



### *Are You Riding with Both Hands?*

Stage A bits are great for starting horses, training, or maintaining steady contact. Aspects include direct reining, non-leverage Loose Rings and Dee Rings with mouthpiece diameters 5/16" and over.



### *Moving from Direct Reining to Neck Reining?*

Stage B is all about transition, with the introduction of leverage and curb pressure. Short Shanked bits and Half-Gags comprise Stage B.



### *Where Neck Reining is a Way of Life!*

Stage C horses respond well to poll pressure. Features include solid mouthpieces and cheek attachments, and swivel cheeks with jointed mouthpieces or low to medium ports.

From your horse's perspective "Comfort is Key." Choose the mildest bit your horse will respond to for the job he is intended to do, and work your way up from there as needed.

When you change what you ask of the horse a different bit is often needed. The bit you trail ride in might not be the right fit for the arena. Think about what, how quickly, or how subtly you need to communicate with your horse and then select a bit from the appropriate Stage.

### *Guiding Principles to Choosing the Right Bit:*

The goal is to communicate what you want from your horse in the clearest way possible.

**Age:** Horses' mouths change as they age. The bit you choose for a 3-year-old colt and a 15-year-old gelding doing the same job shouldn't necessarily be the same. If your horse has had the same bit for years and it's just not working anymore physical changes to your horse's mouth may be the reason.

Remember - just because your bit worked well today, doesn't mean it will work well tomorrow. Horses change, learn and grow, when they do, they may require a different bit.

Riding your horse is like having a private conversation; the way you communicate with each other is likely unique to just the two of you. The bit is just one of the tools you use to communicate with each other. So when someone else rides your horse, or you ride another horse, a bit change might get the two parties speaking the same language.



### *Are We Talking or Whispering?*

Stage D is about refinement, subtle cues and quick communication. Characteristics include increased leverage, more sophisticated mouthpieces, and may also incorporate higher ports.



### *Call in the Specialist!*

When your horse enters Stage E - he's asking for some time with the Pros. Here tiny twists, very high ports, and highly complex mouthpieces are key components.

### *Having Trouble Selecting the Perfect Bit?*

Give Reinsman a call. Our Customer Service Team can help point you in the right direction, answering any questions you might have about our bits, or help you determine what Stage you are on.

### *Just Not Finding the Right Size or Right Mouthpiece - Cheek Combination?*

Reinsman can help with that too! Our Master Bit Makers can design and build the bit you desire - right here in the USA! Call Reinsman at 1-800-548-2487 for a quote on your custom Reinsman Bit.

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