

Fitting a Vaquera girth to a Vaquera saddle

The Vaquera girth fits quite differently to the normal girth, it's a different system but very secure when you have got used to it. The girth does not go over the saddle but between the tree and the sheepskin cover.



First put the saddle on the horse or a saddle horse.

Stand at the near side of the saddle and feel up under the sheepskin (normally around 5 – 6”) from the front you will feel there is a space, although you may need to slacken off the leather ties holding the sheepskin on slightly.

Take the girth in your left hand and slide the end with the holes up and through the gap between saddle tree and sheepskin, keep passing the girth through until you have the square metal loop and perhaps 18 – 24” of leather left.

The section with holes hanging down on the offside is then drawn underneath the belly of the horse. This then is passed through the metal loop and pulled tight it is fixed by locating the holes onto the buckle ‘spikes’ near the metal loop.

For the comfort of the horse it is good to adjust the girth so that the metal loop is pulled high enough to sit on the underside flaps of the saddle rather than on the horse’s side.

Ok for the stirrups – take one of the ‘keepers’ off a stirrup leather and thread the pointed end of the leather through the stirrup loop, then thread the pointed end of the leather back on itself and through the loop at the other end of the leather (in effect tying the stirrup onto the end of the leather).

Slip the second ‘keeper’ back on the leather and pass the pointed end of the leather up and through the loop on the stirrup bar on the saddle in direction from back to front. Bring the leather down and pass it through the second keeper then under the loop on the stirrup.

Take the leather back up (through the second keeper again if there is room) and then up to the stirrup buckle if you adjust the leather for length and locate one of the holes onto the spike of the buckle the rest of the leather goes up and is tucked under the sheepskin.

You will find that with a new saddle you will have to adjust the girth several times as the saddle beds down.

I hope this gives you sufficient information – sorry it is a difficult thing to explain, but if you have any queries just send them through to info@viva-iberica.com

Sue Lust

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