



Tips for video taping your show rounds

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TIPS FOR VIDEO TAPING YOUR HORSE:

We have all seen it online: a sales video of a horse (or so we think), and the videographer either used a device without a zoom function or they didn't bother to use it... faux pas, party foul, my bad – all of the above!

Here are some tips to help you have fantastic videos that will really show your horse off!

First things first, do not use your phone or iPad for taking a serious video of show jumping... ever! This won't be good enough to review and learn from, and it will only hide the mistakes your coach was telling you about.

Second, do get a proper video camera; these days, video cameras are so reasonably priced, it won't take long to save up to get one. Alternatively, get a group of people at your barn to go in on one together, or see if your coach will buy one and split the cost amongst all of their riders. Take turns at the shows videotaping one another's rounds. This will be useful to improve your learning, and to promote camaraderie in your stable!

Third, learn to competently use your zoom feature more than you might think.

Finally, hold the camera steady while filming. To do that, always use two hands holding the camera, and watch carefully through the viewfinder – do not try to watch the live action while wildly swinging your hand about thinking you're capturing the horse properly! Unfortunately if you are the videographer, you cannot be a spectator at the same time! If you prefer to be the spectator for your friend or family member, try and find someone who can film for you.

Hopefully this note will help improve videotaping of show jumping across the world!