

How to Halter a Horse

<http://www.wikihow.com/Put-a-Halter-on-a-Horse>

A halter is a leather, webbing or rope headstall. It is used with a lead rope to lead a horse from the ground. Some halters can also be used to tie the horse for grooming or tacking up. If you are new to horses and don't know how to put a halter on a horse or pony, then this article is for you.



Have a horse be in a spot where you can practice putting the halter on. This should be a safe enclosed area.

The following method works only if you have a halter with a detachable throat latch:

1. Unfasten the throat latch of the halter, leaving the crown piece fastened.
2. Take the halter and hold it by the top. Using your free hand hold the horse's nose.
3. Slip the bottom of the halter on top of the horse's nose.
4. Take the top and slip it over his ears.
5. Secure the halter, whether you have a clip that snaps it shut or a buckle.
6. Make sure you don't buckle the halter too tight or too loose. Adjust the halter with enough room at the throat to slip a hand between the throatlatch and the horse's jaw. The halter should be tight enough to prevent a foot from getting caught when the horse lowers its head, yet have sufficient room to prevent binding the throat.

Tips:

- Be careful not to drag the halter over the nose, eyes or ears. Rough handling can cause horses to become head-shy, making haltering and bridling more difficult.
- Some horses have been trained to lower their head. If the horse is holding his head high or if he is tall, gently push down on his nose and say 'down'.

Warnings:

- Watch that the horse doesn't throw his head up and hit you.
- Be careful to adjust the halter so it doesn't touch the horse's eyes.
- Rope and 'controller' halters should be used by experience horse people only, and never be used to tie a horse.
- Never remove a halter where the horse can escape into a road.