



The Level Best For Your Horse

An Introduction to the Myler Biting System



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Getting Started

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When it comes to ending resistance, relieving tongue pressure makes the difference.

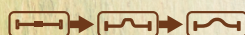
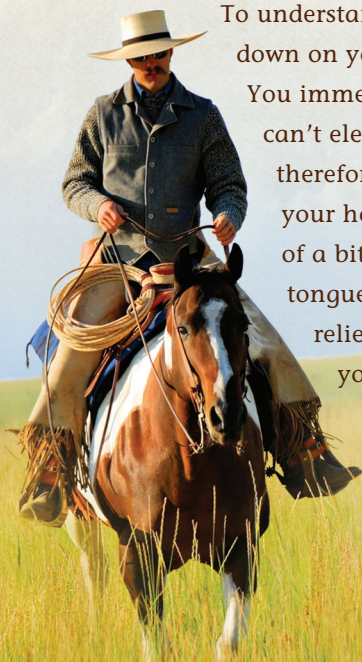
If your horse resists your commands, he's probably trying to tell you that he's uncomfortable with the bit and the pressure it puts on his tongue.

Bits can only do two things: cause resistance or relaxation. Tongue pressure plays an important role in resistance. When a horse is resisting the bit, he's really evading tongue pressure because the bit is interfering with his ability to swallow.



Myler: The biting system that gives your horse the freedom to obey.

To understand how your horse feels, push down on your tongue and try to run. You immediately realize that if your tongue can't elevate, you can't swallow, and therefore you can't run very far. This is how your horse feels with the constant pressure of a bit. Select a Myler Bit that relieves tongue pressure and allows more tongue relief and you may find you've removed your horse's reasons to resist.



Recognizing the Signs of Resistance

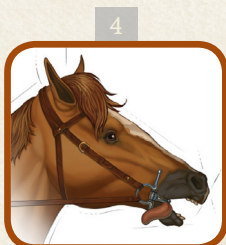
Horses resist the bit to find more tongue relief. These Signs of Resistance are most often associated with the bit:

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1 Going behind the bit

2 Going above the bit



3 Overactive mouth:
gaping

4 Overactive mouth:
tongue out of the
mouth, drawing
the tongue into the
throat



5 Overactive mouth:
tongue over the bit

6 Rooting/leaning
on the bit, running
through the bit

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When your horse is resisting the bit, you need to find a bit that gives him more tongue relief than the bit you are currently using. The Myler Levels match your horse with a mouthpiece that can offer him the comfort he deserves while giving you the communication and control that you need.

Determining Your Horse's Myler Level

The Myler Level of your horse is based on his disposition and experience. It's a graduated system, meaning that as he learns, he earns more tongue relief. As you go up in Myler Level, the correlating mouthpiece designs offer more tongue relief and apply less tongue pressure. When your horse resists the bit, go softer not harsher.

Level 1



- Young or green, just beginning training, with a challenging disposition
- Riding in a discipline that restricts bits to a single-jointed mouthpiece

Level 2



- Young or green, just beginning training, with a steady disposition
- Older, just beginning training, training for a new discipline, or retraining after a long lapse
- Riding in a Level 1 mouthpiece and showing resistance

Level 2-3



- Basic training with a good disposition and self-control, can handle more tongue relief
- Advanced training but a challenging disposition—anxious, aggressive, or fearful
- Riding in a Level 2 mouthpiece and showing resistance

Level 3



- Performance horse with advanced training and a solid disposition
- Experienced trail horse with a solid/trustworthy disposition
- Riding in a Level 2-3 curb bit and showing resistance

Selecting a Myler Mouthpiece

Myler mouthpiece designs correspond to the Myler Level of a horse's behavior and experience. The mouthpiece Levels start at Level 1, which apply maximum tongue pressure, and go up to Level 3, which apply minimum tongue pressure and offer the most tongue relief. Most horses can avoid Level 1 altogether; it's quite possible that your horse can enter the Myler System at Level 2, 2-3, or even 3. The overview of mouthpiece Levels on p. 5 explains how the design and function changes from Level to Level.

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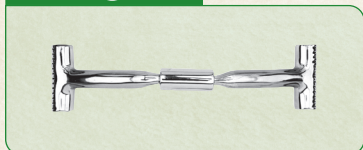
How to Measure

To measure your horse accurately, you will need a wooden dowel or the handle of a wooden spoon.

1. Insert the dowel in your horse's mouth where the bit would normally sit.
2. Wait until the horse relaxes in his mouth and stops chewing the dowel.
3. Mark the dowel on each side of the face, where the lips end.
4. Remove the dowel and measure between the two marks.

Myler Levels

Level 1 M



- Rotates on to the tongue to apply tongue pressure
- Collapses to form a “U” instead of a “V,” protecting lips and bars from being pinched
- Curves to allow more room for the tongue, protects the lips and bars from being pinched
- ISM* on most mouthpieces

Level 2 M



- Offers tongue relief with either a small port or flexible mouthpiece
- Rotates on to the tongue to apply some tongue pressure
- Collapses to form a “U” instead of a “V,” protecting lips and bars from being pinched
- Curves to allow more room for the tongue, protects the lips and bars from being pinched
- ISM* on most mouthpieces

Level 2-3 M



- Ported, offering more tongue relief than Level 1 or 2
- Correctional mouthpieces that apply some tongue pressure or curb mouthpieces that apply little tongue pressure
- Uses more bar, poll, chin pressure than Level 1 or 2
- Curves to allow more room for the tongue
- Options with and without ISM*

Level 3 M



- Curb bits with wider ports for maximum tongue relief, little to no tongue pressure
- Uses primarily bar, poll, and curb pressure
- Curves to allow more room for the tongue
- Options with and without ISM*



* ISM: Independent Side Movement

Myler Bit Features


1. Curved Mouthpiece



The distinctive curve creates more room for the tongue to pass under the bit so the horse can swallow more freely. Although Level 1 mouthpieces have a more pronounced curve, all Myler mouthpieces are curved to some degree.

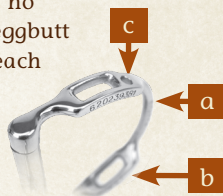
2. Independent Side Movement



The barrel in the center acts as a bushing, allowing each side of the bit to move independently of the other. When you lift one rein, only one side of the bit moves, giving the horse a very clear signal. Provides excellent shoulder control as well as lateral flexion. Look for this icon  on p. 8–9 to find mouthpieces with this feature.

3. Modified Snaffle Cheeks – “Hooks”

The “hooks” which are slots (English dee or eggbutt) or rings (Western dee) that keep the bridle fixed in place and create two rein positions. Attach the reins directly to the ring (a) for standard direct rein action or to the hook (b) to lift the cheek and use the Independent Side Movement, adding little to no leverage. The English dee and eggbutt also have a hole on the top of each cheek (c) for a curb chain so you can transition from direct rein to indirect rein without changing the bit or increasing the leverage.



4. Patented Independent Swivel Cheek



The purchase of the cheekpiece moves independently of the shank so the purchase can flex when the shank moves, preventing it from digging into the horse’s cheek when the reins are engaged. This feature is currently offered on the Parelli shank bits and the Myler Combination Bits.

The Myler Bit Guide

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Mouthpieces p. 8–9

Cheekpieces p. 10–11

Quick Reference p. 12–13

The following Myler Bit Guide gives you a general overview of mouthpieces and cheekpieces which are available.

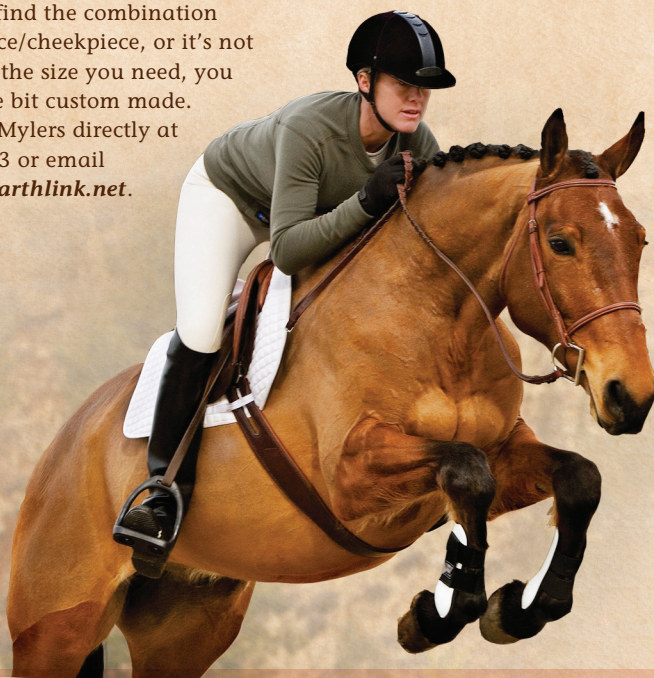
The Quick Reference Chart shows which combinations of mouthpieces and cheekpieces are offered, but does not indicate sizes that are available.

For more detailed information on Myler mouthpieces and cheekpieces and additional tools to help you select the right bit, read *The Level Best for Your Horse*, the new comprehensive guide to the Myler System.



What do I do if the mouthpiece/cheekpiece combination is not offered or I can't find the size I need?

If you can't find the combination of mouthpiece/cheekpiece, or it's not available in the size you need, you can have the bit custom made. Contact the Mylers directly at 800-354-3613 or email mylersinc@earthlink.net.



Metals

Mouthpieces with English cheekpieces are stainless steel with copper inlay. Mouthpieces with Western cheekpieces, combination bits, and Parelli cheekpieces are sweet iron with copper inlay.

Note: Sweet iron oxidizes and turns grey when it is exposed to moisture, releasing a sweet taste in the horse's mouth.

MB 01

Comfort Snaffle
Narrow Barrel



More comfortable alternative to the single-jointed mouthpiece.

MB 10

Traditional
French Link



Traditional three-piece. Consider the 02, 03 or 01 with ISM.

MB 11

Traditional French
Link Copper Roller



Traditional three-piece. Consider the 02, 03 or 01 with ISM.

MB 40

Hinged Bristol
Barrel



Minimizes interference with the horse's tongue compared to a traditional Bristol.

MB 06

Mullen Low
Port Barrel



Slight (1/4") port offers tongue relief; does not rotate on to the tongue.

MB 36

Mullen Low Port
with Forward Tilt



Slight (1/4") port offers tongue relief; forward tilt applies some tongue pressure.

MB 27PB

Correctional
Low Ported Barrel



Allows room for tongue; rotates on to tongue to apply two points of pressure.

MB 29

Traditional Correctional
Cathedral Port



Applies palate pressure. Rotates on to tongue to apply two points of pressure.

MB 41PB

Correctional
Ported Barrel



Offers same tongue relief as Level 3, but applies tongue pressure for control.

MB 43LP

Narrow
Low Ported Barrel



Mildest 2-3, does not rotate on to the tongue. Offers significant tongue relief.

MB 33

Low Medium Wide
Ported Barrel



Offers maximum tongue relief, mildest mouthpiece with ISM.

MB 05

Correctional Low
Medium Wide Ported Barrel



Similar to the 33, but collapses slightly for more give and less solid feel.

MB 12

Low Narrow Port



Level 3 version of 43LP, slightly wider for more tongue relief.

MB 02**Comfort Snaffle
Wide Barrel**

*More comfortable
alternative to the
three-piece mouthpiece.*

MB 03**Comfort Snaffle
Copper Roller**

*02 with copper roller.
Alternative to the
three-piece mouthpiece.*

MB 09**Traditional
Single-jointed**

*Curved for comfort.
Consider the 02, 03
or 01 with ISM.*

MB 04**Comfort Snaffle
Low Port**

*Slight (1/4") port allows
for more tongue relief than
Level 1 mouthpieces.*

MB 32-3**Triple Barrel
Mullen**

*Flexible and forgiving when
relaxed, solid with tongue
pressure when engaged.*

MB 32**Traditional
Mullen**

*Curved solid bar restricts the
tongue. Consider the 32-3
for more tongue relief.*

MB 27LP**Correctional
Low Port**

*Allows room for tongue;
rotates on to tongue to apply
two points of pressure.*

MB 27PB HP**Correctional
High Ported Barrel**

*27PB with higher port for
more tongue relief, possible
palate pressure.*

MB 27**Traditional
Correctional**

*27PB HP without ISM.
Possible palate pressure.*

MB 43HP**Narrow
High Ported Barrel**

*43LP with higher port for
some palate pressure.*

MB 47PB**Correctional
Ported Barrel**

*Correctional version
of the 43HP, rotates
on to the tongue.*

MB 47**Traditional
Correctional**

*47PB without ISM. Similar
to 27 but applies milder
tongue pressure.*

MB 15**Low Wide Port**

*Lower port than 12, slightly
wider than the 33 for more
tongue relief.*

MB 16**Medium Wide Port**

*Similar to the 33,
but lacks ISM.*

Thickness

Myler mouthpieces
are 7/16" in diameter.

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Cheekpieces

All cheekpieces are stainless steel, with the exception of P and T, which are black steel with stainless steel dots.

A

English dee
with hooks



English Snaffle

B

English dee



English Snaffle

C

Eggbutt
with hooks



English Snaffle

D

Eggbutt



English Snaffle

E

Full cheek
with hook



English Snaffle

F

Full cheek



English Snaffle

G

Baucher



English Snaffle

H

Loose Ring



English Snaffle

I

Loose Ring
with Sleeve



English Snaffle

J

Kimberwick



English Curb

K

Pelham



English Curb

L

Half Cheek



Driving

M

Liverpool



Driving

N

Western dee
with hooks



Western Snaffle

O

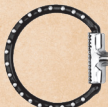
Western dee



Western Snaffle

P

Black
Western dee



Western Snaffle

Q

HBT Shank



Western Curb

R

Flat Shank



Western Curb

T

Black
Seven Shank



Western Curb

U

Seven Shank



Western Curb

V

Parelli Shank



Western Curb

W

Cavalry Shank



Western Curb

Note:

AA, BB, CC:
Leather noseband is standard. Rawhide noseband can be special ordered.

KK, LL:
Rawhide noseband is standard. Leather noseband can be special ordered.

AA

3-ring
combination



Shown with 04 mouthpiece.
Other mouthpieces available.

BB

2-ring
combination



Shown with 04 mouthpiece.
Other mouthpieces available.

CC

Long shank
combination



Shown with 43LP mouthpiece.
Also available in 02.

DD

Parelli Cradle



Shown with 04 mouthpiece.
Other mouthpieces available.

EE

Neil Merrill
short shank gag



Comes with leather
noseband and curb strap.

FF

MMB, 5"



Has Neil Merrill purchase to
disperse pressure on cheek.

GG

MMB, 6.5"



Has Neil Merrill purchase to
disperse pressure on cheek.

HH

MMB, 7.5"



Has Neil Merrill
purchase to disperse
pressure on cheek.

JJ

HBB, 6.5" GAG



Has slight gag action
with sliding mouthpiece.

KK

3-Ring combo
with tie down



Shown with 32-3 mouth-
piece. Also available in 04.

LL

Long shank combo
with tie down



Shown with 43LP mouthpiece.
Also available in 32-3.

Other Myler Innovations

S-Shank
Mechanical Hackamore



Rubber-covered
bicycle chain noseband.

7-Shank
Mechanical Hackamore



Leather-covered
bicycle chain noseband.

Calvary Shank
Mechanical Hackamore



Rubber-covered
bicycle chain noseband.
Available without snaffle ring.

EZ Trainer
Bosal Hackamore



Leather-covered
stainless steel noseband
and chin cup.

		English Snaffle									English Curb		Driving		Western Snaffle		
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1	MB 01	•	•						•	•					•	•	
	MB 02	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•
	MB 03	•	•	•	•	•					•				•	•	•
	MB 09	•	•			•	•		•	•	•		•			•	•
	MB 10		•		•				•								
	MB 11															•	
	MB 40					•										•	
2	MB 04	•	•	•	•	•		•			•	•			•	•	•
	MB 32-3	•	•	•	•	•									•	•	•
	MB 32	•	•		•						•			•			
2-3	MB 06	•	•	•										•			
	MB 36	•		•							•						
	MB 27PB	•		•													
	MB 27 LP	•		•							•						
	MB 27PB HP																
	MB 27																
	MB 29																
	MB 41PB	•	•								•						
	MB43LP	•	•	•							•			•	•		
	MB 43HP																
	MB 47PB																
	MB 47																
3	MB 33	•	•	•	•	•					•	•					
	MB 05	•		•													
	MB 12																
	MB 15										•						
	MB 16																

Transitioning to a New Bit

Once you've selected a bit, it's time to introduce your horse to it. We recommend that you introduce any new bit in a safe, closed environment, such as a round pen or arena.



There are two exercises we recommend as transition exercises: **vertical flexion** (a) and **lateral flexion** (b).

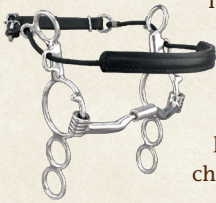
To practice **vertical flexion**, stand next to your horse's head and lift the reins at the withers until you make light contact. Hold the contact until your horse gives to the bit, even slightly, then immediately release. Do this on both sides until your horse is relaxed and flexing at the poll.

To practice **lateral flexion**, stand next to your horse and lift the rein, but ask him to bend his neck and turn towards you. When he does, release him immediately. Perform this exercise on both sides until he is relaxed and flexing laterally. Then repeat both exercises from the saddle.



The Myler Combination Bit

The Myler Combination Bit uses features of a ring bit, shank bit and hackamore to create an innovative and sophisticated tool for training and every day riding.



The noseband and chin strap connect through the purchase (a), synchronizing pressure to the nose, chin and poll before the mouthpiece engages. If the

horse does not respond to the pressure on the nose, chin and poll, the mouthpiece slides (c), giving him another warning. If he ignores the moving mouthpiece, it will hit a stop (d), causing it to engage. The horse has three opportunities to respond to the rider's rein pressure before the mouthpiece is engaged. If the horse respects the chin, nose, poll pressure, he can stay on the bit without any tongue pressure or interference with swallowing.

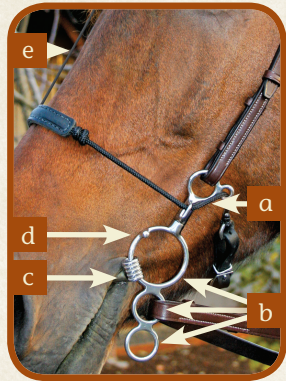
The support string (e) keeps the noseband in place when you bridle the horse.

When first introducing the Combination Bit, adjust the chin strap so that you can just get a pinky under the noseband.

The Combination Bit is offered in four cheekpiece styles: three-ring, two-ring, long shank and Parelli cradle bit. The three-ring offers three rein positions (b); the other cheekpieces offer only two rein positions (see p. 11).

The Combination Bit can be used for a wide variety of horses and disciplines, as a training tool for starting young or green horses, rehabilitating problem horses, or retraining experienced horses in a new sport.

For a more detailed look at the Combination Bit, see the new comprehensive guide to the Myler System, *The Level Best for Your Horse*, available now.



Parelli Myler Bits Series

Complementing Parelli Natural Horsemanship

Getting to the heart and head of your horse is the Parelli Natural Horsemanship way. Like the Mylers, the Parellis believe in teaching horses to be willing participants. By building confidence and fostering a friendship with your horse, you will find more freedom in your riding.

Collaborating with lifelong horseman, trainer and clinician Pat Parelli, the Mylers now offer a collection of custom designed Myler bits that complement the Parelli Natural Horsemanship program.



The Lynn McKenzie Signature Series

Winning Combination for Barrel Racers

Collaborating with two-time World Champion Barrel Racer and clinician Lynn McKenzie, Myler has created a collection of bits for barrel racers and speed event horses.

This series offers unique cheekpieces with Myler mouthpieces to achieve the optimum balance, speed and control without interfering with the horse's athletic ability.



The Myler EZ Trainer



The EZ Trainer is a bosal hackamore designed for starting and training horses in Western disciplines. The contoured chin cup gives a quick pressure warning before the noseband engages by tilting forward and upward into the chin. By engaging one rein or both reins, the rider can ask the horse to flex at the poll, shift his weight to his hindquarters, or balance himself.

The EZ Trainer is not recommended for English disciplines.





Where to Buy and How to Try a Myler Bit

This brochure offers a brief overview of the Myler approach to biting. For more detailed information, the new book, *The Level Best for Your Horse*, is now available from Myler retailers and www.toklat.com. This 226-page book provides improved definitions of the Myler mouthpieces and cheekpieces, an entire chapter devoted to the Myler Combination Bit and a comprehensive guide to using the Myler System to select a bit for your horse. Each book includes the 85-minute DVD *A Whole Bit Better*, a visual guide to the Myler System.



Myler Bits are available from authorized Myler retailers across North America and around the world. Go to www.toklat.com to search by state or zip code for a Myler retailer near you or shop for a Myler bit.

Myler Rental Program

We recommend you try a Myler Bit before you buy it, and you may need several sessions with your horse before you know that you have the right bit. Many Myler retailers offer a rental program. Search the retailer locator at www.toklat.com by state or zip code to find a Myler rental retailer near you or ask your favorite tack shop to consider renting Myler Bits.



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Ron, Dale and Bob Myler started designing bits over 20 years ago. They developed their approach to biting from riding their own horses, helping other riders with their horses, working with equine dentists and chiropractors and studying how the bit works in the horse's mouth. They continue to make custom bits at their shop in Marshfield, MO, in addition to working with Toklat Originals, the exclusive worldwide distributor of Myler Bits.

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With Toklat, Your Horse Can Tell

www.Toklat.com