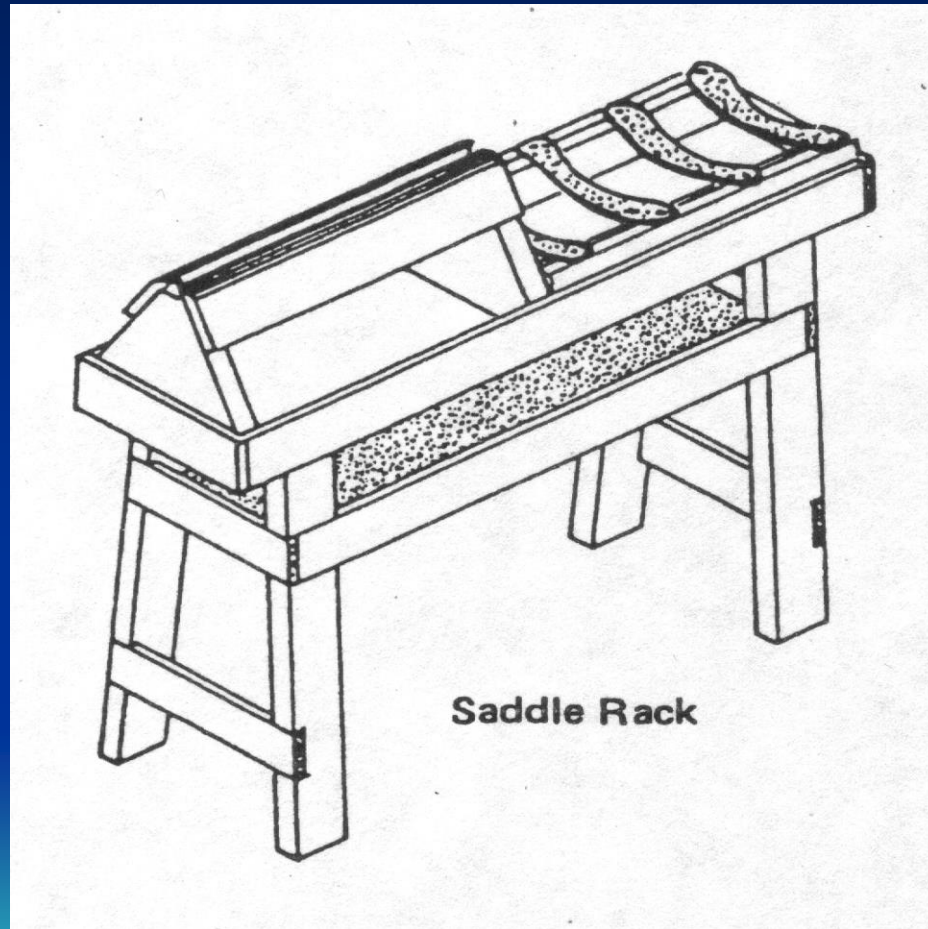


Storage Of Riding Equipment

- Area should be clean and relatively dust free
- Sheltered from environmental elements
- Appropriate storage for each given item
 - some items can be stored in hanging position
 - some should be stored in/on a rack
 - some can be store by simply placing on a shelf
- Preferable to store separate from feed



Basic Saddle Storage Rack



Saddle Storage Racks



Multiple Saddle Storage Rack



Summary Of: Proper Care & Utilization

- The correct use of the appropriate tack
- A more useful and functional horse
- Equipment that is functional and presentable
- Greater safety and comfort for the rider
- Greater safety and comfort for the horse



Results Of: Proper Care & Utilization

