

TIPS AND TRICKS: September 2013

1. Hock Shields. This is a product that saves your horse from suffering from annoying hock sores. They are super soft, easy to put on, and stay on great. Go to <http://www.hockshield.com/> or Valley Vet, Dover Saddlery, etc.



\$46/pair.

2. Diatomaceous earth. This is made up of fossilized remains of little sea creatures, kind of like ground up sea shells. It basically causes insects to dry out and die because it absorbs their fats and oils. It is a good way to get rid of spiders, ants, fleas, ticks, flies, and earwigs in your barn area. Just sprinkle on the ground, all around your garden. It won't harm earthworms.

This also works great on keeping flies away from the pee spots in your horse's corral. Just sprinkle some on the pee spot. How easy!!! Buy the food grade, not the kind for your swimming pool.

Check out <http://www.earthsongranch.com> for more natural horse husbandry.

3. Saddle cinching. Don't you hate it when you have tighten up your cinch your saddle is already leaning off to the left side???

Here is a solution: When you have your saddle in place and are just about ready to tighten up your cinch, move your saddle over a few inches so it is tilted away from you. When you tighten up your cinch, your saddle will pull down towards you, and then it will be perfectly level on your horse's back!!