

STANISLAUS COUNTY
4-H HORSE PROJECT STUDY GUIDE

LEVEL 2

March 2010

Use this study guide with the
CERTIFIED HORSEMANSHIP ASSOCIATION
Composite Horsemanship Manual

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

Horses are not pets, but they can be fun, safe and enjoyable companions if they are handled correctly. Horses are big, powerful and _____. They can be scared by many things and will try to _____ from things that _____ them. Things that may frighten a horse are _____ noises, _____ movements and things that come towards them suddenly, like a piece of paper or plastic being blown by the wind.

If a horse is frightened or nervous, he will often _____ down if he is kept under _____ and given confidence. Be kind but _____ and talk to him with _____ words to show him you are a _____ leader.

If you are acting frightened or _____, your horse may become more frightened.

Horses learn to obey humans through _____ and _____. Handle your horse properly and use the same _____ and _____ they are used to. Poor handling by _____, cruelty or _____ can ruin their behavior.

Horses are trained by positive and negative reinforcement, also known as _____ and _____. They learn to do things by associating them with good, pleasant feelings (rewards) or 'not so good', unpleasant feelings (punishments). A reward or punishment can be just as simple as a release of pressure or an increase in pressure. Horses only understand a _____ or _____ for about _____ seconds so it is very important that the good or 'not so good' feelings come _____ when the horse has done something right or wrong.

Rewards can be: releasing the pressure of the _____ or the pressure of your _____, getting a break from _____, praise (kind _____), petting or even a treat such as feed, carrots, apples or something else he likes to eat.

Punishments can be: more pressure with the _____ or your _____, working _____, a sharp _____, not being allowed to do what he wants, or perhaps a tap with a crop or a nudge with your spurs. A horse that is punished too _____ or too _____ will most likely look for a way to get away from the rider who is hurting him or _____ him.

Be careful not to allow your horse to get a _____ for doing something he should not. For example, if he learns to jerk the reins out of your _____ to lean down for a bite of grass, he will do it over and over. Allowing him to graze while you are on his back and relaxing could teach him this kind of behavior!

You should also be careful NOT to use your reins to hold yourself in the saddle. Pulling back like this will make your horse think he is being _____ even though you don't mean to _____ him.

HORSEMAN'S TALK:

The following are some common terms used when talking about horses:

A male horse that has been castrated or altered (can not be used for breeding) is a _____.

A mature male horse that can be used for breeding is a _____. (May also be called a sire or father.)

A mature female horse that is over 4 years old is a _____. (May also be called a dam or mother.)

A young horse, male or female, that is still with its mother (dam) is called a _____.

A young horse, male or female, that has just been taken away from its mother (dam) is called a _____.

A horse that is officially one year old is called a _____.

A young female horse that is under 4 years old is called a _____.

A young male horse that is under 4 years old is called a _____.

The way a horse is measured is called a _____. One _____ is equal to _____ inches. (Measure from the ground to the withers.)

A mature horse, male or female, that will never be taller than 14.2 _____ is a _____.

A horse that is inexperienced or untrained is called _____.

The animal that is a cross between a female horse and a male donkey is called a _____.

The equipment you use on your horse such as a saddle, bridle and other gear is called _____.

The right side of a horse can be referred to as the _____.

The left side of a horse can be referred to as the _____.

BASIC GAITS OF THE HORSE:

Not fence gates, but the different speeds that a horse moves!

THE WALK: This is a slow gait with _____ beats and NO suspension. It is a steady and even 1, 2, 3, 4 count. It can be used to _____ up a horse's _____ before doing harder _____, to relax and _____ him and to _____ him after working.

THE TROT AND JOG: The trot is a _____ beat gait. The opposite _____ and _____ legs move together and hit the ground as a _____. This gait has suspension which means that at some time all four _____ are off the _____. It should have a steady 1-2, 1-2 beat. The jog is a _____ trot with less speed and less _____ than a regular trot. The trot and jog can be ridden sitting, _____ or balancing in a _____ - _____ position. The trot is often used for _____ distance riding because it is the least tiring for the _____ while covering the most _____.

THE CANTER AND LOPE: The lope or canter is a _____ beat gait that has _____. The lead determines which foot pushes off first. In a left lead, the right hind leg hits the ground _____. The next beat is the _____ hind and the _____ front hitting the ground at the same time. Next, the _____ front (the _____ foreleg) hits the ground on the _____ beat. Before the right hind hits the ground again, you have suspension which means all four _____ are off the _____. For a right lead, the left hind leg hits the ground _____, the _____ hind and the _____ front hit at the same time and the _____ front would hit the ground last.

The _____ is a medium gait. The _____ is a slower, more relaxed _____. The lead that is to the _____ of the turn or circle is the correct lead.

THE GALLOP: The gallop is a _____ beat gait and has longer _____ than the canter. The horse reaches farther with his _____ and stays up in the _____ longer. Looking at the picture in the manual, you can see that in a gallop, the horse's _____ leg hits first, followed by the opposite _____ leg, then the opposite _____ leg and finally the last _____ leg, before all

four legs are in the _____, or what is called _____. Galloping should only be practiced by _____ riders.

As part of your Level 2 assessment, you will be asked to describe the four gaits of a horse. You may wish to demonstrate the difference in the gaits using clapping sounds to help you. The above section on Basic Gaits will help you prepare.

HORSE COLORS AND MARKINGS:

COLORS:

Horses with a reddish to reddish brown color are called _____ or _____. According to the CHA manual, _____ is usually an English term while _____ is typically a Western term. The legs are the same _____ as the rest of the body. They can also have white _____ markings. The mane and tail can be the _____ color or _____ (lighter blonde color).

A horse with _____ legs, mane and _____ that is _____ in color is called a _____. The legs can also have _____ markings.

A _____ horse is very dark _____, almost black, with lighter _____ highlights on the muzzle, flanks, and inside the legs. The _____ and _____ are the same color as the body.

A horse that has dark skin and is born dark in color is a _____. A _____ horse becomes _____ with age.

A horse with no _____ highlights and a _____ muzzle is called _____.

A _____, reddish or brown horse with darker _____, mane and tail, with a dark stripe down its _____ is usually referred to as a _____.

A light to dark _____ horse with a _____ mane and tail and no dorsal _____ is referred to as a _____.

A _____ color horse with a white or very light _____ and _____ is called a _____.

A horse with a mixture of one other color hairs and _____ hairs is called a _____. The head is always _____ than the body. A chestnut (sorrel) or bay color roan is called a _____ or _____ roan depending on the number of white hairs. A black roan is called a _____ roan.

A horse that is white with large patches of any _____, or dark with patches of _____, is called a _____. As you will see later in the breeds section, _____ refers to the color.

MARKINGS:

Markings are a good way to help identify a horse. Some markings occur naturally while some can be man-made or caused by an injury.

A _____ is a man-made _____ with a special _____. If it is made with a _____ iron, it is usually _____. A different type of _____, called a _____ is made with a _____ instrument. This type of _____ normally makes the hair grow back _____, but it can be _____. A _____ from an injury can have _____ hair or it can be _____.

The natural face markings are:

A spot of white on the forehead called a _____.

A NARROW strip of white down the face called a _____.

A WIDE stripe of white down the face called a _____.

A spot of white on the muzzle called a _____.

A horse can have more than one of these, or none at all.

If the horse has a _____ white face mark that goes across the forehead, includes at least _____ eye and extends onto the sides of the face, it would be called a _____ face.

The natural leg markings are:

White that extends to the knee or the hock called a _____.

White that extends part of the way up the cannon bone called a _____.

A white mark that includes the fetlock called a _____ or _____.

A white mark that goes just to the bottom of the fetlock called a _____.

A white ring just above the hoof called a _____.

A white spot on the heel called a _____.

If the leg is white, but has black or colored spots in it, they are called _____ spots.

For a better understanding of the markings, refer to the pictures in the CHA Manual for Level 2. Identifying markings will be included on the written portion of your assessment for Level 2.

In Level 1 you learned the basic parts of the horse. In Level 2, there are more parts you should be able to identify. You should also know parts of the hoof. Use the CHA manual to fill in the parts on the pictures included in your study guide.

HORSE CARE AND HANDLING:

In Level 1 you also learned how to catch, halter and release your horse properly. Review the section in Level 2 on “Catching Horses” and “Turning Out Horses” to remind yourself of the basic safety rules! Your written assessment may include questions from this section.

COOLING OUT A HOT HORSE:

A horse that is hot and sweaty should be _____ gradually. If you do not do this properly, you could make your horse _____.

You should _____ your horse for the last _____ minutes of your ride or until he is _____ normally. This means his _____ are not flaring.

If he is very hot and tired, you should _____. It also will help to _____ the girth.

If you can, it is also a good idea to take off the _____ and put the _____ on.

Leave the _____ in place. After his breathing returns to normal you can _____ the _____.

If the weather is hot, you can _____ your horse with _____ to remove the sweat and salt. The _____ should be _____, NOT HOT or COLD.

Use a _____ scraper to squeeze out the _____ until he is almost _____.

If it is _____, cover him with a _____ cover and _____ him around until he feels _____ and _____ between the _____ legs.

Horses that are hot, _____, and sweaty should _____ be allowed to _____ large amounts of _____, especially cold _____. This can make them very _____.

STABLE CHORES:

If you keep your horse in a _____, it should be cleaned at least _____ per day. Wet and dirty _____ can cause _____. It also provides a place for _____ to breed.

To clean your stall, pick up the piles of _____ and the _____ spots and throw them in the proper spot. If you use bedding, replace the bedding to absorb the urine and make a comfortable place for the horse to lie down on. The most common types of bedding might include straw, _____, sawdust, peanut hulls and recycled _____. Be sure to _____ the bedding around.

Check the stall for hazards that could _____ the horse. It is a good idea to _____ the cobwebs off the walls and look for _____ and _____. Be sure to look for _____ edges on metal things or holes in any glass or plastic the he could poke his _____ through. You should also check for places that your horse might be _____ wood.

Horses need plenty of _____ water, except when they are _____ and _____. The _____ or trough should be emptied out and _____ with a brush as often as needed. If you use a bucket, it should be disinfected _____. You should be careful not to spread disease from buckets or troughs.

Be sure that your horse has plenty of water! If you use a bucket, let him have _____ he wants and then leave a _____ bucket. If you have an automatic waterer, check each day to make sure it is functioning properly and _____ it regularly.

In the barn area, _____ up after your horse. _____ up hay and trash. Put _____ and _____ back where they belong. Pick up papers and _____. Bottles can be broken and cause _____. Loose wire or baling _____ can trip a horse or a person. _____ can get stuck in a horse's foot! Keeping the barn area clean can help avoid problems!

HORSES AND PONIES FOUND IN AMERICA:

There are many types of horses! Some terms you should know are:

BREED: Horses that have been _____ to a particular standard with the same ancestors.

TYPE: A horse that is built well for a certain _____ or has the talent to do a certain _____, regardless of their breed.

PUREBRED: A horse with both _____ that are the same _____.

GRADE: A horse from mixed _____ or one that is mainly one _____, but not registered.

There are many different breeds of horses. Some of the best known breeds in North America include:

The _____, a small to medium sized horse that is usually between 14 and 15.2 hands tall and weighs around 900 to _____ pounds. They do many jobs well. One of their main uses is _____ riding. They can also be very good at endurance riding, _____, cutting and _____.

The _____ was developed for racing. Besides racing, they also excel at polo, jumping, _____ and three-day eventing. They are tall horses, about 15.2 hands to over _____ hands, but light, weighing about _____ to 1100 pounds.

The _____ horse usually weighs between 900 and 1250 pounds and is 14.2 hands and taller. They are athletic and used in _____ work, cattle work, and rodeo events. They also can be good _____ horses, English _____ horses, and hunters and jumpers. They are the _____ horse for _____ sprints and top the _____ at distances under a half mile.

The _____ is usually 14.2 to _____ hands tall. They are used for pleasure riding, _____, trail riding, _____, parades and _____.

Besides these breeds, you may also encounter the American Saddlebred, Warmbloods, and Draft Horses such as the Percheron, Belgian and the famous Clydesdale.

Some breeds of horses are known as _____ breeds, such as the Appaloosa, the _____ and the _____.

_____ breeds are naturally small and never grow larger than _____ hands. Some of the best known _____ breeds are the _____, _____ of the Americas and the Welsh.

HORSEMANSHIP:

The first section of Horsemanship in the CHA Manual covers adjusting your stirrups, balancing and learning to post on the correct diagonal. As part of your Level 2 assessment, you will be asked to ride a basic pattern in the arena. These sections in the CHA manual will help you understand the instructions for the pattern and how it will be scored by the judge.

Other areas in this section explain cantering, jumping, some of the Western Gymkhana patterns and trail obstacles. You should have a parent or leader review this section with you. It will help you become a better rider and prepare you for more horse events. You may also find some questions about these sections on the written portion of your Level 2 assessment.

In Level 1, you learned to groom your horse properly. In order to help you prepare for showmanship, your Level 2 assessment includes a demonstration on show grooming and a basic showmanship pattern. A copy of the judge's checklist is included to help you.

Also in Level 1, you learned the "Quick Release Knot" or slip knot. In Level 2, you should learn to tie a clove hitch and a bowline as well. You will be asked to demonstrate all three of the knots and talk a little about how and when to use them. Study the pictures included in this guide to help you prepare.

LEVEL 2 DEMONSTRATION
SHOWMANSHIP
(English in bridle and Western in halter)

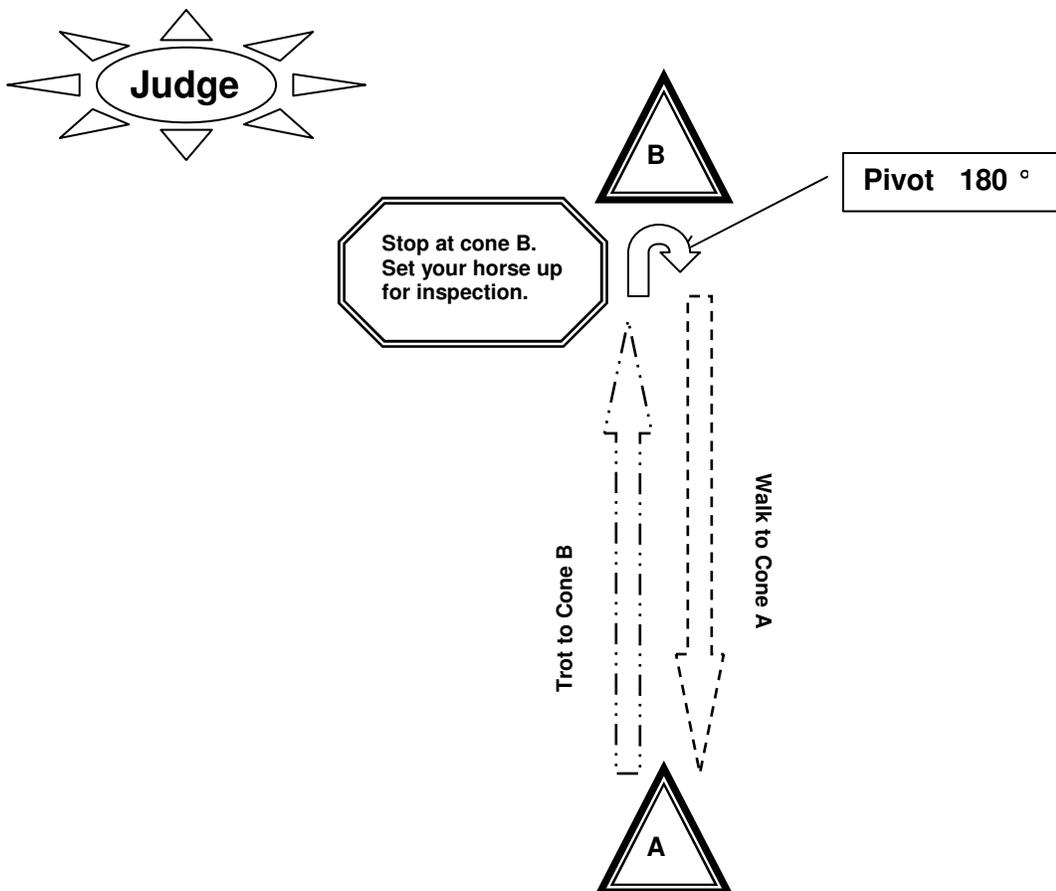
Performing a Pattern

Key Elements:

1. Position of presenter with horse.
2. Lead not coiled.
3. Handler alert and paying attention. Aware of judge's position at all times.
4. Always in control of horse.
5. Reverse by pushing (turning horse away to the right), not pulling, toward handler.
6. Move in straight lines to and from the judge.
7. Look over inside shoulder at least once to acknowledge the judge when going back to cone A.

Instructions:

- ✓ Enter arena with a positive attitude and go to cone A.
- ✓ Position yourself in relation to the judge with your horse standing with hooves squared.
- ✓ Wait for judge to tell you to start.
- ✓ Trot your horse in a straight line to judge from cone A to cone B.
- ✓ STOP at cone B and set your horse up for inspection.
- ✓ Change sides properly during inspection as judge moves from each quadrant of the horse.
- ✓ After judge has finished inspection, Pivot 180 ° and walk to cone A.
- ✓ STOP at cone A. Reverse and wait for judge to acknowledge/excuse you.



LEVEL 2 DEMONSTRATION

SHOWMANSHIP (English in bridle and Western in halter)

SHOW GROOMING:

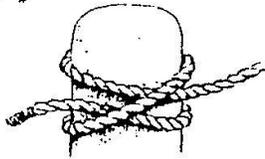
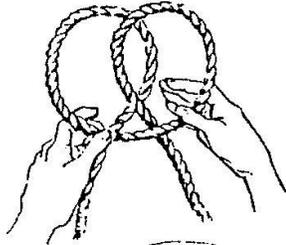
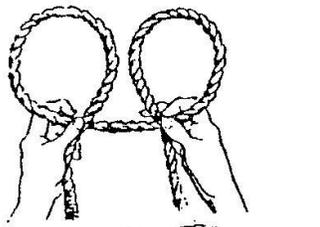
- ___ 1. Horse tied safely.
- ___ 2. 4-Her used safety practices while handling the horse (did not go between the tied animal and the hitching post, etc.).
- ___ 3. Untied horse before changing to the show halter.
- ___ 4. Used hoof black or polish properly.
- ___ 5. Used a grooming cloth over the horse's body as a finishing touch.

APPEARANCE OF ANIMAL:

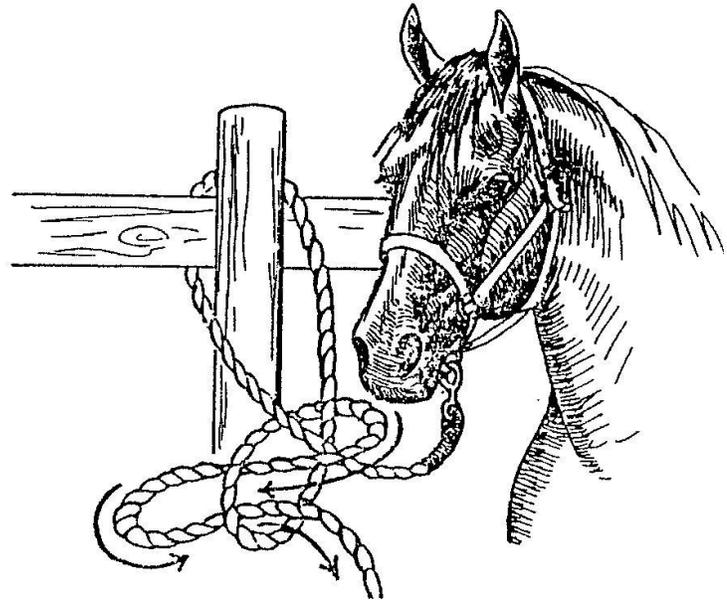
- ___ 6. Horse was clean and properly groomed.
- ___ 7. Hooves were trimmed or properly shod.
- ___ 8. Bridle or halter fitted to the animal and in safe condition.

APPEARANCE OF EXHIBITOR:

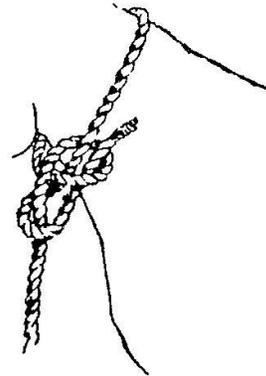
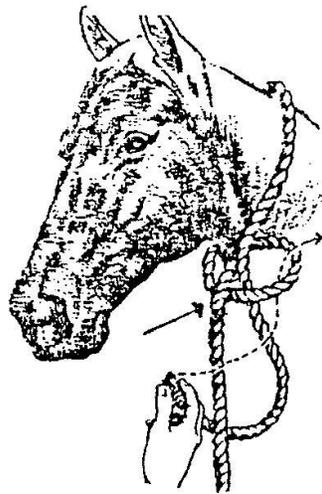
- ___ 9. Boots were worn.
- ___ 10. Clothing was neat and appropriate for working with horses.
- ___ 11. 4-H-er showed complete control of the horse.
- ___ 12. 4-H-er walked slightly behind the head on the left side.
- ___ 13. Lead was held in the right hand about 12-24" from the chin, or halter, with strap neatly gathered in the left hand, NOT COILED ABOUT THE HAND.
- ___ 14. Horse led readily and responded quickly.
- ___ 15. Turned horse to the right, away from the exhibitor.
- ___ 16. Posed horse with feet square.
- ___ 17. Moved in straight lines to and from the judge.
- ___ 18. 4-H-er was aware of the position of the judge at all times.
- ___ 19. 4-H-er looked over inside shoulder to acknowledge the judge while moving back to Cone A.
- ___ 20. 4-H-er presented him/herself and the horse in a positive show attitude.
- ___ Total number of items checked



Clove Hitch

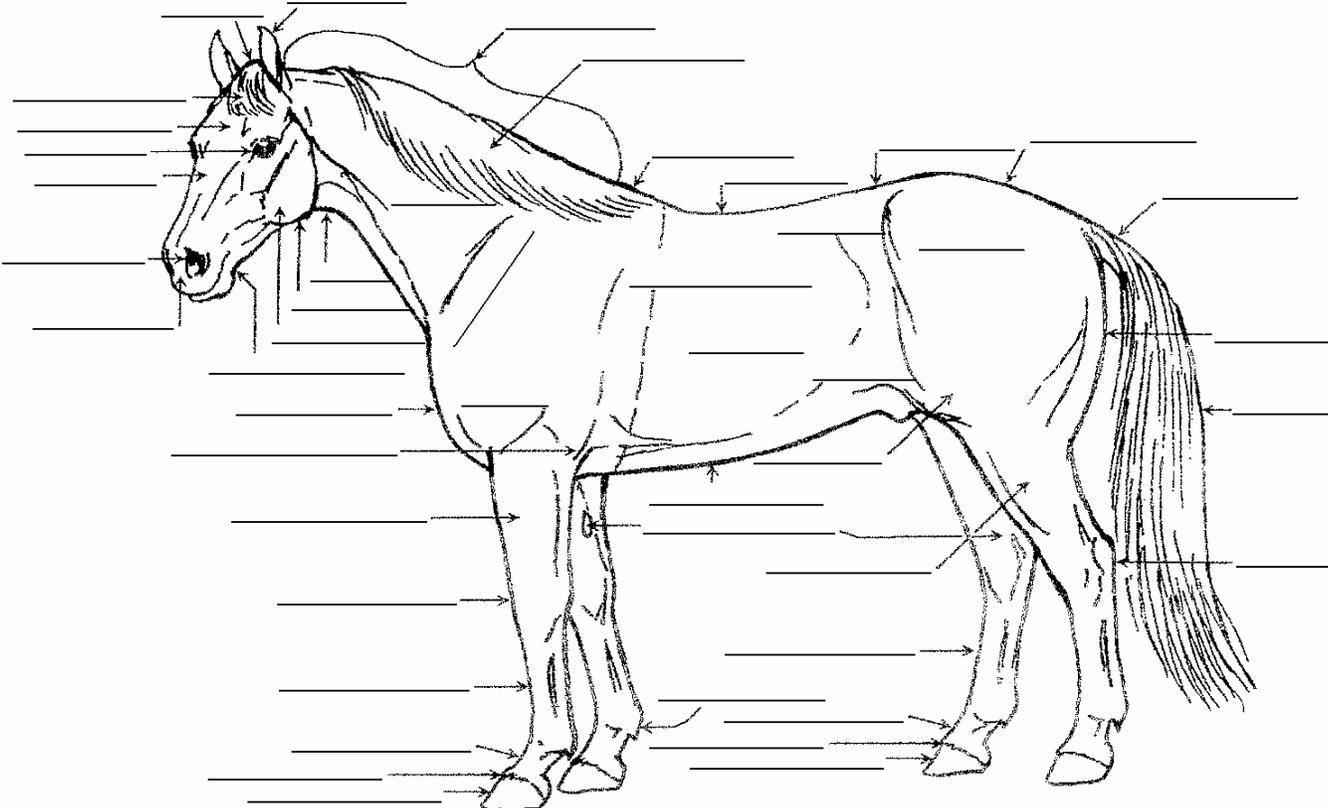


Slip Knot
(Quick Release Knot)

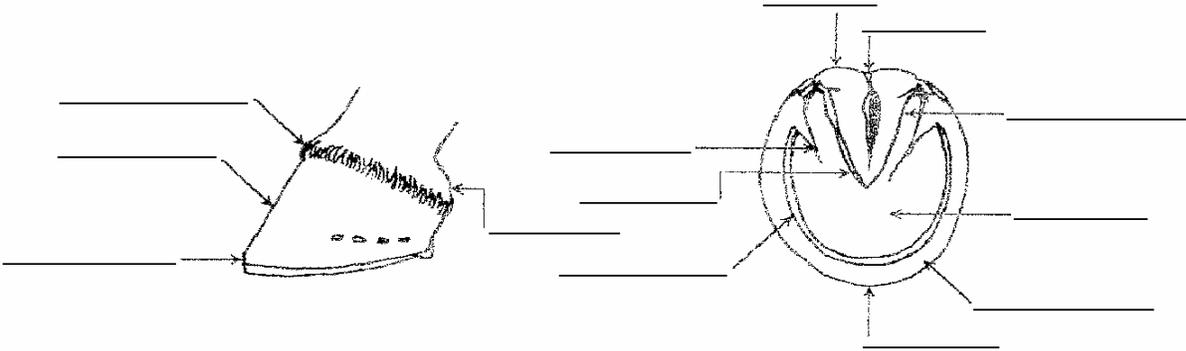


Bowline

Parts of the Horse



Parts of the Hoof



LEVEL 2 PATTERN INSTRUCTIONS

Letter	Directions	You are scored on
1. O A B	Check tack and mount Tighten girth if needed Adjust stirrups or check length Enter arena at a walk Turn to the right along rail to B Jog or trot, sitting, continue to E	Tack safety check Mounting correctly, not disturbing horse Correct stirrup length Seat, position, control at the walk and sitting trot Staying on rail, not breaking gait Not cutting corners
2. E A	Begin posting trot on correct diagonal (Western may continue at jog) Circle left, width of arena, posting on correct diagonal	Posting well, correct diagonal Control during circle, not breaking gait, posting correctly
3. A B M M-M	Jog/trot in half-seat/two-point contact/standing (See Level 1 Horsemanship) Continue along rail to B Sit down and walk Prepare to canter or lope (from jog if necessary) Lope or canter (continue once around arena back to M)	Balance, position and control at the half-seat Aids, seat and control at canter or lope, not breaking gait Correct lead preferred, but not required
4. M C H	Jog or trot Walk (prepare for halt) Halt, pause 5 seconds then continue at jog or trot	Control slowing from lope or canter to jog and walk No unnecessary roughness
5. K	Sitting trot or jog Reverse at sitting trot or jog	Control, not breaking gait during reverse
6. E C	Begin posting trot on correct diagonal Circle right the width of the arena	Posting on correct diagonal Control during circle, not breaking gait
7. C	Jog or trot balancing in half-seat Continue to B	Control, balance and position
8. B F F-F	Sit down and walk Prepare to canter or lope (from jog if necessary) Lope or canter (continue once around arena back to F)	Aids, seat and control Not breaking gait. Correct lead preferred, but not required
9. F A K	Trot or jog Walk (prepare for the halt) Halt, pause 5 seconds, walk	Control without unnecessary roughness
10. H A	Reverse at walk Exit arena at walk	Aids, smoothness and control during reverse

LEVEL 2 – RIDING PATTERN

