



Create your own jockey silk



A brief history of jockey silks

- silks refers to the lightweight jacket and cap that a jockey wears
- the colors of the silks are usually determined by the horse's owner and owners can change the colors over time
- silks were a way for people to identify their preferred horse during a race - the modern tradition goes back to England during the 1700s as horse racing became more popular



Silk from Hopewell Museum Collections
- perhaps from George Holtsinger's
Roman Oaks Farm, 1950s-60s.



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Bourbon County Horse Farms

- Horse training, breeding, and racing has a long history in the Bluegrass & Bourbon County
- 1827: Xalapa is established in Paris by William Thomas Buckner.
- 1867: Runnymede is established by Colonel Ezekiel Clay (a cousin of THE Henry Clay) and is currently said to be the longest continuously operating Thoroughbred Farm in Kentucky.
- 1910: Claiborne Farm is launched in Ky by Arthur B. Hancock, Sr.
- 1970: Stone Farm established by Arthur B. Hancock, III.
- 1989: Secretariat dies and is buried at Claiborne Farm.
- 1989: Adena Springs begins operation in Versailles and moves to Paris in 2005.
- 2005: Rosecrest Farm begins operation on land that was originally part of Claiborne Farm.
- 2007: Siena Farm begins operation.

Instructions for making your own silk

1. Print out the attached template (or draw your own!).
2. Create your design - you may want to draw it in pencil before you start coloring.
3. Color with markers, coloring pencils, crayons or use construction paper scraps to glue shapes on.
4. Cut out your design & display your silk in a window, on your fridge, or on your wall.
5. Share your design with us on social (FB, Twitter, Instagram) - #HopewellMuseum #BoCoHealthyAtHome

Jockey silk design tips

You can really design your silk however you are inspired, but below are some tips for how the pros do it. Have fun with it!

1. Bright & Colorful. Often you will see jockey silks in bright colors - this helps your horse & jockey stand out!
2. Use basic geometric shapes. Diamonds, squares, circles, triangles, and stripes are popular patterns because they are easy to spot and create.
3. Some owners use their initials or the letters of their farm on the back of the silks (not their full name though, no room for that and too difficult to see!).



