### **Braided Reins:**

5½" x ¾" braided adjustable pony reins w/ round braided hand space & easy grip knots for extra leverage.

R8106 - Red V8106 - Turquoise K8106 - Purple ND8106 - Green WD8106 - Hot Pink D8106 - Black



#### **Leather Reins**

Harness leather split reins w/ berry knot quick change ends #13001 - 6' Pony Reins #M13001 - 4' Mini Reins Harness leather roping reins w/ SS snap & extra holes #13002: 6' Pony Reins #M13002: 4½' Mini Reins



Performance Pony Co.

# What do I need to know about reins? Q

The average pair of horse reins measure 8', which is too long for most modern day horses, let alone ponies! When the reins are too long, riders can't effectively communicate with their ponies because the time between engaging the reins to when the pony feels the pressure is often past the moment. Riders might get by at first, but overtime their ponies will realize they have a lot of wiggle room, putting the rider, pony and everyone around them in a challenging situation.

When a rider's reins are too short, their pony never gets a release from pressure which causes confusion and frustration! They can start using tricks like head tossing and putting their heads down which can lead to lightweight riders getting pulled forward and sometimes even over the top.

The ideal length is long enough to have no pressure on the ponies mouth when casually riding, but short enough that the rider can quickly engaged when needed.

> Prices Online. www.PerformancePony.com

# HORSEMANSHIP TIP

Balance is one of the most important aspects of horsemanship. By riding balanced riders are able to use their body to cue their ponies and use their hands only for the finer movements which allows bits to function as intended, giving both ponies and riders more control and confidence!

## THINGS TO WORK ON:

- Side passing: Use legs for side-to-side and bending movements. When using spurs, roll them, don't poke them.
- Turning: Push against the saddle horn to keep your balance in the turns. When you use your hind end, it's easier for your pony to use his.
- Looking: Our bodies follow our eyes and so will our ponies.
  For example, if I look at the barrel, my pony is more likely to hit it or step off (loop around) the backside to avoid hitting it. Set up cones or create games that keep the rider looking forward!



Jessica Walters demonstrates pushing against the saddle horn which allows her pony, Patty, to work off her hind end. If she were to lean forward or pull herself up with the saddle horn, she would shift her weight to Patty's front end, making it harder for the front end to move freely for effective turns.