



## Get to Know Lynne Macyk

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**How old were you when you started riding?** I begged for riding lessons, and I had to wait until I was 10! That was the youngest anyone could start in a lesson program here in Edmonton at that time.

**Where did you ride growing up?** I rode mostly in the Edmonton area, mainly at Whitemud Equine Centre.

**Were you a good student?** Of course!! I loved it, and was willing to try anything the instructor suggested.

**When did you start showing?** I started showing relatively soon after I started lessons, then moved on to a lease situation, and was able to compete more regularly, and then finally convinced my parents I should have my own horse when I was 16.

**Did you always want to be a professional rider?** I did complete two degrees at the University of Alberta, a B.Sc. Specialization in Psychology, and a B.Sc. in Occupational Therapy, so I guess to answer that question, I wanted to finish my education, but I did always want to run a business and be a professional rider.

**Do you get nervous?** Nerves, funny things. I suppose I am nervous to ensure I do a good job, and to try to have the best round for myself and the horse. I don't get "scared" nerves.

**What do you do to help with your nerves?** Positive thoughts and deep breathing help.

**What would you do if you weren't riding?** I suppose I would be able to practice occupational therapy, or I would have a surf shop on the beach in Hawaii (ha ha).

**When did you buy your first horse?** I was 16 when I finally convinced my parents that I should actually own my first horse.

**What horses do you have now?** What are they like? Right now I own Aly, who is my retired back to Ireland Grand Prix Jumper; hopefully she will produce more babies like herself! I also just purchased a 5 year old gelding that will stay in Ireland for at least a year and allow me to fly over and compete on him there as he grows up. And I am currently looking for another horse to compete on myself.

**Can you tell us about your business?** My business is run out of Caledonia Stables in Leduc Alberta, owned by Lee Kruger and family. It involves lessons, training, and showing for all the students, and I am very lucky to have the opportunity to have my business run out of such a lovely facility with such fabulous owners.

**Do you have any advice for young riders?** **Continue** with your passion, work hard and make time to spend with your horse. People are always in such a hurry, the details often get missed.



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**What do you do in your spare time?** Spare time, ha ha, well I suppose I travel when I can, and always try to catch up with the latest PVR events.

**What could you not live without?** I suppose I would miss my Irish breakfast tea before heading to the barn in the morning.

**Name three things most people don't know about you.** Hawaii is my favorite vacation spot, I love all Asian inspired food, I am a planner and I like when things go according to plan.

**Describe yourself in five words.** Entertaining, kind, responsible, fun and reliable.