

**Placer County 4-H Horse Mastership
LEVEL I SKILLS TEST**

NAME: _____ ENTRY NUMBER: _____

4-H CLUB: _____

	Possible Points	Your Points
Section I: Showmanship	52	
Section II: Grooming Equipment	12	
Cleaning Hooves	10	
Knots	2	
Grooming	32	
TOTAL POINTS SKILLS TEST	108	

POINTS POSSIBLE	POINTS SCORED
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- | | | | |
|----|--|---|-------|
| 1. | APPEARANCE OF ANIMAL | | |
| | Grooming | | |
| | a) Hair should be properly groomed and the hide soft and pliable. | 2 | _____ |
| | b) Hooves should be trimmed and shaped to enable the animal to walk and stand naturally, or properly shod and polished. | 2 | _____ |
| | c) Whiskers around muzzle and eyes, bridlepath, hair inside ears, long hair under jaw, and long hair on the back side of the legs should be freshly clipped. | 2 | _____ |
| | Cleanliness | | |
| | a) Hair, tail and mane should be clean and free of stains. | 2 | _____ |
| | b) Hide, ears, nostrils, and dock should be free of dirt and legs and feet should be clean. | 2 | _____ |
| | c) Halter and lead strap should be clean, neat, and workman-like (chain is optional). | 2 | _____ |
| 2. | APPEARANCE OF EXHIBITOR – Exhibitor must be dressed in a clean, neat, 4-H uniform. | | |
| | a) Hat | 2 | _____ |
| | b) White (long sleeved) shirt | 2 | _____ |
| | c) Scarf (girls) or Tie (both) | 2 | _____ |
| | d) Belt | 2 | _____ |
| | e) White, beige, or green pants (beige or gray breeches for English riders), and | 2 | _____ |
| | f) Riding boots | 2 | _____ |
| 3. | SHOWING THE ANIMAL IN THE RING | | |
| | Moving or Leading | | |
| | a) Enter leading the horse at a normal walk, walking slightly behind the head on the left side holding the lead strap with the right hand about 18 inches from the halter with the strap neatly gathered in the left hand. | 2 | _____ |
| | b) The horse should lead readily and respond quickly. | 2 | _____ |
| | c) The halter should be properly fitted and correctly adjusted to fit the horse. A leather halter and lead strap is desirable, but not necessary. | 2 | _____ |
| | d) Lead briskly. Horse should be alert, stylish, and demonstrate attractive carriage and graceful walk. | 2 | _____ |
| | e) When the judge asks to see the horse's action at the walk and trot, lead the horse at a walk momentarily, "set-up," turn in a clockwise direction, and trot in a straight line back to the judge. | 2 | _____ |

3. SHOWING THE ANIMAL IN THE RING (continued)

Posing (do NOT use the Showmanship Instructions in the Green Book)

- a) The exhibitor should not stand in a position that obstructs the judge's view of the horse when posing and showing the horse. 2 _____
- b) Pose your horse with his feet placed as squarely under him as possible. 2 _____
- c) Show the horse using the halter lead strap only. Do not step on the horse's feet to move them. Do not use a crop or stick for moving the horse. 2 _____
- d) Move your horse forward and backward by a slight pull on the lead strap. Don't wrestle with your horse. 2 _____
- e) When the judge is observing your horse, let the horse stand if he is posed reasonably well. 2 _____

Poise, Alertness, and Attitude

- a) Keep an eye on the horse and be aware of the position of the judge at all times. Do not be distracted by people and activity outside the arena. 2 _____
- b) Show the horse at all times: not yourself. 2 _____
- c) Follow directions from the judge and respond rapidly to any requests from the judge. 2 _____
- d) Be courteous and sportsmanlike at all times. 2 _____

Total Page 2 _____

SECTION II: GROOMING

POINTS POSSIBLE **POINTS SCORED**

Equipment

Check all equipment. It must be clean.

- | | | |
|--|---|-------|
| a) Rubber or plastic curry comb | 2 | _____ |
| b) Dandy brush | 2 | _____ |
| c) Finishing or body brush | 2 | _____ |
| d) Inexpensive hair (type used by humans) brush (Optional) | 2 | _____ |
| e) Two (2) sponges or rags | 2 | _____ |
| f) Hoof pick | 2 | _____ |
| g) Bucket or tote to hold equipment | 2 | _____ |

JUDGES COMMENTS:

Total Level I, Section II (Grooming Equipment), *12 points possible* _____

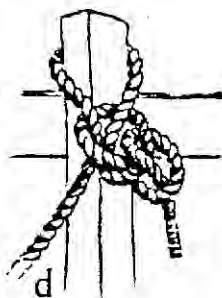
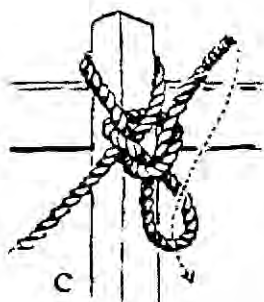
Cleaning Hooves

- | | | |
|---|---|-------|
| a) Start with the left side of the horse | 2 | _____ |
| b) Place left hand on horse | 2 | _____ |
| c) Place body near horse turning, turning toes away from horse.
Body or hand may be pressed against horse to assist in shifting his weight | 2 | _____ |
| d) Slide left hand down the leg and lift in a safe manner, without turning the toe under the horse | 2 | _____ |
| e) Clean hoof heel to toe | 2 | _____ |

JUDGES COMMENTS:

SECTION II: GROOMING (continued)

KNOTS



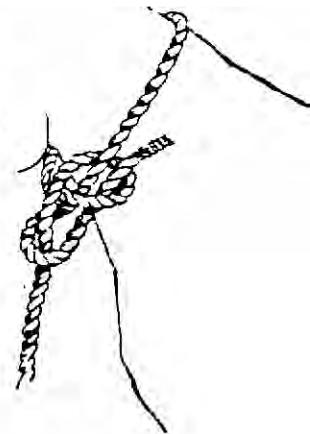
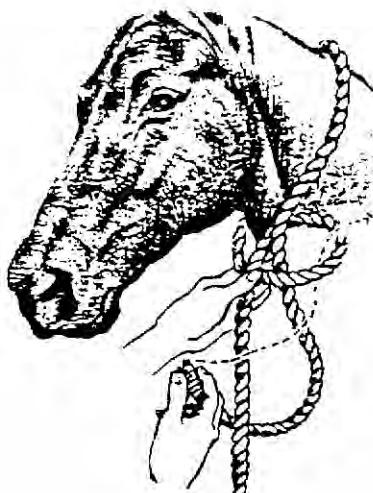
Knot with Release Loop

Level I	()
Level II	()
Level III	()
Level IV	()
Level V	()
Level VI	()

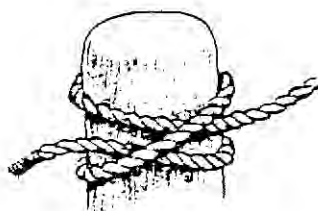
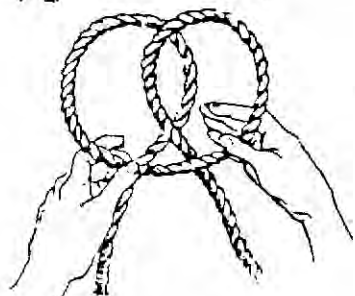
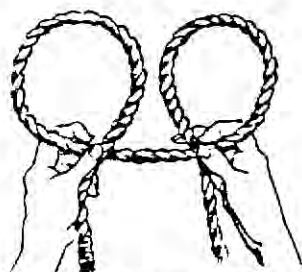
Knot With Release Loop

Bowline

Level III	()
Level IV	()
Level V	()



Bowline



Clove Hitch

Level IV	()
Level V	()

Clove Hitch

SECTION II: GROOMING (continued)

		POINTS POSSIBLE	POINTS SCORED
Grooming			
1.	Start on the left (near) side.	2	_____
2.	Take curry comb in the right hand and the dandy brush in left hand.	2	_____
3.	Proper procedure. Check off as completed. Groom starting from the neck and finishing up near the tail.	2	_____
a.	_____ Neck		
b.	_____ Chest		
c.	_____ Withers		
d.	_____ Shoulders		
e.	_____ Foreleg		
f.	_____ Knee		
g.	_____ Back		
h.	_____ Side		
i.	_____ Belly		
j.	_____ Rump		
k.	_____ Hind Leg		
l.	_____ Hock	2	_____
4.	Curry comb should be used in irregular circular motion, followed up by dandy brush.	2	_____
5.	Curry comb and dandy brush are not used about the head or on the legs from knees and hocks down.	2	_____
6.	Clean out curry comb by tapping it against back heel or brush dirt out with dandy brush.	2	_____
7.	Move to right side of horse. Walked around rear end of horse instead of walking under the lead rope.	2	_____
8.	Change brush to right hand and curry comb to left. Explain the procedure again. <i>(May receive full credit for explaining the procedure if horse is already clean.)</i>	2	_____
9.	Clean sheath or teats and dock with sponge.	2	_____
10.	Untie horse. If eyes are weeping or crusty, use sponge to clean them before brushing.	2	_____
11.	Brush the head and face using the body or finishing brush. Move the halter as you brush to clean under the halter.	2	_____
12.	Use sponge or rags to clean and polish eyes first, then ears, face, lips and nostrils.	2	_____
13.	Tie horse up. Use body brush to polish body, straighten hair on legs, and brush lower legs. <i>(May receive credit for explaining procedure if animal is clean.)</i>	2	_____
14.	Untangle mane and tail with fingers.	2	_____
15.	Use hair (or dandy) brush to brush mane and tail. Brush tail from ends upward to roots.	2	_____