
raised poles, jumping?

Posted by cantata007 - 2008/04/24 11:38

How high would you expect to see poles raised in a trail course ? Are they taken in jog or lope?

Also, I know jumping is not part of western disciplines, but I know my cob likes to jump, (Lunging him yesterday, we veered to close to a large cone in the school and he cleared it!!!)

Would popping a couple of jumps every now again affect a western horses way of going?

Re:raised poles, jumping?

Posted by Shiny Mole - 2008/04/24 12:43

I am hoping (possibly somewhat ambitiously!) to do both western and hunter/jumping classes with my Quarter Horse so I would be interested in the answer to this too!

Re:raised poles, jumping?

Posted by bonito - 2008/04/25 08:29

My boy likes to jump logs etc when out hacking, always ridden western and has not affected his show abilities at all....

Re:raised poles, jumping?

Posted by zenithhorses - 2008/04/25 14:57

I can't see why the odd bit of jumping would cause any problems. I always think it helps to 'open up' a horse and then they can seem more flexible in their flatwork afterwards.

If your boy enjoys it I'd think a bit of variety would be good for him.

Re:raised poles, jumping?

Posted by michelle_towers - 2008/04/25 19:33

Hi there raised poles in trail are usually taken in the walk and hence are quite low - i don't think the AQHA have raised jog / lope overs - someone correct me if i'm wrong. We use those pole pods at home to raise walk overs and those are roughly around 7/8ins high.

Re:raised poles, jumping?

Posted by hunterrookie - 2008/04/27 22:12

Raised poles are always at the walk - you want the horse to step higher and not jump.

We use 'bloks' designed for jumping set at their lowest height, with some ground poles placed in front. They work a treat with a horse that's tapping poles.

At the WES clinic Lee was lifting one end of the pole as we jogged over it - don't try this at home!

There's a myth that jumping western horses 'ruins' them for trail - our previous mare showjumped quite happily and also did trail. She knew quite clearly there was a difference between ground poles and jumping. The only thing she couldn't get - understandably - was a grid of ground poles into a fence!

