

AL192: Tack

Entries shall be shown under contemporary Spanish or Portuguese equipment. There are different styles of Spanish and Portuguese tack and attire, which are traditional and correct for the Andalusian horse. It is not correct in either of these two countries to mix attire and equipment (saddles) and should not be acceptable here in the U.S.

1. Spanish

a. Saddle

1. For the Spanish, there are three major types of saddles: vaquera, royal or sidesaddle (vaquera or English), with variations of them all. The vaquera (albardon, jerezana) and vaquera sidesaddles are identical except the sidesaddle has leaping horns, which may be on the left or right to the preference of the rider. The saddle is rectangular in shape covered with sheepskin, having a raised, rounded cantle at the back. It has a canvas under side and is placed directly on the horse without saddle pads. The colors of the leather showing at the cantle or pommel may be dark brown, black or natural. The stirrups are blackened steel, triangular in shape. Crupper strap to match.

2. The royal saddle (includes espanol and portrera) faintly resembles a dressage saddle from the side, but it has a raised cantle and pommel, the overall length exceeds the width of a dressage saddle. It is traditionally, not necessarily, covered in sheepskin. The stirrup is the

triangular blackened steel. Crupper strap to match.

3. Breast collars are only used, but not always, with side saddle and royal saddle, plain or covered with sheepskin. Silver is not used. Plain leather is preferred in Spain, though decorative tooling can be used with the Gala event attire.

b. Bridle and Bit

1. The type of bit used is a blackened steel bit in snaffle, pelham, curb (shank), with low, medium or high port. In Spain, two sets of reins are used for the younger horse, one set attached to the leather covered or wrapped serreta at the nose band (serreta is a curved metal nose piece that is always covered with leather or wrapped to cover the sharp metal points and attaches to the nose band with two rings to attach reins), the top rein coming from the nose band and the regular reins coming from the mouth (snaffle or shanked blackened solid bit) or with the pelham. A leather-covered muscarola (serreta without ring attachments) may also be placed on the noseband depending on the training level of the horse.

2. The bridle leather is dark brown, natural or black to suit the horse with or without throatlatch. Vaquera without throatlatch, royal and sidesaddle with or without throat latch. Plain leather is preferred in Spain, though decorative tooling can be used with the Gala event attire. All hardware is of blackened steel. With each of the three types of saddles, an appropriate bridle will have a brow band with a mosquero (fly screen) made of long leather fringe or of horsehair (having three circles in a pyramid at

the top and tassels) not to extend below the noseband.

AL193: Attire

1. Spanish

a. Vaquera, Feria, Gala or Exhibition: the attire for the rider in the vaquera or royal saddle, male or female is almost identical.

1. Traditionally the high waisted short jacket is of conservative colors, dark or light grays, blues, burgundy, greens browns and tans. May be solids, hounds tooth or faintly striped. Black jackets are generally for evening events. The jacket ends above the waist and has five buttons on each sleeve angled from the wrist lightly back towards the elbow. If the jacket is that of vaquero style, it has five buttons down the front and two side pockets. The jacket is worn open for the women and buttoned at the top button for the men. It has no collar and no cuff. The female style may have a small collar. Some exhibition and gala jackets do not have buttons, they may have black or contrasting trimmings, embroidery, and a vest may be worn.

2. The pants rise high into the waist and have suspenders to hold the pants at this height. The pants are of the color that compliments the color of the short jacket, dark gray with a black stripe, brown stripes, green stripes, navy stripes or solid colors. The pants are of two different styles, pantalon and calzona depending on the discipline in which the rider is riding. Pantalon style ends with a turned up white cuff and the calzone at mid calf

panel with buttonholes, in which dangles a grouping of silver or natural material ornaments, called cariles. There is no belt worn. A colorful scarf or sash is worn around the waist and tied on the right side.

3. The shirt is plain white with a turned down collar (not button down), for the men and lightly ruffled for the women.

4. The hat is flat crown, with flat brim. Conservative color to match the attire of the rider. The hat should be a darker shade of color. Black and shades of grays are the most used. Protective headgear may be worn without penalty (see GR801.4).

5. There are two styles of boots. Boto compero are tall, rough out, low heeled boots and worn with pantalon style pants (white cuff). Botins are ankle height, rough out boots always worn with half-chaps called polainas and these are worn with the calzone style pants. Boots are of natural leather (brown) never black. The polainas are plain or tooled to varied degrees with fringe at the top of the spat (which is worn under the pant).

b. For the sidesaddle rider (Amazona)

1. Wears the same styles of jackets as described above.

2. The skirt is to match the jacket in conservative colors or in black, long full skirt with large pleat, buttoning the back for walking.

3. The shirt is white as above or with stand up collar and ruffles. The rider wears conservative single stud earrings.

4. The flat hat as described above to coordinate with the jacket worn or the Calanes hat, with the hair covered with colorful scarf in a hair net (madroero). Protective headgear may be worn without penalty (see GR801.4).

5. Her boots are dark boto compero or black.

6. She will carry a whip to the off side absent the leg. The overall look is subdued elegance.

c. For “A La Grupa”

1. The male rider wears the attire of the above vaquera riders.

2. The feria dress is worn when the woman is riding a la grupa only. She should have flowers in her hair, bracelets of the color of her dress on her arm, earrings also matching the dress. Gold and diamonds are not appropriate. Colorful plastic is in order. She should have a fringed scarf, which makes a “V” at the back of the dress emphasizing the plunge of the back (and pinned into place), and pinned in the front of the bust. The fringe should either lightly flow over the ruffles of the shoulder or be completely contained in the front and in the back.

3. She will sit fully to the left or right, putting her right or left arm around the waist of the male; with her left or right hand under the tiers of flounces holding onto the crupper. She is sitting on a small pad, which is held in place by the crupper, which passes through the under side of the pad. Feria (Flamenco) dress is not permitted to ride astride or sidesaddle. It is not native to Spain.

