

5-MINUTE MAKEOVER

We prepare this amateur to look great at a world show—with winning results.

BY J. FORSBERG MEYER, WITH ROBIN GOLLEHON

Exhibitor: Jill Finley, Michigan.

Horse: Blondrageous, 2009 Palomino/Quarter Horse filly, raised by Jill.

Competes in: Amateur yearling longe line, under the guidance of Robin Gollehon.

Makeover mission: To upgrade Jill's look for world-class competition with a more contemporary ensemble that flatters both her and her horse.

JILL'S GOAL WAS TO COMPETE IN the 2010 Palomino Horse Breeders of America World Championship Show in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and her ensemble needed updating. The style and shape of her hat—one of *the* most important parts of a show outfit—says “novice” rather than “winner.” Her blouse, meanwhile, is old-fashioned and unflattering in its fit. To prepare her to be competitive in Tulsa, here's what we did, and why:

Updated her hat: We found her one with a lower crown and a bigger brim, then gave it the proper winning shape. Notice how the fit and lighter color also highlight and flatter her face. As a bonus, the light color accentuates her horse's blaze, drawing attention to the filly's attractive head.

Updated her blouse: The velvet/glitter material and big silk cuffs of her “before” blouse are dated. This new top is more stylish, plus more flattering to her figure. The rich-yet-subtle colors are a good match for Jill's coloring (her filly's, too!), and the gold detail on the collar complements her hair and brightens her face.

Polished the details: Just tucking the side strands of Jill's hair behind her ears adds much to her pulled-together, I'm-here-to-win appearance. A coordinating lipstick and light touch of foundation and mascara complete her thoroughly modern, stylish look. Her smile—for winning the reserve championship in her class at the Palomino World Show—is a bonus! ■

**BEFORE (above)
AND AFTER (below):**
Updated styles and other tweaks make a striking difference in the presentation of this amateur exhibitor.

