

## LEARN TO RIDE - WESTERN LEVEL 1 RUBRIC

A	STABLE MANAGEMENT	
No.	Requirements	Evidences
A1	Demonstrate haltering a horse and explain the fit.	
A2	Horse Handling Skills:  Lead at walk  Lead at jog  Halt  Back up  Turn horse safely away from handler & towards handler	Walk with eyes forward, holding lead line approx. 6"-10" from halter:  • maintain position between horse's head and shoulder.  • initiate with body cue, verbal if required, allow head freedom to move.  Jog - as in walk.  Halt using body language, and verbal cue "whoa":  • stand facing horse's shoulder while halted.  Back up - handler turns 180 degrees, maintains hold on lead line while crossing right arm across own body, cues horse to step straight backward keeping safe distance to horse, backs straight, stop cue, turn 180 degrees ready to move forward.  Turn towards − handler switches lead to left hand, guides horse around to the left with right hand on horse's ribs to maintain safe distance between handler & horse  Turn away − cues horse to move away to the right in a ½ turn (180 degrees) on the haunch  Emphasis should be on use of body language & verbal aids first to cue horse, with intermittent pressure on lead if required
A3	Tying: Slip/Quick Release knot	Numerous methods but must be quick release; tie to solid object, short (12-18 inches) & wither high. Tuck lead line tail into knot if leaving horse unattended.
A4	Demonstrate & explain proper grooming techniques & procedures.	
A5	Explain three (3) important factors involved in proper hoof care.	
A6	Saddling & Unsaddling:  • Process • Proper fitting	Process - blanket forward on wither, tucked up into gullet of saddle, cinch & off stirrup secured on horn, place saddle on blanket and slide back into optimum position, release & lower cinch & off stirrup from off side, tighten cinch in increments, back cinch last on & first off.  Proper fit - saddle seat level on horse's back, space between wither/spine & saddle, saddle wide/narrow enough to sit off spine, no pressure points.
A7	Bridling & Unbridling:  • Process • Proper fitting	Process - untie lead line or crossties, lay lead over right arm, halter to horse's neck, bridle held in either position described on page 16 of Rider 1 Manual, efficiently & gently bridle not knocking teeth, far then near ear, care to bend ears forward from base, not folded.  Proper fit - chin groove to chin strap = two (2) fingers, throatlatch to jaw = one (1) hand's width.

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В	RIDING PHASE				
Mour	Mount & Dismount				
No.	Requirements	Evidences			
B1	Mount & Dismount:  • Mount in the correct, safe manner  • Dismount, reins over horse's head, lead in hand	<ul> <li>Mount</li> <li>check cinch, throatlatch, chin strap; adjust stirrup if required.</li> <li>mount facing horse's side or same direction horse is facing.</li> <li>reins in left hand, on neck, as you would hold once mounted.</li> <li>right hand on horn, left foot in stirrup parallel to horse.</li> <li>rise straight up, all weight in stirrup, lift leg over cantle, lightly sit down.</li> <li>Dismount</li> <li>weight to ball of left foot, left hand on neck, right hand on horn, swing right leg over &amp; step down, remove left foot from stirrup.</li> </ul>			
Positi	ion				
No.	Requirements	Evidences			
B2	Position:  • Walk  • Jog  • Lope	Walk - light contact, basic position i.e. straight line from ear through heel, quiet upper body, weight evenly distributed throughout seat, hips & thighs, heels down.  Jog – light contact, similar body position to walk.  Lope – position alters little, -solid centered seat, no pumping, absorb movement up through body, shoulders square.			
Ridin	g (Other)				
No.	Requirements	Evidences			
<b>No.</b> B3	Requirements  Demonstration & Explanation of Aids:  Walk Jog Lope	Evidences  Walk - legs apply equal pressure, release upon response, repeat if needed.  Jog - legs apply equal pressure, release upon response, repeat if needed.  Lope - outside leg back, inside leg at cinch, corrective rein aids prior to transition, "kiss", outside leg applies pressure, release pressure upon response, maintain impulsion with both legs.  Rider recognizes if on incorrect lead, but may not achieve correct lead.			
	Demonstration & Explanation of Aids:  • Walk  • Jog	Walk - legs apply equal pressure, release upon response, repeat if needed.  Jog - legs apply equal pressure, release upon response, repeat if needed.  Lope - outside leg back, inside leg at cinch, corrective rein aids prior to transition, "kiss", outside leg applies pressure, release pressure upon response, maintain impulsion with both legs.			
В3	Demonstration & Explanation of Aids:  • Walk  • Jog  • Lope  Demonstration & Explanation of Aids:  • Stop	Walk - legs apply equal pressure, release upon response, repeat if needed.  Jog - legs apply equal pressure, release upon response, repeat if needed.  Lope - outside leg back, inside leg at cinch, corrective rein aids prior to transition, "kiss", outside leg applies pressure, release pressure upon response, maintain impulsion with both legs.  Rider recognizes if on incorrect lead, but may not achieve correct lead.  Stop – sit deep, "whoa", two direct reins if required, with give & take action.  Back up – apply two (2) direct reins with give & take action, both legs if needed			



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