

An American Company That Sets A World Standard



Did you know?

Sometimes finding the right bit for your horse can feel like searching for a needle in a hay stack. Not only are the number of bits available endless, but every horse has different preferences. In order to make your search a little easier, we've contacted two of our resident horsemen, champion reiner and working cow horse rider Bob Avila and eventer Gina Miles, who having designed their own Professional's Choice bit collections are experts on the subject.



"Always start your young horse in a snaffle!"

"Show your horse in the bit that you school with, or at least something very close. At shows you want everything to be as comfortable and familiar as possible."

"When do you switch bits? Some horses I switch every day until I find something I like. Then it might be a year before I change it again."

"I switch up my bits when I'm looking for a different feel, or as horses get older I'll switch them back to lighter bits."

Some additional tips from Gina Miles:



"Always go back to the basics. If you have been using bits other than the basic double jointed snaffle during the competition year, try going back to it during a break from competition or over the winter. It is always a good idea to take a step back and see if your training has been effective and produced a more responsive horse."

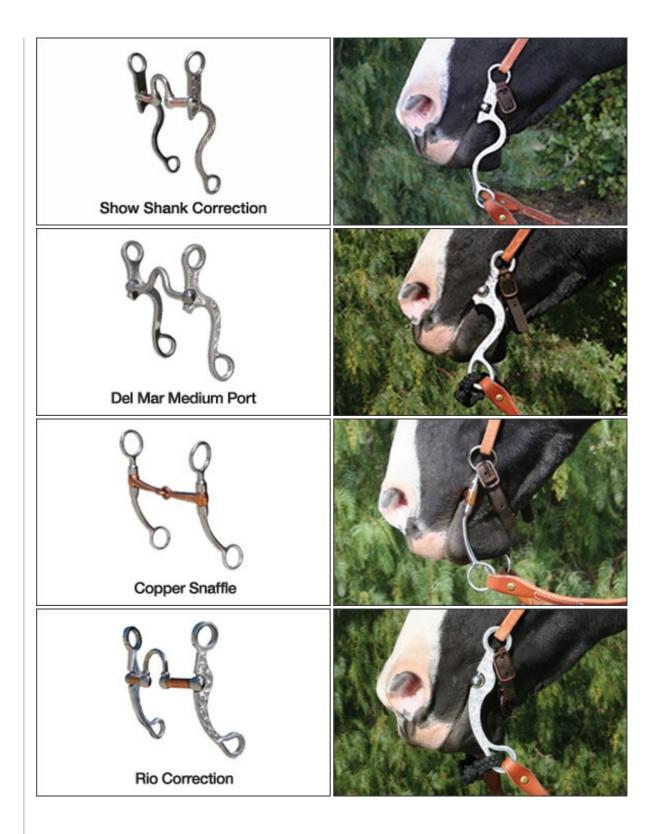
"Consider if you need leverage. If your horse is too strong for a snaffle, you can look to the leverage bits. Ask yourself, 'do I want to get my horse's head up or get it down?' If your horse is high-headed, you want something with leverage on the poll and curb chain, such as a Kimberwicke, or Pelham. If you need to get your horses head up, you need a type of gag bit.

Find several bits you like and then change them up. A lot of times a "new" bit works really well because it feels different in the horse's mouth. It's a good idea to find 2 or 3 bits that work well for your horse and change them around. It will keep your horse's mouth "fresh" and give you that little bit "extra" every time you make a change."

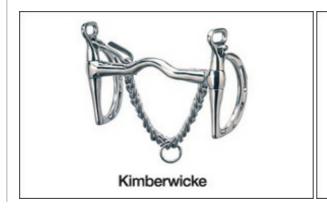
Next time you're looking for a bit, consider these tips above and make sure to check out Bob Avila and Gina Miles' personally designed bit collections displayed below.

Bob Avila Bit Collection





Gina Miles Bit Collection







Loose Ring Waterford



Slow Twist D Ring

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