

Utility Catch Rope

People buy lead ropes, the barrel snap breaks, and the whole mess goes in the trash. I fish them out, cut the hardware off, and singe the cut end. I keep two or three handy on centrally-located stall doors. Slip the cut ends through the handle, and drop the loop behind these lower ends.

Why do this?

The rope is remarkably handy. A horse unexpectedly steps out of a stall over a manure bucket: You don't have to fumble over ropes with attached halters or snaps. Sweep the loop into your hand and it comes off the door instantly.



You want to lead a horse to a gate and don't need to (or, don't want to) halter it. Now you don't have to remember to keep track of the metal snap. (Everybody I know has been clocked by, or in-a-split-second dodged, a metal end as it came over a horse's neck.)

A horse is cast in a stall. Again, no need to think about which end to slip over the animal's leg, which to keep track of, to worry about which end could raise a nice bruise. Just get the horse up.

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