

With the saddle fitting grid, the shape of the horse's back (including the shoulder) is measured, to check the fit of the saddle. It is an ideal tool to help determine the back shape and width of the horse. This allows you to easily set the required width at the shoulder for your saddle. The grid also serves to determine the rock, the rotation in the longitudinal axis, the length of the saddle and, of course, the gullet size / width.

### **DP Saddlery suggest the use of the saddle fitting as follows:**

- First, please make sure the horse is standing on level ground, square with all four legs, and with the head and neck in a straight forward position
- With the saddle fitting grid in place on the horses back, first shape the curvature of the spine accurately
- The first transverse rib should rest on the center of the scapula
- The third transverse rib should rest directly behind the scapula



**Ribs should not stick out like this**



**Ribs should lay flat everywhere**

Then place and lift the saddle fitting grid several times and check the fit. The ribs should be even and not pressed in one place more than others. Wires (Ribs) should not stick out, but rather rest against the horses back without pressure points. The grid itself should resemble your horses back properly, so it can be used to it's full extend.

The measuring grid provides an excellent guide to evaluate the fit of a saddle or the back shape of the horse, when a saddle fitter cannot be directly present.

Please do not forget to take photos of the measuring grid on the horse. Laterally left and right in the area of the saddle, shoulder to hip bone, hip bone to shoulder.

Print the photos and stick them into a document protector. Fill out Form below and also add this form to the document protector. Attach the document protector to the grid in the small hole via zip tie or cordage of any kind.

## Instructions on how to use the DP Saddle Fitting Grid

Page 2 of 2

Please fill out the form below and attach to saddle fitting grid along with photos:

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Good contact phone number, in case we have further questions: \_\_\_\_\_

Good Email address, in case we have further questions: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

Riding discipline: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse known medical conditions to consider\*:

---

---

---

---

---

Rider medical conditions to consider (voluntary disclosure, not necessary)\*:

---

---

---

---

---

Preferred DP Saddle Models / Colors / Seat sizes:

---

---

---

Why are you sending in a saddle fitting grid\*:

---

---

---

Return of saddle requested (circle one):	YES	NO
Return of saddle fitting grid requested (circle one):	YES	NO
Do you allow DP Saddlery to make necessary alterations to your saddle:	YES	NO

*\*If necessary, please attach additional pages*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and Date