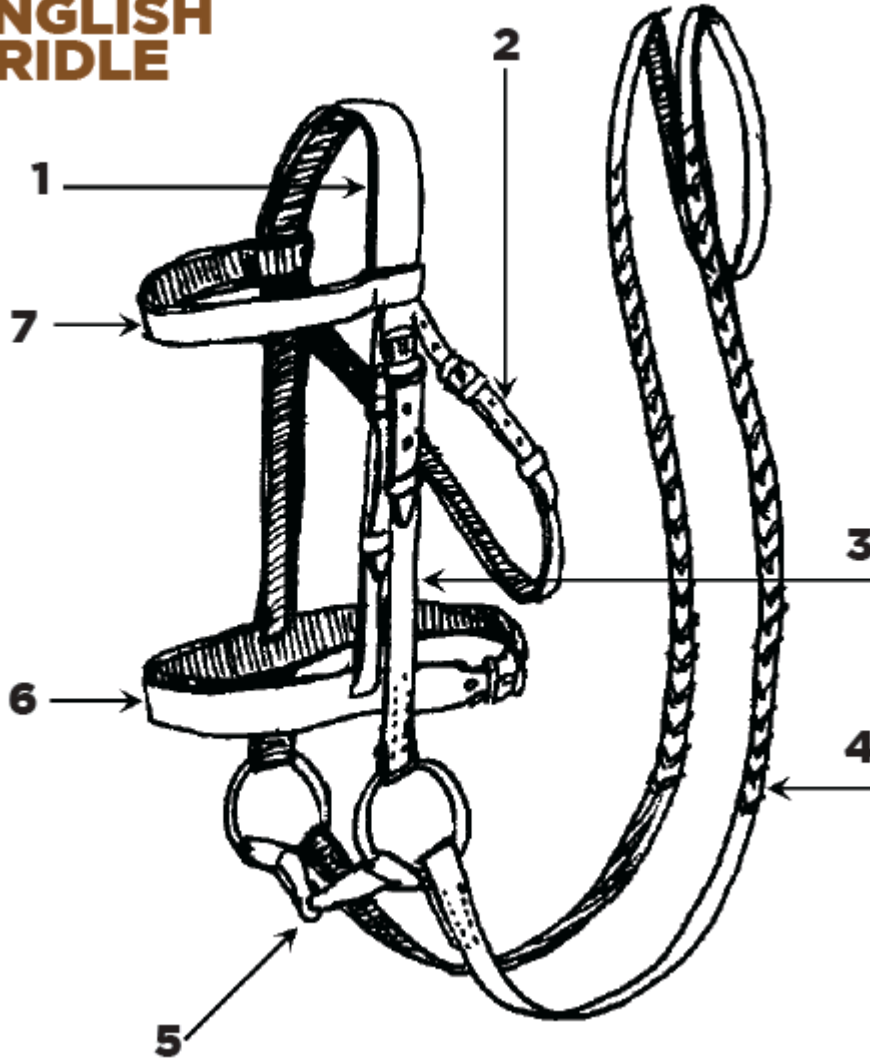




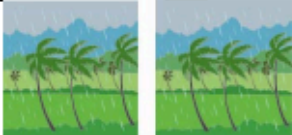




# Identifying Tack

## Parts of the Bridle

### ENGLISH BRIDLE



Part	Purpose	Fit	
_____	Hold the bridle onto the horse's head	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 finger fits under.</li> <li>• Needs to have 2 extra hole above the cheekpiece buckle</li> <li>• Fit without rubbing or pinching the ears</li> </ul>	
_____	Keep the bridle from slipping off over the horse's head	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fit fist or 4 fingers between this and the horse's neck</li> <li>• Loose enough so horse can flex his neck without binding the throat.</li> </ul>	
_____	Connects the headpiece to the bit and runs along the cheeks of the head.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be sure to have 2 extra holes above the buckle.</li> <li>• Don't pull too tight – it will put too much pressure on the bit.</li> </ul>	
_____	It is often used to keep the animal's mouth closed, or to attach other pieces or equipment, such as martingales.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It should sit 1 or 2 fingers below the horse's cheekbones.</li> <li>• Snug, but allow for 1 or 2 fingers to slip underneath.</li> </ul>	
_____	Connects the rider to the bit and the bridle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have keepers for all buckled ends</li> </ul>	
_____	Primary source of control through the horse's mouth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It should not hang too low in the horse's mouth.</li> <li>• The Cheek piece should be tight enough to cause two small wrinkles in the lips.</li> </ul>	
_____	It prevents the bridle from sliding behind the poll onto the upper neck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be long enough so the bridle doesn't rub and pinch the base of the ears.</li> </ul>	

Created by Shore Riders Pony Club, Delmarva, 2012 [www.shoreridersponyclub.org](http://www.shoreridersponyclub.org)



## PONY KNOWLEDGE

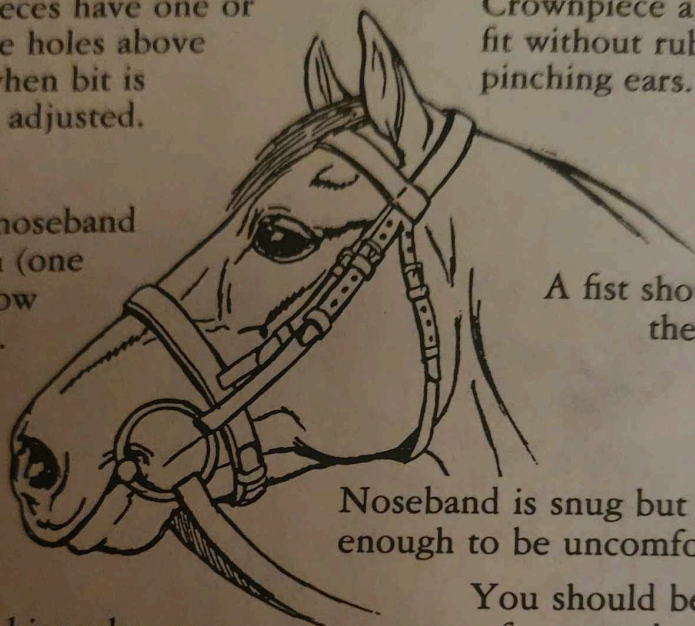
### Proper fit of bridle parts

Cheekpieces have one or two spare holes above buckle when bit is correctly adjusted.

Crownpiece and browband fit without rubbing or pinching ears.

Cavesson noseband lies  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (one finger) below cheekbone.

A fist should fit between the throatlash and pony's cheek.



Noseband is snug but not tight enough to be uncomfortable.

You should be able to slip a finger under any part of the bridle.

Snaffle bit makes two small wrinkles in lips.

All strap ends are in keepers.



## Fitting the Bit



# Parts of the Saddle

**English Saddle**

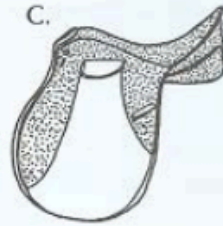
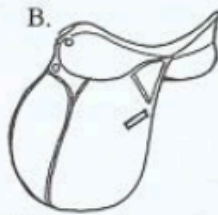
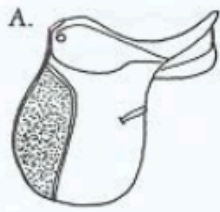
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The diagram shows an English saddle from a side-on perspective. Red arrows with numbers 1 through 15 point to the following parts: 1. Pommel (the front peak), 2. Seat (the main riding area), 3. Cantle (the back peak), 4. Headstaple (the top front edge), 5. Twist (the top edge of the seat), 6. Dee ring (the front attachment point for the girth), 7. Flap (the front edge of the seat), 8. Skirt (the side edge of the seat), 9. Girth (the strap across the horse's chest), 10. Panel (the bottom part of the seat), 11. Stirrup leather (the strap for the stirrup), 12. Stirrup iron (the metal part of the stirrup), 13. Stirrup pad (the leather part of the stirrup), 14. Stirrup leather (the strap for the stirrup), 15. Stirrup iron (the metal part of the stirrup).

SADDLE PARTS	
WORD BANK	
STIRRUP PAD	
GIRTH	
STIRRUP IRON	
FLAP	
STIRRUP LEATHER	
KEEPER	
PANEL	
CANTLE	
SKIRT	
KNEE PAD	
SEAT	
POMMEL	
TWIST	
DEE RING	
HEAD NAIL	



Types of saddles



Recommended for Pony Club use: A, B, and C.  
All-purpose, balanced seat saddles (leather or synthetic).

D. Flat jumping saddle



E. Forward seat jumping saddle



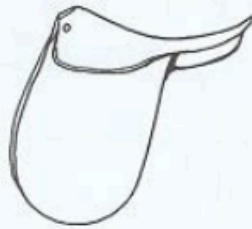
F. Dressage saddle



D and E are less suitable for balanced seat riding and are best for jumping only.

Suitable for dressage only.  
Do not use for jumping.

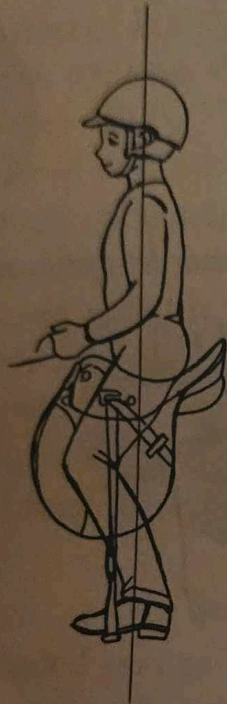
G. Old-fashioned park saddle



H. Saddle seat show saddle



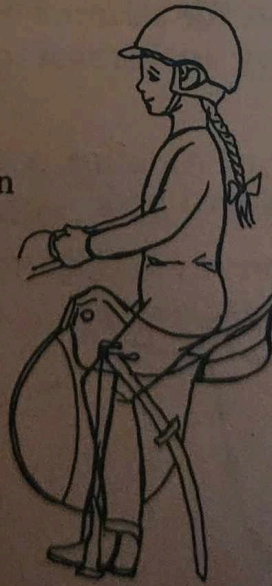
G and H are unsuitable for balanced seat riding and jumping.



Saddle fits rider. Rider can sit in balanced position with one hand's width of cantle behind him, knees behind knee rolls.



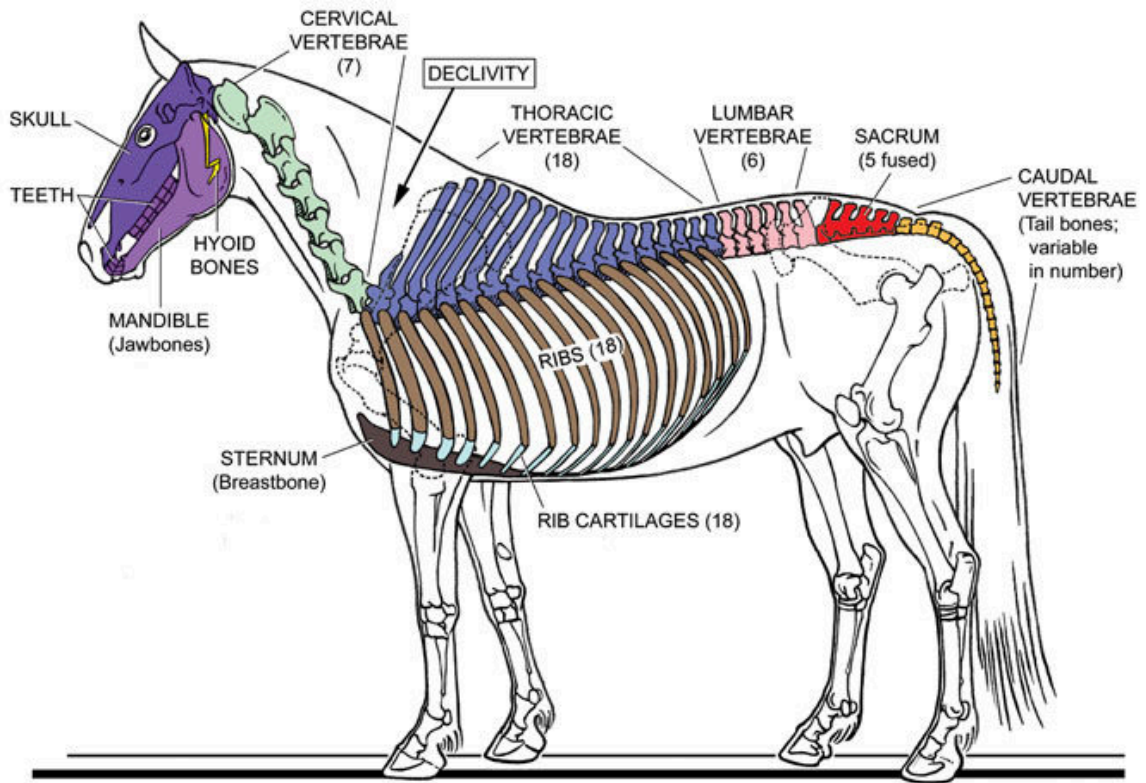
Saddle too small. Rider is stuck in upright position between cantle and knee roll. No extra space behind seat or in front of knee.



Saddle too large. Dip in seat is too far back and stirrup bars are too far forward, causing rider to sit in "chair seat" with legs ahead of seat.

Fitting saddle to rider





**Figure 1**

