



**Greenacres Stables
Riding Centre**

Pro Hacker

The Pro Hacker course consists of a progressive series of hacks, ideal for avid holiday hackers preparing for a trekking holiday, or confidence building whilst out and about. We will teach you about road safety, equipment, and the Countryside Code while you enjoy the wonderful Herefordshire and Gloucestershire scenery.

Participants will need to be capable riding at walk, trot and preferably canter. We will take you over May Hill, across a busy road, by a motorway, through country lanes and woods, around lakes and open fields.

Equipment checklist

We are located 4.5 miles from Ross on Wye, and 5.5 miles from Newhunt Horses tack shop. If you are unable to acquire any of the following equipment, it will certainly be possible to do so while you are here. If you are not bringing your own transport, there is a reliable bus service to Ross on Wye from the bus stop opposite the yard, and we would be more than happy to take you to Newhunt Horses.

- Horse riding boots.

You will need to wear your own pair of purpose-made riding boots for this course. If you do not already own a pair, there is a wide range available online from around £20 to hundreds, we are happy to advise on brands etc. We would strongly recommend breaking in your shoes before your course begins as blisters and soreness may impede your learning.

- Comfortable "old" clothing.

You may get dirty and your clothes may rip or tear, please do not wear clothes you are hugely fond of just in case. The likelihood of clothing breakages is not high, although we do hack through woodlands and the undergrowth can get quite close. Snagging a sleeve on a headcollar clip, stable door, gate handle is also a fairly infrequent but possible scenario.

- Weather relative clothing.

Even if the weather looks brilliant for the week, it is always a good idea to bring waterproof clothing as the forecast is often inaccurate in this area.

- Helmet

While you are more than welcome to borrow one from us, most people prefer to buy their own. If so, please use a tack shop with a hat fitting section, there should be qualified hat fitters to help you decide on a helmet. Ill-fitting helmets can cause more damage than no helmet at all, please bear this in mind when purchasing.



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Entry Requirements

- You will need to be proficient in walk, trot and canter without assistance for this course.
- We do offer this course to those who have not yet learnt to canter, although you will need to contact us prior to booking so that we can make the necessary arrangements.
- The minimum age requirement is 17 years, there is no maximum age limit.
- The weight limit is 16 stone.

We do occasionally make exceptions in certain circumstances, for example if the rider will be turning 17 within the week, if the rider is slightly over the weight limit etc.

Please contact us before you book if you believe you would be an exception to the above requirements. We require all riders to bring photographic ID and be measured for height and weight during the induction on the first day. This is purely for security, insurance and licensing purposes and will be stored for up to 5 years in our business health and safety file only. Your data will never be misplaced or misused and is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018. If you are aware that you do not meet the requirements, please do not book without talking to us first as we will be obligated to terminate the course without refunding costs.

Recommended Duration

The minimum duration for this course is 3 days, although we would recommend at least 5 days. Essentially, the longer you stay, the more variety you will experience.

Progress Expectation

The expectation of progress is based on 7 days for relatively fit and healthy individuals. Our aim is for the rider to be confident a variety of scenarios whilst out hacking. You will experience country lanes, crossing main roads, riding underneath a motorway, open fields, lakes, steep ascents and descents, overgrown and unmaintained terrain, interaction with wildlife (mainly wild horses and semi-wild cows), and extraordinarily spectacular views.

Progress is specific to each individual, and confidence is as, if not more, important than capability. Although we have had many individuals who have achieved all of the above, that does not mean that you have to. We are always ready to alter the course programme to suit the rider to ensure that you achieve as much as your body will allow.



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Half Day Programme

The programme below is a very basic guide on what to expect, Day I and II are accurate although the days thereafter will not likely conform to these times. Morning arrival times will become earlier, and afternoon finishing times will become later. The maximum will be from 08.30 – 12.30 for morning courses, or 13.30 – 17.30 for afternoon courses.

	Day I	Morning	Day II Onwards
09.30	Arrival and Induction		Arrival and Tacking Up
10.00	Horse Riding Lesson		Hack
11.00	Hack		-
12.00	-		-
12.30	Finish		Finish

	Day I	Afternoon	Day II Onwards
13.30	Arrival and Induction		Arrival and Tacking Up
14.00	Horse Riding Lesson		Hack
15.00	Hack		-
16.00	-		-
16.30	Finish		Finish

This programme is subject to variations and is purely to give you an idea of what to expect. We may make changes depending on weather conditions, rider progress, the length of your course, and/or unexpected circumstances. There is a break during the day which is not stated in programme as the times of these will vary and depend entirely on the riders on the course.

Morning courses are available all year round. Afternoon courses are available from April until October.