

Latigo With the Flow

IN THE LAST ISSUE, WE TALKED ABOUT HOW TO put on a new double off billet, which fastens the girth to the right side of your saddle. Let's swap sides now and talk about how to put on a new latigo – the strap on the left side of the saddle that tightens the girth.

It's important to inspect your latigo for wear and get it replaced immediately if it starts showing any signs of age. This is one piece of tack that you really depend on.

But like the double off, latigos are not something you replace every day, so you might not know exactly how to go about tying one.

If you went to a tack store and bought a new latigo, the string might not even be threaded through correctly, so you wouldn't have a model to copy if you'd already taken off your old latigo.

Luckily, it's pretty simple, if you follow these steps:


1. Place the latigo over the D ring of your saddle, with the short flap to the outside.

2. There should be two holes at the bottom, with a third hole at the top, forming a triangle. Take your latigo string and feed it, front to back, through the bottom two holes, making sure it is centered, with an equal length of string on each side.

3. For the next step, you'll need a tool. An awl or a pair of needle-nose pliers works best, but a hoof pick will work in a pinch.

4. Take the tool and widen the top hole in the latigo.

5. Thread both ends of the string through that third hole, going from back to front.

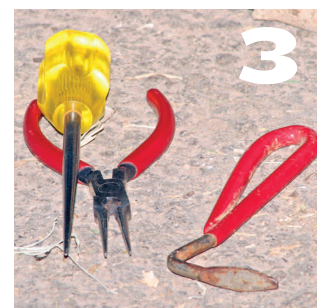
6. Feed the ends through the loop formed in between the two bottom holes and tighten the knot as much as possible. 

AQHA member Dennis Moreland has been making quality working tack since 1976. Visit www.dmtack.com to learn more about his Dennis Moreland Second Edition line.

By Dennis

Moreland

Simple steps to put on a new latigo.



AMERICA'S HORSE PHOTOS