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A Good Feel of Rodeo Chaps for the Rodeo by [Medwin Hall](#)

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Rodeo chaps are very common in the rodeo activity. Chaps are stemmed from the Mexican word chaparajos. Rodeo chaps are leg coverings made of sturdy leather to protect the rider's legs from brushings against the fences while on the ride.

Function

Rodeo chaps are part of the bull riding gear that has become part of the rodeo. They serve to protect the rider's legs during the ride as well as accentuate the rider's presentation while bucking the bull and horses.

Rodeo chaps are designed to protect or shield the ride as they are made from large pieces of tough leather. They are spread across the rider's legs and animal's chest from the stock saddle horn with better designs in the modern days for style, comfort and decoration besides protection.

Adornment

Rodeo chaps should be worn over thick leg pieces like denim jeans with a hip level fitting. Most rodeo chaps are long to fit over the rider's boots. There are different types of rodeo chaps like bat wings, shogun and chinks to fit firmly and comfortably over the rider's thighs to the calf without inhibiting movement during the ride. The shotgun rodeo chaps are more flare at the ankle for riders wearing boots.

Different types

There are many different types of rodeo chaps as the sport takes on a more prominent role. More manufacturers come out with different forms and styles to bring on some distinction and fashion on the bull riders. Rodeo chaps have become quite commercialized with more individuals keen to participate in the sport.

A special type of rodeo chaps is the chainsaw chaps that are made from kevlar which give a stronger protection to the rider's legs whereas motorcycle rodeo chaps are designed like the shotgun rodeo chaps with side zippers for easier adornment. Batwing rodeo chaps are smooth side out; meaning roughed out and smoothed out.

Materials used

Rodeo chaps can be made from various types of materials but the most popular type is cowhide. This type of leather is usually well tanned, dyed and split to ensure a supple leather garment to facilitate easy movement for the rider.

The rough side of the leather is known as suede today. In rodeo, it is called "roughout"; it also has a smooth side. Hence, most rodeo chaps are "smooth out" and "roughout". These are important of rodeo chaps to those who are fashion conscious while putting on a good show for the bull ride. Some rodeo chaps are made of vinyl and ultrasuede which do not hold up well.

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