

Quick Tips:

By Caroline Hodges

Fitting Tack Properly

Fitting miniature tack to your model is vital, particularly in the Live Show ring where judges will be scrutinizing your set up looking for poorly fitting tack which will lower your placing considerably. If you are making tack yourself take a look at the tips below. When ordering miniature tack from a tack-maker, always specify which model you want the set to fit.

They may ask for measurements if they do not have the mould you have, or even ask you to send the model to them to have the tack fitted perfectly, but this can be expensive, especially if you're sending a heavy traditional sized resin abroad!

- Cheek pieces on bridles should NEVER be in contact with the eyes of your model. Can you imagine the effect this would have on a live horse in reality?

- Noseband's should also be checked very carefully. On a real horse, placing the noseband in the wrong place can interfere with breathing. Though your model is in no danger of keeling over, you must pay heed to the proper position of the noseband if you want to get anywhere in the show ring.



Displaying Your Miniature Tack

- When displaying your tack for long periods of time, always check regularly that the leather is not marking your models' paintwork. Some things can help prevent this – always using a numnah or saddle blanket for example. But there will always be parts of the leather that is in contact with the model – bridles, girths etc so checking regularly is vital. I recommend only displaying tack on a model for a few days at a time at most.
- A tack room for your model tack is a great investment. You could either buy one, or have one made. But, failing that, you can always pack your tack away when not in use. When doing this, I recommend storing your tack sets in separate boxes and marking them clearly with what's inside. Never store with other obstacles for showing such as jumps as they may scratch or tear the leather.

Sticky-wax is definitely the best way of keeping bits and other parts in place, but if you don't have any but still want to get that snap to enter the upcoming Photo Show, try a little blue tack. It works exactly the same but again, make sure this is all removed from both model and tack straight after as it can go very tacky after long periods of time and is impossible to remove. At Live Shows, Sticky-wax is a must as it is clear and therefore looks more realistic which is what you are trying to achieve in the Live Show ring.

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Opening Times:

We are open weekdays from 10am-4pm and selected weekends throughout February and March.

Confirmed dates in addition to weekday openings are: 19th Feb 2005 and 26th Feb 2005 from 10am-1pm. March dates to be confirmed.

If there is any other time you would like to visit, just give us a call and we can be here especially for you.

Any questions or queries just give us a call: **Tel: 01371 875855**