

ALL FORMS OF BIT RESISTANCE ARE DUE TO THE HORSE TRYING TO EVADE TONGUE PRESSURE



Above the Bit

He is changing the angle of pull, so the pressure is less on his tongue and more into the corners of his lips



Leaning or Running Through the Bit

The horse has reduced the pressure on his tongue by changing the angle of pull, causing the bit to pull into the corners of his lips



Behind the Bit

No rider wants their horse in this position, so they give with their hands, and the horse has reduced the pressure on his tongue



Pulling the Tongue Back into the Throat

To release the pressure on his tongue, the horse pulls it up inside his mouth towards the top of his throat. This pushes the epiglottis back, reducing airflow to the lungs



Overactive mouth; Crossed Jaw; Tongue Over Bit or Outside Mouth

The horse is moving the tongue away from the pressure, so that more pressure goes onto his bars

RESISTANCE TO THE BIT SHOWS YOUR HORSE WOULD RATHER YOU PULLED ONTO HIS LIPS OR BARS, OR EVEN INTERFERE WITH HIS BREATHING, RATHER THAN RESTRICT HIS TONGUE AND ABILITY TO SWALLOW.

Using a Restrictive Noseband, - eg a Flash or Grackle, - does not solve the problem, it merely forces his mouth to close around an uncomfortable bit, preventing swallowing and causing more tension.

A TENSE HORSE CANNOT MOVE FREELY OR CONCENTRATE ON WHAT HIS RIDER IS ASKING HIM