

## DRESSAGE LEGAL MYLER BITS

The Dressage Rules, of the (FEI (Horse) and British Dressage (Horse & Pony)), have a list of permitted mouthpieces and a list of permitted cheeks.

### Dressage-Legal Myler Bit Mouthpieces

- MB10 French Link (level I)
- MB02 Comfort Snaffle with Wide Barrel (level 1)
- MB32 Mullen Barrel (level 2)

They are pictured below on three of the most popular legal cheek styles.



MB10 French Link



MB02 Comfort Snaffle



MB32 Mullen Barrel

### Dressage-legal Myler Bits currently stocked in the UK:

**Full Cheek without hooks** (It is permissible to use bit keepers and this will give the optimum signalling and reward effect on a plain cheek)

- MB02 COMFORT SNAFFLE with WIDE BARREL  
23025 (5")  
23027 (5½")
- MB32 MULLEN BARREL  
23325 (5")  
23327 (5½")

### Loose Ring Cheek

- MB02 COMFORT SNAFFLE with WIDE BARREL  
28025 (5")  
28027 (5½")  
28028 (6")
- MB10 FRENCH LINK SNAFFLE  
28105 (5")  
28107 (5½")

### Eggbutt Cheek without Hooks

- MB02 COMFORT SNAFFLE with WIDE BARREL (Level One)  
29025 (5")  
29027 (5½")



- MB32 MULLEN BARREL  
29325 (5")  
29327 (5½")  
29328 (6")

### **Hanging Cheek**

- MB02 COMFORT SNAFFLE with WIDE BARREL  
42023 (4½")  
41025 (5")  
41027 (5½")  
41028 (6")
- MB10 FRENCH LINK SNAFFLE  
41105 (5")  
41107 (5½")
- MB32 MULLEN BARREL (Level Two)  
42323 (4½")  
41325 (5")  
41327 (5½")  
41328 (6")

### **NB**

The Myler mouthpieces 02 and 32 became allowed when the FEI allowed snaffles with rotating mouthpieces, from January 2003. They are curved forward for as much tongue room as possible; they have a no-pinch action; and Independent Side Movement through the bushing system within the central sleeve, or barrel. However, the ISM does not work to best effect on a plain cheek, so the Hanging Cheek, or the Full Cheek with a bit keeper are recommended. These cheeks will give the rider the optimum signalling ability under the Rules, and will give the horse the clearest reward when the rider relaxes the rein.

The Myler's French Link is again designed with a pronounced forward curve for maximum tongue room, and the joint loops are large to minimise the chance of catching.

Whilst the acceptance of these bits by the dressage authorities is most welcome on welfare grounds, they are unlikely to be the most appropriate bits for horses ready to work under Affiliated Rules, in terms of comfort; clear signalling; and swallowing.

It is strongly recommended, therefore, that the horse is trained at home in the most appropriate bit for his own individual needs, in order to advance him in his training with a comfortable and clear-signalling bit. The horse should then do his test in the most suitable dressage-legal bit.

The horse will be doing a test for a few minutes every few weeks, whilst it will train at home nearly every day. The rider will use various training aids and methods which will help the horse advance in his training although they may not necessarily be used in the actual arena. Bits are no different.

Most horses adapt well to this practice and their welfare and training will benefit from working for the vast majority of time in the most appropriate bit for them and their rider.