

TACK IN FOCUS, Lungeing.

Lungeing tack that is both functional and easy to work with is difficult to find, good safe quality that will last for years does not really exist so we decided to make some for you.

Up until now, most lungeing cavessons on sale has been that of the large brass nose variety that never really lays on the horses face comfortably and slips around, so the horse usually ends up with it's outside eye either rubbed or at the least covered. There is never a cheek strap and jowl strap, but just a noseband and throatlash which is not very stable.

I like to be able to aid through the lunge line to get the horse listening to bend and to develop the correct mechanics (without the horse popping it's cheek bone at me) when I lunge. It seems a waste of time to help him to develop those less than perfect habits of bracing through the jaw and leaning on the line because the fit of the cavesson is poor.

The Wels Cavesson, an older design not seen on the market for 30 years is now being manufactured by us. This design has the advantage of having three straps to secure the nose band and a different shape to the noseplate so it fits snugly around the face and doesn't move. It allows the trainer to control the horse with subtle aids that are received by the horse in a soft fashion while still giving greater control. This cavesson acts on the trigeminal nerve in the same way as a bosel.

There are also side reins that fit a Warmblood, with the ends being buckle attachments which I prefer because then I have adjustments on two places in the rein, the clip ends I find tend to swing around in a painful fashion usually hitting me if not the horse. This type of design is also much more sturdy and resistant to the pulling or playing of young horses.

Another problem I find is that the lunge lines they are selling are either too short, too slippery or too wide for my hands to hold, which makes control really hard. I like my line to be comfortable to hold and yet give me grip. The lunge lines sold at AllEnglishTack.com are cotton or rubber grip, of a good width, and again have buckle ends that don't hit the horse on the nose every time it gives to the aid as they are less heavy. The rubber grip ones are made of an extremely strong material that will not break easily. No stops on the line or hard donuts on the end to remove your fingers (you may say no way but I have seen it happen) or to hit you if you long line with the same line you lunge with, I actually gave myself a black eye when a horse moved unpredictably and one of those donuts hit me in the face!!

Also available are good quality accessories that are easy to work with such as a quality Chambon, we have been using these in our retraining program and have found them easy and safe for horses that have a high head carriage or do not understand the concept of "give" to a light hand. This piece of equipment offers a great way to supple and loosen

backs without the rider on board and is great if the weather is too cold to ride. An option to this is the Degogue which can be switched from a lungeing accessory to a riding one so it gives the rider a continuity in the work of “give”. This comes with a short rein designed especially to go with the Degogue so you don’t have hugh amounts of rein in your hand.