Detailed Cowboy Cards

Saddle:

The saddle is made of wood, metal and leather. It weighs around 40 lbs. It keeps the rider's weight rested on the horse's shoulders and not on it's back. Back in the day, a good saddle cold cost up to a year's wages but lasted all the cowboys working life.

Boots:

Boots can be made of plain leather or intricately tooled leather. Boots have high sides that protect from brus, thorns and rattle snakes. Also they have high heels that keep the spurs off the ground and help the cowboy to keep his feet in the stirrups. At the top of the boot are "mule ears". Cowboys use them to pull their boots on.

Spurs:

Spurs are worn over the heel of the boots. They are used to goad a horse's flank to urge the horse on. They are used carefully; spur marks are a sign of poor horsemanship.

Neckerchief:

There are many uses for this item. The most common ones are to protect the neck from sunburn, as a face mask for cold or dust, bandage, filter and handkerchief.

Cowboy Hat:

Most cowboy hats are made from felt. They have wide brims to protect from the sun and rain. They can also serve as a fan or pail.

Chaps:

Chaps are leather leggings that are worn over the cowboys pants for warmth and protection from brush, thorns and cactus spines. In the coldest weather "hair pants" can be worn. "Hair pants" are hide chaps with the animal's hair or wool left on.

Lasso or Lariat:

Cowboys use lassos or the full lariat, Which is about 60 ft. long, to rope cattle, especially the young calves.

Branding Iron:

A brand is an owner's mark. It is burned into an animal's hide with a hot iron. Each brand is different and is the registered symbol of each cattle owner.