



## Get to Know Emma Edwardson

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### **How old were you when you started riding?**

I was four years old.

### **Were you a good student?**

Yes, I believe I have always been a good student. I am always very willing to learn, I listen well and try not to make the same mistake twice. I think that those three qualities make a good student. As far as school, yes for sure! I take my schoolwork very seriously, and make sure that I am always proud of the work I hand in.

### **Do you get nervous?**

Sometimes at a new venue or if I am moving up a division, but generally not very often. I always just feel very excited to get into the ring !!

### **What do you do to help with your nerves?**

It helps me to try and treat every class as a schooling or clear round, to help take the pressure off. There have been times where I let the names of classes to get into my head, whether it be a first time in an international hunter derby or a classic or my first grand prix, I feel like those are usually the classes where nerves come in to play. I try and turn any little sign of nervousness or butterflies into excitement. Also, I have to remember to take deep breathes. Not only does it help to calm me, but my horse can sense it and I feel like it is relief for him too !

### **What would you do if you weren't riding?**

I've never actually thought of that! Because I've been riding for so long, and horses have always been a part of my life, I'm really not too sure. I danced competitively when I was younger, so I might have continued with that I guess. All I really want to do is school and riding, so I really can't imagine doing anything else !

### **When did you buy your first horse?**

My parents bought me my first pony when I was seven. He was a little black devilish pony, who once dumped me five times in one horse show day AND broke my back ( healed fine and all is well, thankfully), but I loved him to bits.

### **What horse do you have now? What are they all like?**

The horse that I currently compete in the jumpers with is Apart (Party). To say he is a big boy is an understatement, standing at 18hh with a solid build (who seems to grow to 20hh at the horse show), he is simply massive! Party has THE best personality, and absolutely the biggest heart.



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I also have a 17 year old mare Streisand (Ginger). We bought her when I was 11 and she was 12, and even though she was the biggest, toughest ride out of all the horses I tried, I knew she was the one for me! She has a heart of gold, and carried me through 1.10 jumpers to junior hunter championships as well as big equitation and hunter derby wins. She currently lives at Foxstone Stables in Glenora BC, where she delivered her first foal two months ago!

My third horse is Check My Ride (Clifford – yes, the big red dog!). From day one, he has been brave, confident, independent, friendly and a quick learner, all of the qualities you would want in a big jumper.

I have thoroughly enjoyed spending my summer working with Clifford, giving Ginger the spa days she deserves, and working on fitness with Party while giving him the vacation he needs.

### **What do you do in your spare time?**

Honestly, I don't have much spare time between school and riding. When I do though, I like to hang out with friends, relax, catch up on my favorite shows and eat a ton of popcorn. When I am at our home on Vancouver Island for the summer, I live in our pool when I'm not at the barn !

### **What could you not live without?**

POPCORN !!! (it is my all-time favorite snack, meal, dessert, everything) AND ... my cell phone ☺

### **What is your most embarrassing horse show moment?**

That's a tough one, like most riders, I've had a few !! A few years ago, I was doing a handy hunter challenge at Thunderbird Show Park with Ginger, we were totally laying it down, until we weren't. I got to one jump on a half stride, popped over her head and landed on my feet, but Ginger continued to fall through the jump. She was completely fine, but the jump looked as though three horses had crashed through it. We broke every rail, box, gate, EVERYTHING. The poor jump crew had to recreate a whole new jump, it was seriously embarrassing.

Party also had a very significant temper tantrum at CET medal regionals this past year while I was walking the course. While being held outside the ring, he suddenly ripped the reins out of my mom's hand and proceeded to run all the way across the RMSJ show grounds, up to the road where someone finally caught him and brought him back to us. Of course by this time I was five out with a worked up, sweaty horse that had broken his reins. Luckily, everyone pitched in to help, in minutes we had new reins attached, I got on, jumped a handful of jumps, went in the ring and scored an 84 placing third. Seriously embarrassing.

### **Name three thing most people don't know about you.**

- I am a die-hard chocoholic



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- I am a huge Disney fan
- I am super clumsy

### Describe yourself in five words.

- Passionate
- Kind
- Hardworking
- Honest
- Loyal