

# EQUINE EMPLOYMENT

## PART ONE

Meet two riders who found jobs that put their knowledge of horses to good use.

### Mary Cobey • Kerrits

**Tell us a little about where you work.**

I work for Kerrits Performance Equestrian Apparel. Our team is made up of all women and is based in Hood River, Ore.

For over 20 years, Kerrits has been designing fashionable and functional apparel for women and children who ride and love horses.

**What is your job title and what do you do?**

I'm in sales and marketing. I spend about half my time working in the office and the other half traveling all over the country visiting our clients and attending equestrian events.

I show the stores the new fashion line and help them pick out and merchandise their collection for the upcoming season.

At events, I meet loyal Kerrits fans, show them our current products, and help them find solutions for their riding apparel needs.

I love the diversity and how interactive my job is; I get to talk "horses" all day long! I also work with our team riders and ambassadors and manage the Kerrits Facebook page.

**How did you get your job? Through an advertisement? Word of mouth?**

I got my job through word of mouth and being in the right place at the right time. I moved to Hood River, found some people in the local horse community and was fortunate to meet Kerri Kent, the owner of Kerrits!

**Did you take any courses in college that help you with your job?**

I double-majored in Exercise and

Sports Science and Psychology at UNC-Chapel Hill. I think my overall liberal arts education helps on a daily basis. In college, I focused on taking classes I was interested in at the time.

I think getting a good all-around education is key; after that you can take it wherever you want to go.

**Have you had other jobs in the horse industry?**

Not officially. I rode all through college and spent a couple summers as a working student for David and Lauren O'Brien in Southern Pines, N.C.

**Do you own or lease a horse?**

I'm very fortunate to ride one of Kerri's horses, Cosmo. He's a Quarter Horse/ Thoroughbred cross with a lot of character.

In my picture, I'm riding Wilson, an OTTB that I had the pleasure of riding all last summer.

**Do you ride regularly? If so, what kind of riding do you do?**

Yes, I do ride regularly. I grew up in Pony Club and then focused on eventing. At the moment, I ride for fun!

I love exploring the trails, and of course I like to jump.

**How often do you get to ride?**

When I'm in Hood River, I ride as much as possible. In the summer, I am very lucky to ride five or six times a week. I have lots of great friends who let me ride their horses, so at times I can ride up to three a day!



Mary loves riding Wilson!

Ben Bright