

Peruvian Tack

The *jato* (headgear) is made of intricately plaited rawhide, usually goat, and is frequently decorated with metal pieces made of silver or nickel. Simultaneously, the horse wears on his head a *jaquima* (halter), a *brida* (bridle), and a kind of blinder known as *tapas ojos*. To transfer the pressure of the bit (*freno*) to the horse's nose, a *gamarilla* may be used. This consists of a headstall with a metal noseband which fastens to the "windows" of the bit. To prevent the horse from opening his mouth, a *bosalillo* is sometimes used. The *bozal* is made of braided rawhide and consists of a headstall with noseband and braided reins (*reindas*). The reins attach to the nose. It is used in the early training of the horse to aid in teaching proper headset, balance and collection.

The *montura*, or saddle, is generally classified as either a show or work saddle. A show saddle may be elaborately hand tooled and decorated with silver. The *carona* is a leather pad that goes between the saddle blanket and the saddle. The tooling usually matches that of the saddle. The stirrups, *estribos*, are made of hardwood in the shape of a truncated pyramid with a toe hole carved in one face. On the top of the "pyramid" a silver bell is attached. The corners are generally covered with handmade metal caps. The *guarnicion* (breeching and crupper), is the tailpiece which hangs down over the back end of the horse. It is strictly ornamental and has the same hand tooling as the saddle. It consists of the *baticola* (crupper), *floron* (tail cover), la *cruceta* (crosspiece), and *las caidas* (falls). At the hocks, *las caidas* attach to the *retrancas*. You will see some riders using a pellow, which is a type of pad which is laid across the saddle. It is composed of thousands of hand-rolled braids made from wool dyed black and inserted into a rug-type backing. The underside is lined with fine leather and usually contains pockets. A *pellonera* is a cushioned leather pad which is usually placed over a work saddle.

Attire

The traditional *apparel* for the rider is *white* pants and a white long-sleeved dress shirt and a white scarf. In classes shown under saddle and in the bit, a *poncho* is worn. The typical cotton poncho is very often white with closely spaced, parallel stripes. These ponchos are often a blend of cotton with other fibers such as rayon or silk. There is also a type of fine wool poncho, usually alpaca or vicuna, which usually comes in earth tones and is exquisite in weave and coloring. The *hat* is woven of fine straw and has a medium to wide brim. There are several crown and brim styles in use, each of which is typical of a different region in Peru.

In halter classes, bozal classes, equitation classes, and bareback classes, ponchos are not permitted. In other classes, a dress coat or blazer may be substituted for a poncho.