



Tips for the Savvy Shopper

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Thrifty Tips for the Savvy Shopper

The sport of show jumping is not exactly the cheapest sport, so I have compiled a few ideas to help out your bank account.

Ivory dish soap goes a long way in keeping your horse clean. It is especially good for keeping white legs bright and grey horses grey. And it is also antibacterial to help prevent scratches and fungus. You can find it at most grocery stores and you can even get it in big jugs if you have several horses to look after.

Another useful item to have on hand is a set of cat soccer ball toys. They are small foam balls that are bright in colour. They make great ear plugs for schooling at home or for your jumper that wears a bonnet. Also the bright colors are easy to find in the sand if your horse shakes one out.

Never Dull is a great product found at most hardware/auto body stores, such as Canadian Tire, and is great for stuffing cork holes. It also keeps the threads nicely clean and oiled.

A tensor bandage makes a great tail wrap. If you soak the tensor in water prior to wrapping the tail, it will keep the braid nice and tight. These are available at most drug stores, but it is important to find quite a long one so that it reaches all the way to the bottom of the braid.

These items are great ways to save a little cash, but there are definitely a few items on which you don't want to spare any expense – good quality tack is a must, for example.

There is nothing worse than getting to the end of your jumper braid and having your elastic break on you! I suggest investing in good braiding elastics from the tack store, and not the cheap ones from the drugstore. It could save you a lot of time and keep your lips from snapping elastics in your mouth!

A good hairnet that is thick with strong elastic is recommended to keep those stray hairs in. And don't forget the hairspray!

It is important to have a good quality quilt for wrapping your horse's legs after a horse show day. Thin or lumpy bandages can do more harm than good. A thick quilted bandage or Back On Track bandage are well worth the investment and will last you a long time with the proper care.

Turnout and stable blankets are also items that should be bought with quality over price in mind. A good quality-made blanket will last you much longer and end up costing you less in the long run than the cheap and poorly made ones. Horses can be very destructive animals and will probably shred a poorly made blanket in minutes.

There are many good quality items in tack stores that you don't want to pass up on, but with a little creativity it's possible to save big time on a bunch of things!



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