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Bio - Danny Kroetch, owner of DK Saddlery is a world renowned master saddle fitter and designer based in Calgary, Ab. In the past 20 years, Danny has fit over 60,000 adjustable saddles in all disciplines around the world. His deep understanding of equine biomechanics enable him to fit even the most difficult horse, thus he is one of the only saddle fitters published in The Veterinarian Journal.

Blurb - The DK Bond 2 dressage saddle has been recognized as the "Ultimate Bond Between Horse and Rider". What other saddles talk about, the Bond delivers! Which is true freedom of the shoulder. The wide gullet prevents interference with the thoracic spine and ligaments, which is critical in lateral movements. The girthing system is designed to not interfere with the shoulder muscles ability to enable scapular motion. The seat is developed to support the pelvis and lumbar region of the rider, allowing the femur to fall straight into proper alignment. Along with the narrow twist the inner upper thigh is able to sit with close contact, which equals a quieter lower leg. thus the aids can be more effective.

Article -

Many riders and trainers ask how do I create symmetrical muscular development of my horse?

Many people talk about saddles being symmetrically fitted for their horses. With research completed at a Veterinarian School in the Netherlands, they have verified that this is not the case. If you put a symmetrical saddle on a asymmetrical surface (every horse, just like humans are right or left 'handed' therefore a strong and weak side) the saddle will not sit correctly. For example, if one is to wear a backpack with one side filled with 40lbs of weight, and the other side with 10lbs of weight, when you walk you will compensate asymmetrically through your body. After you walk for an hour and remove the backpack, you will be sore. This is how your horse feels after you have rode with an unfit/ symmetrical saddle.

Secondly, the tree points of the saddle must sit symmetrically over the horses withers, which is actually accomplished by fitting the saddle asymmetrically to the horses body shape. When a saddle falls to one side, the tree points put the withers into a vice grip, which hinders range of motion of the shoulders and negatively impacts the quality of the horses stride. When a saddle is not stabilized in a way to compensate for a

horse unevenness, it is impossible to be balanced correctly over the topline of the horse. This lack of symmetry causes extreme pain and discomfort for the horse and interfering with the shoulders freedom to rotate forward and back.

How is this balanced muscle development attained? We must first fit the saddle asymmetrically, this allows the horse to move freely and balanced. With this fit, we have allowed the weaker side to activate and develop, and prevented the strong side from continuing to compensate by being over worked. This saddle permits the rider to sit straighter, be more effective with their aids and increase their ability feel. When all of this is accomplish, balanced muscular development occurs.