

On the Front Line of Western Showring Fashion

Is bling-bling still in? What's the deal with everything being so tight fitting? How do I wash an outfit covered in leather? These may be a few of the questions crossing your mind as you prepare for the next show season and decide on an outfit. But let me ease your mind by informing you that in today's show ring fashions it has become increasingly important to go with what fits your body type!

Although there are some basic styles that are flying off the racks, competitors are demanding clothes that look good on body types that are less than perfect. A tight fitting zip-up blouse may look great on a young girl that is thin and fit, but let's face it, most of us aren't secure enough with our bodies to let every curve be seen. That's why several variations of the zip-up shirt have become popular in the past year. Even shirts made in stretch materials are being structured like jackets with darts or princess seams that make them much more flattering! Non-stretch jackets are becoming the most popular option for 2009 and are being worn at all levels of competition. These are worn untucked over the top of chaps and are terrific because of their versatility.

The tops seen in today's show ring are more elaborate than ever! Being done with metallic leather accents and thousands of rhinestones some of these shirts and jackets are blinding to look at. On the other hand, elegant and simple is also at the top of the trends. Because of the tightened belts of many due to today's economy, riders are looking for classy looking jackets that don't break the bank.

For those who have dealt with the hassle of cleaning an outfit with leather appliques (or even ultra suede), you know that many problems can arise. Appliques can bleed onto the rest of the item and even if they don't they eventually may become worn in appearance. There is a new alternative to these inconvenient appliques! Embroidery accented with beading and well placed rhinestones can create an even more detailed look and often can incorporate metallic threads for some extra glitz. And if you really want leather on your collar and cuffs (perhaps so that it perfectly matches your chaps), embroidery can even be done on leather (take a look at the [home page](#) for an example of this)!

So don't worry about 2009's clothes, because you are sure to be able to find a style that will fit your figure. Go for creative details, elegant, classy styles and a fit that flatters your body type! Find an outfit that is perfect for you in color, style and fit

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