



HITCHING OXEN

"An ox requires the hoop under the yoke be slid up, the yoke attached to the wagon tongue and a lead string put through its nose ring, and that's about it! (The second ox is a little harder to hook up because you have to get the first one to stand still too, as they are to be solidly attached to one another.) The equine has a cinch under its belly, a bridle with a bit, traces to attach to the singletrees, lines to arrange so they will not tangle, a cross-lines arrangement so that the teamster ends up with only one set of lines and not one for each animal, a horse collar closed, and all straps lying flat so as not to abrade its skin over the day's pull. The amount of time difference would be significant when preparing to leave each morning."

Suze Hammond, Librarian, College of the Arts, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Oregon. *The Oregon Trail and Its Pioneers. "Horses – Mules – Oxen"*

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