Once In A Blue Moon

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Nothing can cause more anxiety than getting to an event and realizing you've left a key component at home. Mishaps at an event can suddenly call for a replacement to be at hand. From reins to rugs, shackles to shoes, what are a few things to consider having stored on your trailer for that once in a blue moon moment?

Obviously, items from your harness stands out as "must needs" and it never hurts to have an extra set of reins or hold back straps on hand. Having a textured grip set of reins will also come in handy for wet weather. Extra bell boots for your horse, a wool cooler, scrim, quarter sheets for cool mornings, and ear nets, can easily be carried in a storage box in your trailer tack room. Keep an extra whip and gloves on hand, too.

You can hang a spare helmet, safety vest, a bag with extra marathon watches with spare batteries, and a medical arm band from a hook in your tack area.

Shackles, electric tape and other small repair items along with tools like Allen wrenches and multi tools always have a space in the trailer, but also consider the hard to come by items. Ask your farrier for an extra set of horse shoes that your horse is currently wearing (don't forget to have them drilled for studs!) and, if you drive ponies, add pony horseshoe nails. In the case of studs, too many IS just enough. While you're at it, throw a headlamp and a pair of reader glasses in your stud kit for working in dark stalls.

Speaking of stalls, have a dedicated set of water buckets and double end snaps tucked away that stay on the trailer. It's easy to store stall tack hooks and stall bags in them for easy set up. A sturdy tool box that you can stand on to braid can keep your grooming and braiding supplies ready to deploy. Stash an extra halter and shank in there, too. It's also a great spot for a spare thermometer.

What about your carriage? Keep number holders on the trailer and any other items that you only use at events. Cleaning supplies and micro fiber cloths for touch ups are great to keep on the trailer.

Sewing kit, first aid kits for both you and your horses, and sunscreen are obvious choices but remember to pack some of your prescription drugs, contact lenses or a spare set of corrective glasses on your trailer.

Have a small box for cell phone charging cables, short extension cords, power banks, and other small items to keep you charged and connected.

Can't make it through without caffeine? Consider a small electric kettle! Stashing a few tea bags or sachets of coffee with it and you're set. This also comes in handy to heat water for soaking feed or quick clean ups when hot water is unavailable on site.

Don't forget to pack a "wet day" set of clothes for yourself and leave them in your trailer. Extra socks, a rain jacket and hat, and warm gloves can really come in handy.

A bit of thought and planning can outfit your trailer for those once in a blue moon moments! What can't you do without?