**Things to know for your first riding lessons**

**Timing:**

* Please arrive 15-30 minutes before your scheduled lesson time. This will give you a chance to fill out our paperwork, get your equipment organized, and help get your horse ready.

**Payment:**

* We only accept **cash** or **check** for payment. Sorry, no credit card!

**What to Wear**:

* Please wear long pants (leggings or jeans) and, if you have some, boots with a heel
* We have **boots** and **helmets** available to borrow for your first couple lessons. However, if you are interested in purchasing your own gear below is a shopping list and links to great stores for horseback riding equipment.
* Most of our private lessons are taught in our indoor arena. However, it can be hot in the summer and cold and wet in the winter so please come prepared with weather appropriate gear depending on the season.

**What to Expect:**

* Your first lesson will be an evaluation of your skill level and allow you to get comfortable with our program.
* All first lessons are 30-minute private lessons. This gives us the flexibility to really tailor the lesson to the needs of the rider. There is no one formula that our program follows. It depends on the goals, needs and skill level of the rider!

**Scheduling:**

* The best way to schedule your lessons is by phone (707-538-2000). If we do not pick up, please leave a detailed message and a call back number and we will get back to you as soon as possible.
* If you need to re-schedule, try and give us 24hrs notice- though we of course understand that emergencies do come up!

**Horseback Riding Equipment:**

**-Stores in Sonoma County**

California Horse Supply

2991 Wilian Ct,

Santa Rosa, CA 95407

707-578-2668

<http://cahorsesupply.com/>

The Equestrian Concierge

7600 Lakeville Road,

Petaluma, CA 94954

707-778-1113

<https://www.equestrianconcierge.com/>

**-Online Shopping**

[https://www.doversaddlery.com](https://www.doversaddlery.com/)

<https://www.smartpakequine.com/>

Recommended Equipment- It is NOT REQUIRED to purchase any equipment before riding with us.

1. Paddock boots
2. Helmet (Troxel, Tipperary and Ovation are good and reasonably priced entry level helmets)
3. Half Chaps
4. Breeches
5. Gloves