

In this feature... &gt; Introduce your horse to skinny fences

&gt; Keep him straight and accurate &gt; Practice your cross-country skills

# Mind the gap

*Minimising the challenge of skinnies will help you manage your horse's reaction to them, avoid costly run-outs and gain confidence as a partnership, says Ros Canter*

**S**kinnies are up there as one of the most common bogey fences, but by building them from the ground up in training, you'll soon learn that they don't require any special treatment.

Going back to basics isn't necessarily just for younger horses. Many older horses have limited experience with skinny fences,

too. They tend to be somewhat forgotten in training and horses are often only confronted with them in competition, where the high-pressure setting can cause problems. When riding a new horse, it's a good idea to treat skinny fences as a brand new lesson because it's likely you won't know how often he's encountered them in the past. ➤

## Our model



10-year-old, **Pecos Crown Jewel** (Jas) was sired by Jumbo and is owned by Kate James and Annie Makin. The 16.2hh mare made the step-up to CC14\* last year, finishing in the top 25 at Millstreet in an impressive debut.

## Our expert



**Ros Canter** has made a name for herself on the eventing scene. As well as her team and individual eventing golds at the 2018 World Equestrian Games in Tryon, she's also racked up several top-five completions at CC15\* in recent years.

