

Trail Kit

Golden Cross Ranch, LLC ***Having Fun With Your Horse***

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How the Trail Kit Came To Be

“Although we do most of our work in an arena, sometimes we both need a break and it’s always great to get a change of scenery – I think Dylan and I both find it very refreshing. It also gives us an opportunity to interact in a whole different way – trail riding presents unexpected obstacles and situations that are far different from the familiar safety of arena riding. We learn to trust each other more when we are in new situations. The trail kit is all about having fun enjoying God’s creation with your horse, while providing items that will help you stay safe.”

Recommended experience level: Because the trail kit requires solid riding skills, we recommend this kit for the experienced rider.

Trail Kit Item List

Please Note: While we try our best to provide the exact items seen here, if we are unable to order a specific item from our suppliers, we reserve the right to replace it with an as good or better quality item that provides a similar function.



Heavy Duty Tote Bag Bonding Kit Color: Blue

Dimensions: 18 ½" x 14 ½" x 4" with 27" double handles

Material: 600D Flexar Canvas

Our tote bag is very sturdy and has with lots of room. It is a great way to carry the items you will be using in your Trail Kit!



Sponge for Horse Hydra Finepore All Purpose Body/Bath Sponge 6 ½" x 4" x 2"
What a great way to cool down your horse or to give him a bath!



Hand Towel for Human Color: Blue, Dimensions: 16" x 28" (wash before first use)
Working with horses can be hot, sweaty work so we included a hand towel for you to use to cool off or clean up with.



Insulated Lunch Bag for Horse and Human to share Foam insulated with waterproof lining. Front pocket. Has a handy carrying strap that can also be looped onto a saddle horn and an easy open Velcro fastener.

Bonding Kit Lunch Bag Color: Blue

Dimensions: 9" x 7" x 4 ¾"

Material: 70D Nylon

I get shaky if I go too long without a snack. Our lunch bags can easily hold those snack bars, fruit or sandwiches that are so important for a fun session with your horse – you don't want to get hungry in the middle of your time together and not have something to eat!



Aquaclip for Water or Beverage Bottle (assorted colors) A handy gadget for securing your water or beverage bottle to your saddle or it comfortably slips over your waistband or belt. It also comes with “gripper teeth to open stubborn beverage caps. The aqua clip is durable, non-toxic and recyclable. Water bottle not included.



Cell Phone Holder 7” x 4.5” Very Sturdy Cell Phone Holder with clip. Comes in your choice of black or green, according to availability. This is one big cell phone holder – large enough for a PDA and rugged enough to last. A great way to keep your cell phone with you while out on the trails. Always remember to attach your phone to you and not to your horse, in case you get separated. You sure don’t want your horse making any long distance phone calls or using up your minutes and you need it with you in case of an emergency!



Timber Creek Lensatic Compass

This compass is easy to use and lightweight – a perfect combination for using on the trails. It has a luminous dial and a durable plastic case well-suited to outdoor activities. A handy way to keep oriented, especially when exploring new trails!



Coleman 60 Piece First Aid Kit Color: Red

I love this little First Aid Kit because it has so much in it for its size and clips right onto my saddle. This First Aid Kit contains 3 insect repellent, 3 sunscreen lotion, 1 poison ivy cleanser, 3 sting relief pads, 9 antiseptic towelettes, 1 splinter remover, 3 burn cream packets, 3 hand sanitizers, 3 hydrocortisone packets, 1 moleskin, 5 waterproof bandages 1" X 3", 10 adhesive bandages 3/4" X 3", and 15 adhesive bandages 3/8" X 1-1/2". If you are out in the woods enough, sooner or later you'll be glad you have this along!



Horse Journal Color: Tan and Green with Beige Pages Dimensions: 7.5" X 9" Page Count: 200

This journal is perfect for recording your trail riding experiences. The pages prompt you to log the terrain, destination and who your riding companions are, as well as the general of the conditions of the ride like your horse's behavior. It also has a section for competitions where you can record your horse's performance and prizes/places received.



Mrs. Pastures Cookies for Horses A sample pack of three cookies is included in your kit. Dylan loves these cookies and gets two every time I go to the barn – and he knows it too! All natural ingredients made of oats, wheat bran, rolled barley, cane molasses, apples and water with no additives or preservatives. Because they are dehydrated instead of baked, they are hard and crunchy so they won't crumble in your pocket. We also offer a variety of sizes on our website.

HAVING FUN WITH YOUR HORSE AND THE TRAIL KIT



On a recent trail ride, Dylan and I were out on the trails behind the barn that head towards the lake, with my friend and her horse riding next to us. We were riding in an area we had not been to before, and the ground was quite muddy in places. At one point Dylan's walk started to feel strange and I called out to my friend who was ahead and to the side of us, to look and see what was happening. Dylan had sank almost to his hocks in the mud, and he had remained so calm that I did not realize it until my friend explained what was happening. Dylan carefully lifted his rear legs out of the muck while I did my best to stay balanced and give him plenty of rein to do his job – keep us both safe while getting us out of that jam! Dylan came through with flying colors and I was thrilled to see how much trust we had between us. He trusted me to allow him to do what he needed to do and I trusted him to get us through safely. I sure am proud of Dylan and what a brave boy he is!

We recommend that you attach the cell phone holder to your belt loop and not to your horse. If you have an accident and become separated, it won't do you any good if your cell phone has galloped off with your trail mount! A compass is always handy to have whether you are in the city or the country. If you are directionally-challenged like me, it really helps to have one along to stay oriented. The first aid kit is also a handy addition to your tack and I picked this one because it addresses lots of the minor annoyances that occur in the woods and clips right onto your saddle. You may want to supplement it with items that are specific to your needs, I like to include antihistamine tablets or ibuprofen in mine.



I think the horse journal is an especially exciting addition to the trail kit. A full-sized journal, it gives you plenty of room to make notes about your ride. With topics that include Weather/Elements, Route/Trail Markers, Behavior of Horse and more, it gives you an awesome way to document your trail ride both for future reference and as a great way to record the highlights of your trip. I will never forget our trail ride to Lake Ray Roberts on my mare Rosie last year. It was a beautiful day and we were gone for hours, enjoying the trails that were home to such bountiful nature. There were so many fun obstacles to ride over or through. I wish I knew about this journal back then – there are so many ways to go and so much beauty to enjoy at Lake Ray Roberts and it is easy to get the different trail heads mixed up. I would definitely have appreciated having that trip recorded as a permanent record that I could enjoy and use as a reference for future rides.

One last piece of advice – If you are going out on trails, it is always a very good idea to apply the buddy system. No matter how solid your horse is, no matter how trail-broke he is, accidents can still happen. When I flew off my mare and broke five ribs last February – I was on a trail ride. My horse at that time was being very stubborn and uncooperative, and in a moment of inattention on my part, she turned and bolted hard to the right – leaving me flying through the air as gravity took its natural course. I landed on my side on hard packed dirt that felt like cement. Two things were in my favor. I was riding with a friend, who immediately went for help. Within fifteen minutes a pickup truck appeared to take me back to the barn, and then another friend drove me to the Emergency Room. The second thing was that my cell phone was in my pocket. When I caught my breath, I started making phone calls while waiting for help to arrive. Because my friend was already on his way, there was no need to call 911, but if I needed it I had that option. I used the time to make phone calls to arrange for a friend to pick up my son from school and to call my husband to meet me at the Emergency Room. I certainly didn't start out that trail ride expecting to get hurt, but accidents can happen no matter what you are doing. I was very grateful that I had asked a friend to accompany me, and it was very comforting to have my cell phone while waiting in the middle of a deserted area out in the country for help to arrive. I know lots of folks choose to ride alone and it is tempting to be out in God's creation with just you and your horse and the peace that comes with that. But if you do choose to do that, please make sure someone knows your route and how long you expect to be gone. Checking in with a friend with your cell phone at regular intervals is also a good idea. Have fun on the trails and be safe!



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