

LEARN TO RIDE - WESTERN LEVEL 4 RUBRIC

A	STABLE MANAGEMENT	
No.	Requirements	Evidences
A1	List and explain three (3) things to build a barn/stable.	Location, drainage, prevailing winds, climate, local government regulations, zoning and building codes, access to paddocks and pastures, manure disposal, hay delivery.
A2	List and explain three (3) considerations in the interior design of a stable.	Ventilation; safe heights/clearances for electrical outlets, windows and door latches; acceptable stall size & flooring; width and height of aisles & doorways; aisle flooring; grain, hay and bedding storage; water supply.
A3	What two (2) types of nutrients do horses use for energy, and what factors increase/decrease the amount fed.	
A4	Explain why a horse needs exercise and how it is given.	Maintain acceptable weight, mental well-being, expend excess energy, condition for riding. Reasonable turn-out time, regular exercise being ridden, lunging when appropriate.
A5	Discuss turnout, conduct, attitude & safety around horses.	Rider turnout - Safe appropriate clothing including footwear, jeans, shirt, recommend helmet. Professional, respectful, prompt, honest, supportive, on-going education and updating, modeling appropriate behavior, humane and safe conduct at all times. Equine turnout – ample turnout in pasture/paddock in safe secure enclosure with access to water, salt/minerals and shelter.

В	LUNGING	
No.	Requirements	Evidences
B1	Equipment.	Protective bandages on all legs (recommend bell boots on front legs) Appropriate lunge line (without chain) & whip; well-fitting halter or cavesson. Handler wearing gloves no spurs. Lunge line snap is moved to halter's centre ring during direction change while reins are held for security/safety. Handler may request assistant to hold whip during tack or direction change.
B2	Control at all gaits.	Handler maintains triangle of control position with little movement; Handler's body language/verbal instruction effective. Circle size and shape are appropriate and fairly consistent; Smooth, controlled transitions, horse responds well (timely); Whip and lunge line are used safely, effectively and efficiently; Lunge line avoids touching the ground during lunging session; Appropriate corrections are made in a timely fashion with positive results demonstrated; Overall control and safety.



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C	RIDING PHASE				
Rail v	Rail work				
No.	Requirements	Evidences			
C1	Riding position and control walk.	Rider consistently able to maintain correct basic position; able to demonstrate some basic collection; applies appropriate, subtle methods of correction as needed; transitions are prompt and smooth; able to maintain rail position in group of horses, maintains quiet rhythm.			
C2	Riding position and control at jog.	Same as for walk.			
С3	Riding position and control at lope.	Same as for walk & jog; leads corrected immediately & smoothly if needed.			
C4	Transitions.	Transitions are fluid, controlled, balanced, and timely.			
Patter	n				
No.	Requirements	Evidences			
C5	Turn on forehand – Right & Left.	Right: horse's head moves to right while weighting & turning around inside right foreleg, horse's right hind leg crosses in front of left hind leg with rhythm, rider's right leg pushes horse's hips to the left, rider sits upright looking in direction of travel, 2 direct reins keep neck straight, horse's head turns in the direction of travel. Left: opposite of right. Able to demonstrate some collection in movement.			
C6	Rising Trot Figure 8.	Rise on appropriate diagonal, smooth change of direction and diagonal with bend change, forward moving trot with some collection, symmetrical circles of appropriate size for horse.			
C7	Stop and Back up.	Stop behind first, back in diagonal pairs, rounded back demonstrating some collection, willing, not on forehand.			
C8	Lope right circles - Large Fast & Small slow.	Symmetrical circle size & shape, correct lead & bend, definite speed difference, control, compliance, rhythm; collected frame in small slow circle, extended frame in large fast circle.			
C9	Turn on Haunches - Right.	Right: Rider applies left neck rein and right open rein, horse's head moves to right, horse's left foreleg crosses with rhythm in front of right foreleg as horse weights & turns around inside right hind leg, rider sits upright looking in direction of travel, rider uses left leg to help move shoulders or to keep horse's weight on inside hind leg as needed. Able to demonstrate some collection in movement.			
C10	Lope left circles - Large fast & Small slow.	As for right but to left.			
C11	Turn on Haunches - Left.	Opposite of right turn on haunches.			
C12	Lope Figure 8.	Bend, control, simple lead changes through jog/walk with some collection, symmetrical circles.			



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C13	Two-track – Right & Left	Right: Left leg behind the cinch moves horse sideways as seat and right leg at the cinch move horse forward in a diagonal direction with rhythm and smoothness; left direct rein keeps neck straight, right direct rein flexes head to right; upper body stays upright; both hind and front legs cross. Some collection shown in movement. Left: As for right but to left.
C14	Side-pass – Right & Left.	Right: Left leg behind the cinch moves horse sideways as seat and right leg at the cinch move horse forward in a diagonal direction with rhythm and smoothness; left direct rein keeps neck straight, right direct rein flexes head to right; both hind and front left legs cross in front of respective right legs; horse has flexion in direction of travel; rider's upper body stays upright. Some collection shown in movement. Left: As for right but to left.