

Somewhere along the way we outgrew (in more ways than one) ...

riding around in those tight, sparkly shirts in front of some judge in a show ring, so we could pay him (or her) to tell us what they thought of our horse – all for a ribbon, and the chance to say we were deemed “better” than the rest of the gang in the arena that day.

Now, we wear what’s comfortable, do things with our horses that we BOTH enjoy – and don’t care what anyone else thinks.

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HERE ARE SOME RIDING RULES FOR OLD HORSE WOMEN:

- We DO NOT need to show up with our hair combed, make up on and wearing a clean shirt.
- Moaning, groaning and complaining about aching muscles is perfectly acceptable, as is taking Motrin (or something stronger) prior to a ride.
- Helping someone on or off the horse does not mean the rider is an invalid. It only means the horse got taller overnight.
- No one will comment about how big someone's butt looks in a saddle.
- When a horse is acting up we will accept that the horse is just having a bad hair day and it is not the rider's fault.
- Mentioning it is too hot, too dry, too humid, too wet, too buggy, etc., is considered self expression, not whining.
- We will acknowledge that horses are very strange animals and sometimes for no reason at all we fall off of them. If this happens to any rider the other riders will ascertain that the person is okay and then not mention the incident to another living soul, especially husbands and significant others.
- We will acknowledge, without apology, that riding more than 6 hours increases our grumpy level far more than any ego benefits we may get from riding longer.
- Looking at my bouncing fat is NOT an acceptable way of determining if I have a good seat. My fat always bounces, thank you. It is cushion I carry in case I fall off.

