High performance features in Bates Saddles

Performance Panel Design

All Bates saddles feature a generous panel, designed to ensure a large ‘footprint’ on the horse’s back, maximizing the weight bearing surface of the saddle and resulting in a reduction in pressure per sq inch and increased comfort for the horse. Coupled with a wide and even chamber, the performance panels support the horse’s working muscles and maximize movement in the shoulder area.

Elastiflex Tree

Supported by an EASY-CHANGE Gullet, the Elastiflex Tree features a rigid head to maintain clearance over the horse’s wither, whilst possessing lateral flexion to work with the horse’s muscular movement with every stride. Precision engineered to be lightweight, symmetrical and ultra-durable the Elastiflex tree is guaranteed against breakage for the lifetime of the saddle (under normal riding conditions), deemed to be 10 years.

Adjustable Y-Girthing System

Regarded as the world’s leading girth system and featured in select Bates saddles, this system enables customized adjustment for the horse’s individual conformation and maximizes saddle stability, as it secures the saddle from both the front and rear.

Finest European Leather

All Bates saddles feature the finest hand selected European leather. You can be confident that the leather in Bates saddles is the best in the world and, if cared for, will offer many years of excellent service. Select models feature double-lined leather renowned for its ultra soft and grippy characteristics, ensuring immediate comfort and reducing any ‘breaking in’ time traditionally associated with new saddles.

Luxe Leather upgrade

For the ultimate in luxury leather, your customers can now upgrade any double-lined Bates saddle to Luxe Leather.

Luxe Leather is hand-selected from the finest calf leather in the world and meticulously cared for throughout its specialised tanning process to guarantee exceptional performance in strength, richness of color, ultra-soft feel and level of grip to meet the unique demands of an equestrian saddle.

Heritage Leather

Available as standard on select saddles, Heritage leather upholds traditional practices in natural oil and wax tannage, highlighting a desirable rich patina, characteristic of only the finest natural leathers. The high oil and wax content of this performance leather enhances rider grip with optimal suppleness and a fully natural surface.

The distinctive tones of color visible when bending the leather are highly desired as a characteristic of natural Heritage leather, where the depth of color is dependent on the infused oil content within the fibers.
Comfort Seat Technology

Exclusive Comfort Seat Technology utilises multilayered foams of exacting densities for instantaneous comfort and support of an optimal position. All Bates saddles feature a narrow waist anatomically shaped for closer contact and rider comfort.

Adjustable Flexibloc System

A revolutionary system that enables the rider to customize the support offered for their individual riding position. Provides great flexibility for altering the support offered by the saddle, dependent on usage.

FlexiContourbloc

Selected Bates saddles feature a FlexiContourbloc, anatomically contoured to the rider's leg, allowing their leg to fit in and behind the bloc to support their individual position for maximised comfort and security. The FlexiContourbloc can be moved forwards, backwards, or on the precise angle to mirror their individual riding position.

Adjustable Ergonomic Stirrup Bar

Featured on select saddles, the Adjustable Ergonomic Stirrup Bar allows effortless horse and rider alignment to be achieved by altering the positioning of the stirrup bar, enabling the rider complete control over their preferred riding position.

The Adjustable Ergonomic Stirrup Bar can be easily repositioned by simply lifting the catch and sliding the bar to suit the rider's individual position. The bar should then be secured by pressing down firmly on the catch and locking the bar into place.

Ergonomic Stirrup Bar

The design registered stirrup bar removes at least one thickness of leather from under the rider's thigh, ensuring even closer contact and maximising their comfort. The unique shaping offers secure attachment of their stirrup leather, while enabling the leather to come free if required during a fall. Selected Bates models feature a recessed channel to the stirrup keeper, further eliminating interference with their leg for a closer feel of the horse and increased comfort.

QUICK-CHANGE Girth Points

The innovative method of girth point attachment offers the rider peace of mind that their girth points can be fitted to factory standard throughout the life of their saddle. It also offers customisation of the girthing system by a saddler, saddle fitter or retailer. The unique design registered fitting ensures that the girth points are highly durable and ultra slimline, facilitating even closer contact and comfort for both horse and rider.