

What type of harness should I choose?

Biothane vs Leather or Nylon

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Getting set up to drive your horse can be expensive so many people are looking for a way to cut costs and corners. But let me tell you, when you and your horse's safety is at stake, buying cheap equipment is not the way to go.

There are many inexpensive nylon or synthetic leather harness for sale on ebay and other on-line selling sites for a fraction of the cost of a good BioThane or leather harness. A new good quality, long lasting, safe harness is going to more-than-likely cost \$500 or more, but is an investment worth making in terms of comfort, durability and safety.

Let's look at some of the pros and cons of the top 3 harness materials.

X = poor XXXXX = Excellent

	Nylon / synthetic leather	Quality Leather	Authentic BioThane
Cost	\$	\$\$\$ - \$\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$ - \$\$\$\$
Comfort	X	XXXXX	XXXXX
Durability	X	XXX	XXXXX
Safety (when new)	X	XXXXX	XXXXX
Hand feel	X	XXXXX	XXXXX
Styles available	X	XXXXX	XXXXX
Colors available	XXXXX	X	XX
Pairs/team available	n/a	XXXXX	XXXXX
Water/dirt/stain resistant	X	XXX	XXXXX
Ease of cleaning	X	X	XXXXX

The bottom line is that I strongly caution people against buying nylon or synthetic leather harness. They are not comfortable for you or your horse. They do not hold up well under frequent use. They stain and fade easily and they are frequently made with inferior hardware that can be a safety hazard. Do you and your horse a favor, buy a quality harness that will last a lifetime. Also, BioThane belting is made here in the USA. Look for the BioThane tag on your next purchase. A brown BioThane tag means you are keeping Americans working.