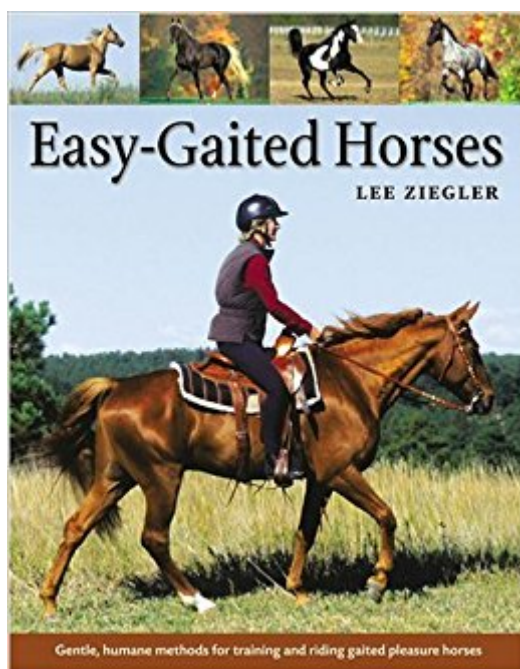


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# Easy-Gaited Horses: Gentle, Humane Methods For Training And Riding Gaited Pleasure Horses



## Synopsis

For more than 30 years, Lee Ziegler has been one of the foremost advocates of gaited horses in North America and Europe. Through her writing and in her clinics, she has introduced countless riders to the pleasures of riding a horse that is calm, obedient, relaxed, alert, sure-footed, easily maneuvered, and consistent in his gait. Now, in *Easy-Gaited Horses*, Ziegler offers a comprehensive guide to riding and training gaited pleasure horses. Her training methods are gentle and humane and produce a gaited horse that can be ridden in his gait barefoot, trimmed to his natural angles, with a mild bit, or even without one. Ziegler begins by defining various types of gaits, explaining how they look to an observer and how they feel to the rider. Next, adopting a whole-body approach to training, she reveals the importance of understanding equine anatomy. She then discusses how to introduce the horse to a variety of gaits: the ordinary walk, the flat walk, the fox trot, the running walk, the saddle rack, and the canter. She explains how to ride a multi-gaited horse, how to handle gait problems, how to retrain an easy-gaited show horse for pleasure riding, how to train gaited foals and colts, and how to prepare before taking a young horse on his first ride.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A valuable resource, whether you're an experienced owner or buying your first easy-gaited horse. Ziegler's approach stresses gentle, humane training using the principles of good horsemanship." • Trail Rider Magazine "Lee presents the what, why, and how of easy gaits. A must-read for those who mistakenly believe gaits are

best achieved through pain and force. **Natural Horse** “A thorough, well-written look at training the pleasure horse. Ziegler is a top clinician in Germany and the United States and brings 30 years experience with gaited breeds to this book. It’s a keeper. **Horsemen’s Yankee Pedlar**

Discover the comfort of easy gaits! It’s easy to fall in love with gaited horses, says author Lee Ziegler, and not just because they tend to be handsome animals with good dispositions. More important, their special gaits are comfortable to ride over long distances (unlike the jarring trot), making them a trail rider’s dream come true. Whether it’s the running walk of the Tennessee Walker, the fox trot of the Missouri Fox Trotter, the Rocky Mountain Horse’s saddle gait, the Icelandic Horse’s tolt, the Paso Fino’s largo, or the Peruvian Paso’s sobreandando, each easy gait can be smooth and delightful to experience. Riding and training one of these horses, however, may be like changing from a one-gear pedal bicycle to a 20-speed model. Easy-gaited horses are complex, multi-gear individuals and present unique challenges for a horse owner who is more familiar with the simple walk, trot, and canter. Ziegler guides you through the fine points of developing and maintaining these extra gaits, using humane training methods that stress good horsemanship. The book includes:

- \* Charts comparing the different gaits
- \* Best equipment for easy-gaited horses
- \* Ground exercises to develop coordination, flexibility, and trust
- \* Solutions to common gait problems
- \* Mounted exercises to improve the easy gaits
- \* Sample lesson plans

I’ve been a gaited horse owner for more than three decades, and I can tell you this is the best resource out there, hands down. Invest in this book. No matter what level of rider you are, or how much gaited experience you have. If you’re a novice, you may feel overwhelmed by reading this, but as you gain experience you will find yourself thinking, “Ok. That’s what she was talking about!” Even experienced gaited horse people can use this as a handy reference. I especially love the thorough explanations of the various gaits and the illustrations. When people ask about various gaits, it’s nice to be able to share those illustrations so they can better understand. Also, this book serves as an authority of gait descriptions, something that even the most experienced riders will argue over at times. While reading a book does not make you an authority on horsemanship, this book will certainly give you the best foundation possible in understanding the various gaits we all enjoy. Buy this book. Life’s too short to have to muddle through your gaited adventure without the best resource!

I have a pacey gaited horse that has also been known to buck so it was back to basics with this boy. This book is a must have for those who want to bring out the best gait in their horse. The ground work is not much different to any other system, it is when working under saddle that the focus of the exercises change to address the needs of the gaited horse to be comfortable within their gait and with a rider. My boy is already responding with a much more comfortable walk and will be gaiting in balance with a little more time.

Still reading, but so far great information and learning alot!

Helpful book as I work with a TWH crossed with a quarter horse. He does have a fourth gait and this book is helping us find it.

Easy to follow explanation of how to train and ride your gaited horse. There are many good suggestions and exercises. She addresses issues with rider and how a rider influences and may interfere with gaited horse way of going. Emphasis is on quality of basics and foundation work. No quick fixes or short cuts in this book. She does a good job illustrating the different gaits, when they are correct and when they are not and the likely cuprits causing them to be incorrect. The subtleties of gaiting illuded me prior reading this book. I have a better understanding of the complexity in training and riding my gaited horse. I highly recommend it. It is a book I will refer to for years to come.

It is a must for people with gaited horses. I call it a bible for horses.

Lee Ziegler does an excellent job of describing the oft-times confusing and subtle differences between the various gaits. As a gaited horse trail rider, I found that this book offered an approach that spoke to me and provided practical advice I could use, with clear and accurate descriptions that I could follow. It came to me highly recommended by other gaited horse owners and it exceeded my expectations. Every gaited horse owner should have this book on their shelves. I've loaned it out twice already, but I get it back quickly when they order their own copy.

Well written explanations of potential gaits your horse might be doing and how to use seat and legs and exercises to get them doing the gaits you want them to do. No gimmicks or hardware or abuse needed.

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