



Meet Our Saddle Fitter: Mandy Chao

We want you to learn more about Trilogy's team of fitters! Meet Mandy Chao, authorized fitter who services Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and southern Illinois.

How did you start out in the equestrian industry?

I spent my senior year of high school as an exchange student in Missouri. At the time, I did not speak fluent English and starting at a new school as a senior did not help me to make friends. There was a horse barn within walking distance near the family that I was staying with. I signed up for my first lesson, bought my first pairs of boots and breeches then the rest was history.

What inspired you to become a saddle fitter?

Being in the Midwest, it was hard to find knowledgeable local fitters. Saddle fitting felt like a mystery to me. I could not find much information until I found The Society of Master Saddlers in UK's website. It was not long until I started taking training classes toward certification. I then met Debbie through my friend and started learning about Trilogy. I found that Debbie is a certified saddle fitter through The Society of Master Saddlers in UK. When the opportunity arose to join Trilogy, I jumped at the chance.

When did you join the Trilogy team?

I started my Trilogy journey in 2016.

What specifically makes you proud to be a fitter with Trilogy?

Our saddles are the best on the market. Finding the Trilogy saddle that agrees with your body and have it properly fitted to your equine partner can greatly improve the performance of you and your equine partner. Debbie is generous with the amount of training provided to her fitters. Trilogy also holds annual seminars offering continued education for its fitters.



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What has been one of your most memorable moments working with Trilogy?

I worked with a horse named Jack, who is an Arabian and Saddle-bred crossed. His current saddle was limiting him. His owner was floored by the improvement after riding in a Trilogy. Not only his owner, my jaw dropped when I saw the difference. We were both all smiles after several other riders asked who the new horse was.

What do you love about your job with Trilogy?

I love seeing the smiles on the riders after experiencing a break-through during our session.

In your opinion, what makes Trilogy saddles stand out against its competitors?

The design of our saddles. Trilogy saddles are designed with riders in mind, equine back health as priority and outstanding performance as the goal. I would encourage any rider to go through the fitting process with a Trilogy fitter.

Do you currently own a horse or compete as a dressage rider?

I currently own three Thoroughbreds that have never seen the track. My younger two competed at First and Second level. My older guy is now retired.

What advice would you give someone who is interested in becoming a saddle fitter?

Go for it! We need more quality fitters in this country. You are reading this interview, so you know where you can get correct training.