

Post-Ride Care for the Unclipped Horse

Leaving your horse unclipped allows him the full warmth and protection of his winter coat and eliminates most blanketing chores for you. However, if you do choose to leave your horse unclipped, be prepared to dry him properly once he's worked up a sweat under tack.

Curry his wet hair as best you can to release some moisture. Then cover him in an Irish-knit or anti-sweat sheet that contains "holes" in the fabric, allowing the air to reach his coat. Cover this with a wool cooler or a high-tech cooler that will wick moisture away from the horse.

If his coat is really drenched, you may need to change these rugs as they become saturated. Once he is dry, remove the wet rugs. You wouldn't spend hours in a wet towel after your shower, would you?

Winter riding doesn't have to be a chore, and with these options, the right hairdo for your horse is in your reach.