

## **BITLESS BRIDLE – January 2005 review**



**This month, I have a bit of a controversial subject, THE BITLESS BRIDLE.** I wanted to try it out and see what it was all about. I tried it with an open mind and planned to give it some time to see how it did with my horses. I loved it and will use this in place of my hackamores I previously used.

This bridle is quite a bit more refined than a halter, sidepull or jumping hack, but has much less force/torque than a mechanical hack. This bridle works by placing pressure on the side of the horse's face/jaw and the nose. A strong tug will result in a bit of pressure behind his ears and also, under his chin where the straps cross. The pressure is not startling nor is it hurtful at all. The places that the pressure are applied are much less pressure sensitive than the tongue where a bit uses pressure or the chin, using chains.

Using the reins on this bridle produces less pressure on the head than with using a bit or mechanical hackamore. The reins have a secure, well placed feeling. When you pull on the LEFT rein, pressure is applied to the RIGHT side of the horses jaw, gently pulling his head around so his body can follow. I tried it on one horse that is normally a head tosser when asked to do what he does not want

to do. Using this bridle, he did not toss his head, once used to the bridle. He has also started to be more relaxed on rides and will walk with a looser rein.

One of the good uses for this bridle is in lessons. If a student is heavy handed or just cannot get used to NOT pulling on the reins, with this bridle, if the reins are pulled, it will not torque the horse's mouth nor hurt him in any way. Once a rider and horse are used to using the bridle, it is almost an instantaneous change in attitude, or at least was with 2 of my horses.

Once you follow the instructions, put it on properly and have worked with your horse on the ground to make sure he understands how it works, you will find a new way of communicating with your horse.

I do want to relay one more thing..... I have a Paso Fino that I have been working with for the last 5-6 months to make her gait consistently as she will only gait intermittently. I tried many methods, some of which would work and some did not work at all. Once I used this bridle for about 3 times, she started gaiting consistently. I am not attributing it to this bridle....as I said, I had used other methods to get her to gait, but is it a coincidence that she now gaits all the time, no fighting or working at it, just using a new bridle!

I would recommend this bridle to anyone interested in having a better communication with your horse and learning to work as a team. I have used it on 6 different horses and have not had a problem with any of them. In some, there have been significant improvements.

**I do have an extra one that I will be glad to send to anyone that wants to try it out.**

If you do use it, PLEASE read the instructions carefully and follow them, that will insure a smooth transition to the bitless bridle. Just email me and we can work out the logistics.

Here is where you can buy this bridle..... <http://www.bitlessbridle.com> - -  
**(866 235 0938)**

Carole is extremely helpful and will answer any questions you may have . If I can answer any questions, feel free to email me, [pasofino@nchn.net](mailto:pasofino@nchn.net)