

What's In Your Caboodle?



A Guide For New Show Riders by Claire Karst and Jennifer Burks

You're going to your first show, and you've spent a great deal of time making sure that you've packed everything your horse might need – it seems like you've packed almost everything in the barn! The question is, have you spent time making sure that you've packed everything YOU might need in order to be prepared for the ring? It is important for the rider to be well turned out for the ring in order to make a good impression. Every experienced show rider can tell you stories of getting to a show and not having the items they needed to ready themselves for the show ring. This guide will hopefully help new show riders plan and organize their equipment to ensure that they have everything they need once they reach the show.

I'm Showing in Academy - What Do I Wear?

Jods: Dark colored Kentucky Jodphurs (navy or black) should be 2-3 inches longer than your inseam so that they are not too short when mounted. Polyester jods are the least expensive; however, they do not breathe well and can sometimes be a little slippery on the saddle. Poly/wool blend jods are a little more expensive and breathe better. Cotton/poly blend jods will breathe well, last longer, and will have some stretch. DO NOT purchase low rise jods for the show ring. The shirt will not remain tucked in, and the waistband of the pants will sit below the bottom of the vest in the back.

Jods may be purchased at:

Hartmeyer Saddlery – www.hartmeyer.com

World Champion – www.ehorseequipment.com

National Bridle Shop – www.nationalbridle.com

Show Stopper Tack – www.showstoppertack.com

The Tack Room – A tack store in Roanoke, VA with a large selection of Saddle Seat attire.



The jods come with a pair of standard underpasses (tie downs), but it never hurts to purchase an additional pair of underpasses (available at some of the retailers listed above).

Shirt: Shirts should be long-sleeve fitted shirts with button-down collars or a regular collar (will need a tie bar). Solid shirts are fine; however, it is also acceptable to purchase a striped shirt in a pattern that matches the jods and vest. Many people buy their shirts at Wal-Mart; however, Burlington Coat Factory has a large selection of boys' shirts in lots of fun prints.



You may also wish to purchase a custom shirt from one of the Saddle Seat consignment shops that offer gently used clothing. The custom shirts will be more expensive (ranging from \$50 up to \$150); however, there will be a larger selection of colors and patterns available.

Consignment Shops include:

My Trainer's Closet – www.mytrainerscloset.com

The Good Habit – www.thegoodhabitonline.com



New custom-made shirts are also available; however, these shirts are quite costly (\$90-200 and up depending on the fabric chosen). Should you wish to purchase a new custom-made shirt, you may want to consider:

Le Cheval – www.lechevalltd.net

Becker Brothers, LLC – www.beckerbrothersllc.com

DeRegnaucourt, LTD – www.deregnacourtlltd.com

Vest: Vests should be a solid color that complements the shirt and jods. It is perfectly acceptable (and fun!) to purchase a brightly-colored vest. Many of the online stores above offer academy vests and poly blend vests at reasonable prices, and you may also be able to find a gently used vest at one of the consignment stores listed above.



Tie: Here's where you can have lots of fun! Ties should complement the shirt, vest and jods, but can be in lots of fun patterns. You may find nice ties at Belk, Macy's, and even on eBay. Childrens' ties should not be severe. Make sure that the tie is not distracting, but have fun with the pattern!

Helmet: Academy riders should wear an ASTM/SEI approved helmet. DO NOT purchase a bike helmet for your rider.



Gloves: Leather gloves are available at the retailers listed above. SSG leather gloves are reasonably priced (around \$20).

Boots: Leather jodhpur boots (preferably black) should be worn. Boots may be zip or pull on – lace-up boots are acceptable, but zip or pull-on boots are preferred.



Accessories: Academy riders should purchase the following accessories (* = optional item):

Collar bar – for shirts without button holes

Number pins or magnets – available at World Champion (I can also provide you with instructions & suppliers to make your own magnets)

Tie Tack

Additional sets of underpasses (in case you forget a pair!)

*Garment bag (long enough to keep clothes from wrinkling)

Safety pins (medium sized)

*Tie Roller (keeps ties from getting wrinkled) – available on eBay

I've Moved Up To a Suit – What Do I Need Now?

Congratulations on your move from Academy to Performance! Performance is different from Academy, in that riders wear full suits and derbies. Riders will need a custom suit from one of the better tailors – do not spend the money on a Reed Hill suit, as these are not fitted correctly and are usually not durable.

Suits should be wool or wool blend, and a conservative color. Navy and black are the most common colors, although brown, grey and lighter shades of blue and green are also seen in the ring. Shirts should be fitted, usually with holes in the collar for a tie bar. Shirts and vests may be colorful, but not distracting. Your trainer will tell you whether you require a daysuit or a formal. Daycoats typically have notched collars, while formals generally have a shawl collar and a satin stripe down the outseam of the jods. You may wear a coat that contrasts with your jods unless you are showing in equitation – equitation riders must have matching coats/jods.



Day Suit



Formal Suit

Custom suits may be purchased new from:

Le Cheval – www.lechevalltd.net
Becker Brothers – www.beckerbrothersllc.com
DeRegnaucourt – www.deregnaucaourtld.com
RJ Becht – www.bechtandson.com

You may also be able to find gently used suits from My Trainer's Closet, The Good Habit (see above for websites), or the trot.org classifieds (www.extendedtrot.com).

Before purchasing any item for the show ring, be sure to consult your trainer to make sure you are purchasing the correct item! Do not purchase saddle suits with a two button closure, as those are the old style.

Daysuits are worn with a derby, while formals are worn with a top hat. Derbies and top hats are available from pretty much any of the retailers listed above, although we recommend Hartmeyer.



Derbies



Top Hats

Hat carriers are available at Hartmeyer, and will help protect your derby or top hat. Hats should be steamed and shaped to look like the hats above – the retailer who sells you the hat will be able to shape it for you, and there is usually a vendor at the show who will clean/shape the derby if needed.



Single Hat Carrier



Triple Hat Carrier

To keep the derby's shape, wrap it with a silk scarf, making sure the knot is underneath the bottom of the derby to prevent denting it. Clean it with a hat brush if it gets linty.

What Else Do I Need?

Besides your clothing, you will need makeup and hair accessories. Listed below are the recommended items for your Caboodle.

Makeup:

- ✓ Foundation (for older riders – not really needed for younger riders) – same color as skin
- ✓ Pressed powder (same color as skin)
- ✓ Concealer (1 shade lighter than your skin – optional)
- ✓ Blush
- ✓ Eye Shadow to match rider's complexion – don't worry about matching the suit
- ✓ Eyeliner (optional)
- ✓ Mascara
- ✓ Lipstick (several shades darker than natural lip color)
- ✓ Lip gloss
- ✓ Makeup brushes and sponges
- ✓ Eyelash curler (optional)
- ✓ Q-tips
- ✓ Cotton balls
- ✓ Makeup remover
- ✓ Washcloth (optional)

Hair:

- ✓ Hair Nets (Goodys or Scünci) – make sure these have the small holes
- ✓ Elastic hair ties (thick ones for thick hair, smaller ones for fine hair)
- ✓ Hair Brush
- ✓ Bobby Pins (Large and small)
- ✓ Hair Pins
- ✓ Hair Spray – Freeze It has the best hold
- ✓ Bun Bows to match shirt/vest

Misc:

- ✓ Whip – available at World Champion, National Bridle, and Hartmeyer. Purchase a conservative saddle seat whip – not the brightly colored whips used by hunt seat riders.



Scünci Hair Nets



Saddle Seat Whips



Show Bows

Show Checklist

Clothing (in garment bag):

- Jods
- Shirt
- Vest
- Tie
- Boots
- Helmet, derby or top hat (in hat carrier)
- Gloves
- Daysuit/Formal (if performance rider)

Makeup:

- Foundation (optional)
- Powder
- Blush
- Eyeliner
- Mascara
- Eye Shadow
- Lipstick
- Lip Gloss
- Concealer
- Makeup Brushes/Sponges
- Eyelash Curler
- Cotton Balls/Q-tips

Hair:

- Hair Nets
- Elastic hair ties
- Hair Brush
- Bobby Pins
- Hair Pins
- Hair Spray
- Bun Bows

Accessories:

- Tie Bar
- Tie Tack
- Number Pins or Magnets
- Extra underpasses
- Safety pins
- Tie Roller (optional)
- Electrical Tape (for taping boots and gloves)



Links

Listed below are links to all of the online websites that offer new or used Saddle Seat clothing. If you have a question about an item you are purchasing for the show ring, please consult your trainer.

Clothing:

Le Cheval – www.lechevalltd.net
Becker Brothers – www.beckerbrothersllc.com
DeRegnaucourt – www.deregnaucourtllc.com
RJ Becht – www.bechtandson.com
Marsha De Arriaga – www.marshadearriaga.com
Frierson's Custom Riding Apparel - http://www.horshowcentral.com/bsp_details/friersons_custom_tailored_riding_apparel/2474/1
Saddleseat Connection (new & used) - <http://www.equineexperts.com/ssc/index.htm>
Victor Layne (new & used) - <http://www.victorlayne.com/Enter.htm>
Northville Saddlery (new & used) - <http://www.northvillesaddlery.com/>
My Trainer's Closet (used) – www.mytrainerscloset.com
Garments by Gabrielle (used) – [garmentsbygabrielle.com](http://www.garmentsbygabrielle.com)
The Good Habit (used) – www.thegoodhabitonline.com
Go-N-Show-Again (used) - http://www.prouderheritagetrainingcenter.com/go_n_show_n_again_english.htm
Suited by Susan (new) – www.suitedbysusan.com
Dee Teater Consignment (new and used) – www.deeteater.com
Well Suited Apparel (new) – www.wellsuitedapparel.com
Show Season Custom Riding Apparel – www.showseason.com
Trot.org (used) – www.extendedtrot.com
Hartmeyer (new) – www.hartmeyer.com
World Champion – www.ehorseequipment.com
National Bridle – www.nationalbridle.com

Tack & Equipment:

World Champion – www.ehorseequipment.com
National Bridle – www.nationalbridle.com
Showstopper Tack – www.showstoppertack.com
Hartmeyer – www.hartmeyer.com
Trot.org – www.extendedtrot.com

And of course, there's always.....



Search for Saddle Seat or saddleseat