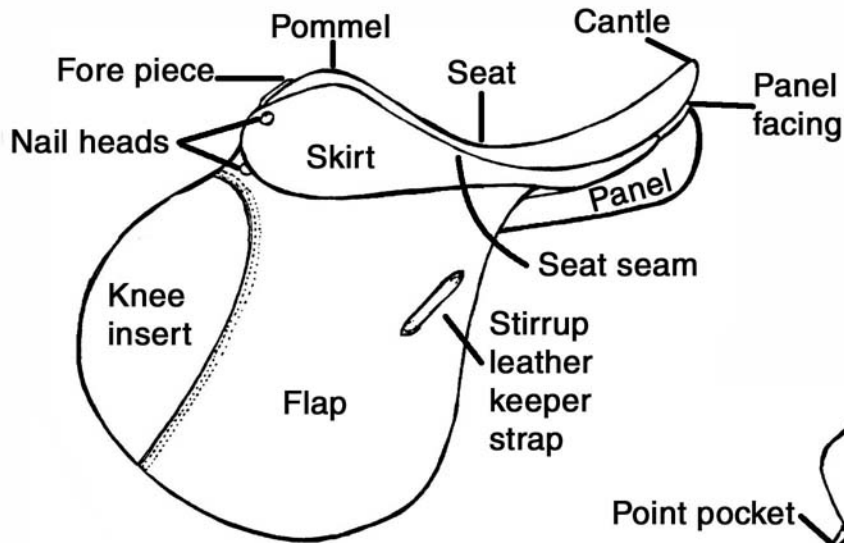
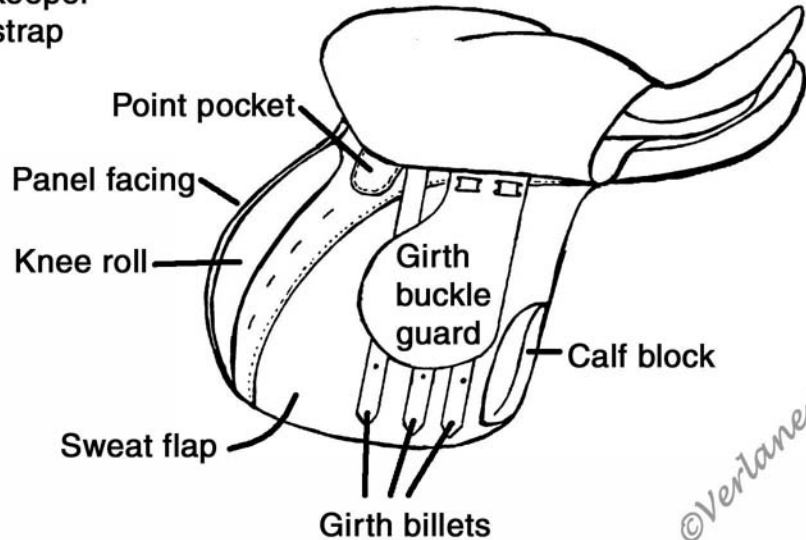


Parts of the English Saddle



*Under saddle:
center channel
is called a gullet.
The leather is the
gullet liner.*

*Under skirt, hidden
from view:
Stirrup bar*



Comparison of two major types of English saddles

Hunt seat

(close contact style)

Shallow seat with lowest part in center or in front of center

Low square cantle

Forward cut flap. Concealed knee rolls optional

Standard short girth billets (not visible in this photo)

Stirrup leathers hung more forward



Dressage

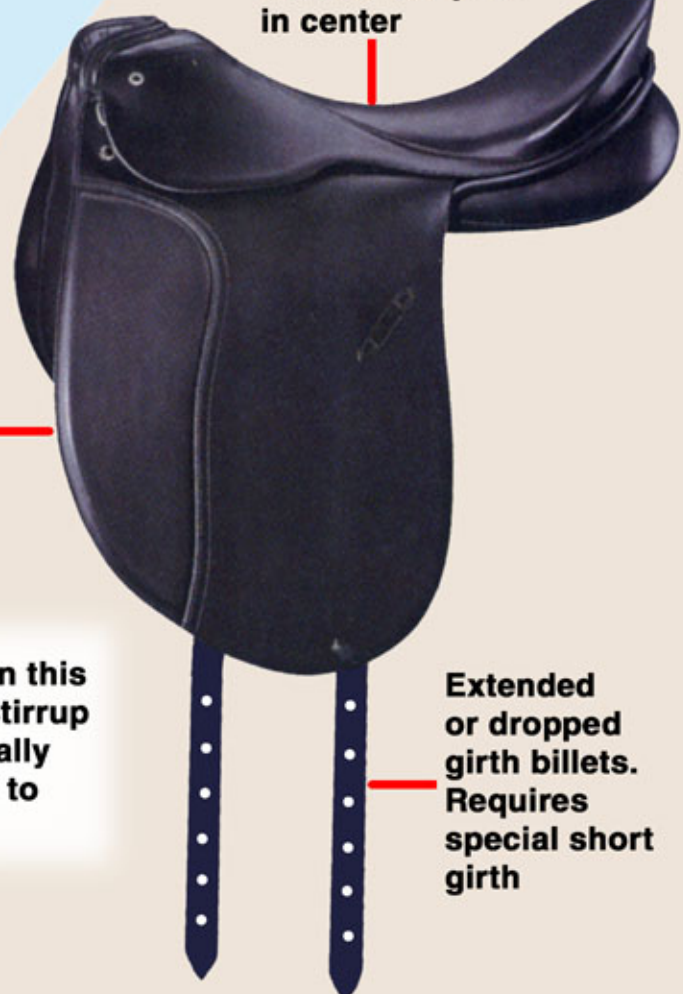
Tall round cantle

Very deep seat with lowest part in center

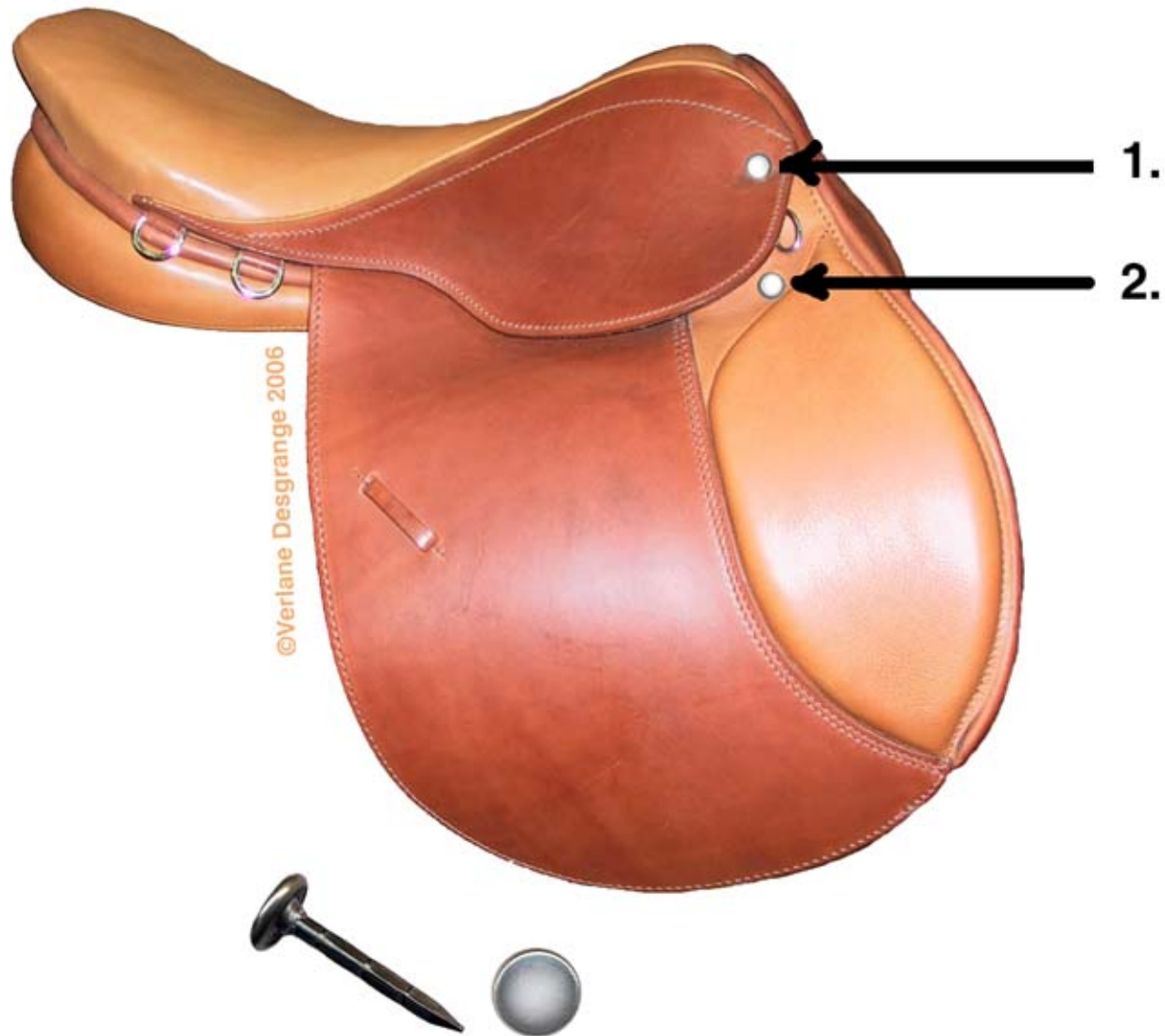
Straight cut flap that conceals long vertical knee rolls

Not shown on this saddle, but stirrup leathers usually hung further to rear

Extended or dropped girth billets. Requires special short girth

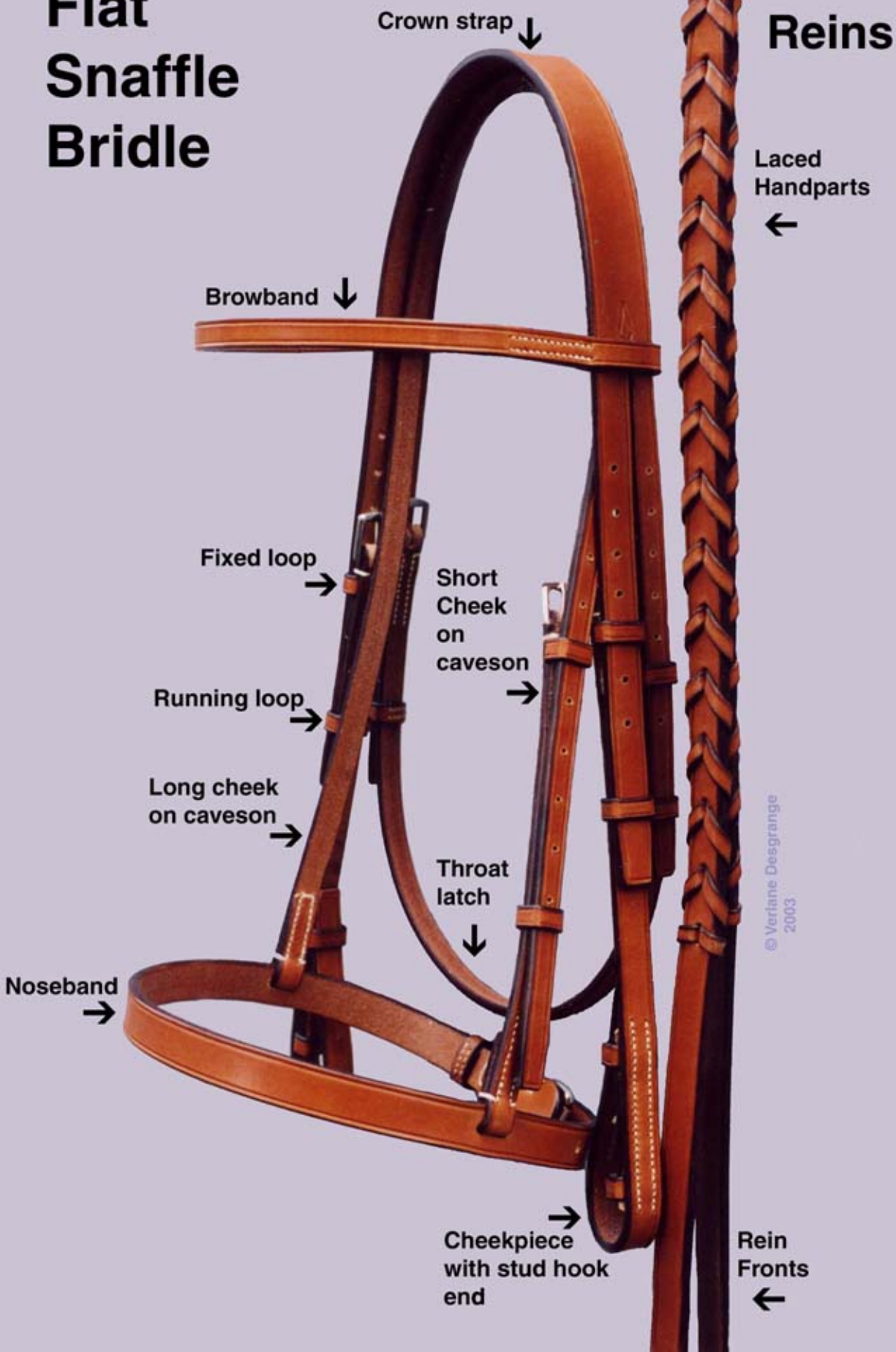



English Saddle Nails



Saddle nails are used on English saddles to hold the skirt (#1) and flap (#2) to the tree. Since both pieces of leather are constantly lifted up, the nails give these pieces of leather stability at the place of the most strain. Both nails go through the tree and are clinched on the backside to prevent being pulled out. The usual diameter of the head is 1/2". The nails shown above are actual size. The shank is usually steel with the head being either brass or German silver. Most common is the use of the silver colored metal. Brass is occasionally done for a different looking color scheme.

Flat Snaffle Bridle

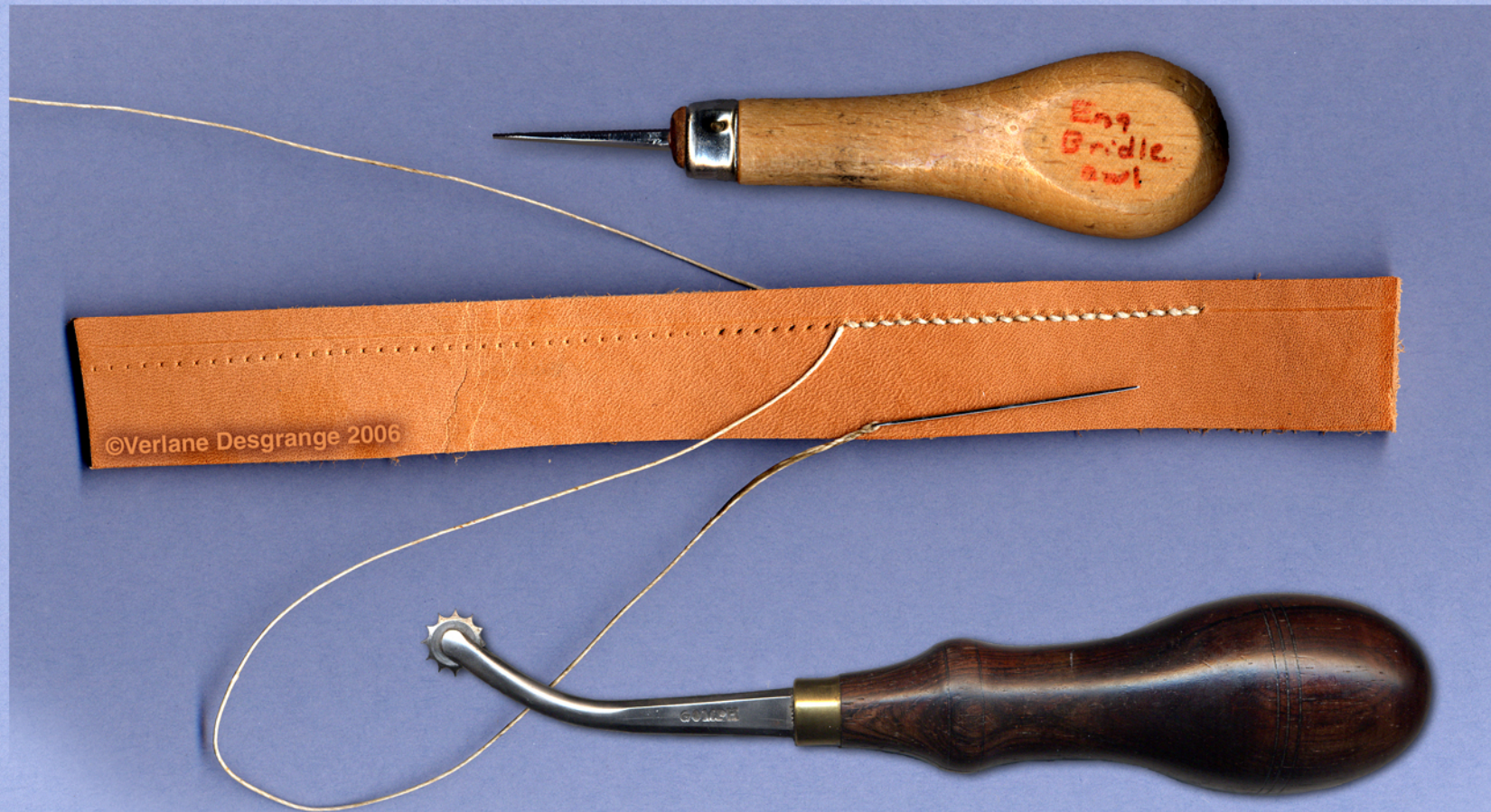


A close-up photograph of a brown leather strap, likely for a bag or belt. The strap features two parallel rows of white stitching. A stainless steel stud hook is attached to the strap, designed for a specific fastening mechanism. The background is a light-colored, textured surface.

**Stitching
detail on
a 5/8" strap.**

**Stainless
steel stud
hook
designed by
Verlane®**

STITCHED 10 PER INCH



All items shown actual size:

1. Linen thread is 3 cord
2. Needles are #4
3. Awl. Awl is worn enough that size is no longer accurate. Began as 1 3/4"-2" long blade.
With sharpening, it has become thinner, which is suited to fine work. Compare your blade size with this one.
4. Overstitcher to mark holes is #10 Gomph. Overstitcher or stitch marker *must* be accurate or stitches will be off. With stitches this small, overstitcher is not used to "set" stitches, only to mark holes. When stitches are placed nearly perfect, there is no need for overstitcher use or stitch groove. Small stitches pull into leather without a stitch groove.

Accuracy depends more on awl placement than anything else. Thread tension and thread placement are the other two of the three things that make for uniform hand stitching. Notice 45° angle of awl blade placement.