

3 OF THE best

Riding socks

How many of us spend a lot of time and money on choosing the right pair of riding boots, then pull on the nearest pair of socks?

You may be surprised at how much the right pair of socks will add to your comfort in the saddle. Sock design is coming on in leaps and bounds, with many now being aimed specifically at the equestrian market. These use modern, breathable materials to help regulate foot temperature, fit closely and eliminate bulk, essential for socks under long riding boots. So it's worth spending a little bit of time hunting out the best ones.

Here we've chosen three pairs that caught our eye thanks to their innovative features. Our pick includes a pair specifically designed for riding, a pair to keep your feet toasty warm and the ultimate - a pair of waterproof socks.

Sealskinz Mid Weight Knee Length Socks £35

These aren't strictly riding socks, but the team at Sealskinz promise they're perfect for the equine market. And the best bit? They're 100% waterproof. The longer length makes them ideal for wearing with riding boots or wellies and the Merino wool liner will help keep your feet warm. Padding on the sole and toe panel make these socks comfortable. They also have an achilles ankle pad for added support and a close fit.



Black/ blue

Sizes S to XL

Contact www.sealskinz.com



Tredstep Sheer Cool Socks £9.99

These socks are designed with riding in mind. They use a combination of modern materials including **Dryarn**, a high performance sports fabric which is extremely light, draws moisture away and will keep your legs and feet feeling fresh all day. The foot is cushioned for comfort and the anatomically-designed leg uses pearl cotton, a fine natural fabric which looks great and gives a close fit, eliminating bulk.



Black/ Grey/ grey/ blue

Size One size

Contact www.tredstepireland.com

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BANISH COLD FEET

Sheepskin inner soles are cheap to buy and add a cosy liner to boots

Alpaca Country Socks £28.60

If you suffer from cold feet, these socks are for you. Made from alpaca, which is warmer than normal sheep's wool, thanks to hollow air fibres that offer superb insulation, they're lightweight yet toasty. Softer to wear than to touch, and smoother than wool, alpaca has a very low prickle factor, so no 'itchy' wool feel. It's also hypoallergenic, breathable and repels bacteria and odour.

These knee-length socks are designed for outdoor life, with an in-built cushioned sole and special hand-linked toe seams, which are less bulky than a normal seam.



Sizes Small, medium, large

Contact www.perilla.co.uk