

EQUESTRIAN CANADA

LEARNtoRIDE FOUNDATIONS – LEVEL 1 RUBRIC

PRACTICAL REQUIREMENTS			EVIDENCE
1	Tack up and untack (with assistance)		Participants should attempt to tack up. Evaluators may assist but must be directed by the participant. Participants should be aware that the bit should be rinsed to clean off debris that may harden and become uncomfortable for the horse the next time it is used.
	Carry tack to/from tack room		
	Discuss cleaning the bit		
2	Lead tacked up horse/pony to/from the riding arena		Participants should observe safe handling of reins and distances of horses when entering the riding area. Instructor or evaluator should do a tack check to ensure safety before beginning mounting riders. Assistance may be given to adjust tack as needed.
	Halt tacked up horse		
	Safe handling of the reins while leading		
	Adjust stirrups and girth/cinch from the ground (with assistance)		
3	Mount from the ground or a block (with assistance)		Assistance with adjustments to stirrups and/or girth/cinch as well as with mounting may be given at this level.
	Adjust rein length		
	Adjust stirrups/girth while mounted (with assistance) – <i>English tack only</i>		
	Dismount		
4	Basic position	Halt/Stop	Participants should not be balancing on the horse’s mouth. Hands should be independent at walk. The use of a neck strap is allowed to be used periodically at the trot. Contact is applied to stop, turn and slow down, reins are then returned to an inactive state.
		Walk	
		Posting Trot/Jog	
	Briefly ride without stirrups at walk		When riding briefly at walk without stirrups, the participants upper body should remain still, practicing independent use of legs.
5	Mounted exercises	Reach forward	Confidence and basic physical literacy in performing mounted exercises. Horse/pony may be held by instructor or evaluator as needed
		Reach back	
		Touch toes	
		Arm circles	
6	Turns and geometry	Reverse	Awareness and use of arena figures is to be evident.
		Change direction across long diagonal	
		20 metre/large circle at walk and trot/jog	
7	Progressive transitions		Transitions: halt to walk, walk to halt, walk to trot/trot, trot/trot to walk
	Change posting diagonal when asked		Participants should be able to change their diagonals when asked but may not necessarily know if they are rising on the correct diagonal
8	General impression and safety	Overall authority, safety, and confidence	Safety, knowledge of aids and a willingness to learn about the horse/pony should be emphasized at this level.
		Ability to maintain safe distance	
		Rider and horse turnout	

EQUESTRIAN CANADA

LEARN to RIDE FOUNDATIONS – LEVEL 2 RUBRIC

PRACTICAL REQUIREMENTS			EVIDENCE
1	Tack up and untack (with little to no assistance)		The evaluator will use discretion and aid where necessary. Candidates should recognize how to place saddles, pads, and girths/cinches correctly on the horse.
	Describe how to position the saddle and saddle pad on the horse and where the girth/cinch should lay.		
2	Mount from the ground or a block		Evidence of improving comfort and physical ability should be seen in both mounting and dismounting, although evaluators are reminded that is still not sophisticated at this level.
	Dismount and prepare the horse/pony to exit the arena		
3	Adjust stirrups and girth/cinch from the ground		Two-handed riding at this stage for English or Western tack.
	Hold reins correctly		
4	Basic position	Walk with and without stirrups	Focus is on stability of position and confidence.
		Identify and correct diagonal at posting trot/jog	Without stirrups at walk – make sure the leg position does not change and that upper body stays on vertical.
		Canter/lope briefly	
	Identify canter/lope lead by observing other horses		
5	Mounted exercises	Folding arms in front of/behind body	Confidence and improving physical literacy in performing mounted exercises.
		Arm rotations	
		Shoulder rolls	
		Body rotations	
		Touch toes	
		Knee lifts	
		Two-point position	
6	Turns, geometry, and transitions	Turn down center line	Candidates should have knowledge of how to prepare for the transition, but a prompt accurate transition is unlikely at this stage.
		Progressive transitions (halt/stop, walk, trot/jog, canter/lope)	Circles should be of correct size but not necessarily bent, or rhythmic. At this level riders should be beginning to demonstrate the ability to ride independently.
		20 metre/large circle at walk and trot/jog	
7	Riding knowledge (can be evidenced in discussion or observation)	Riding away from the group	Evaluators should use discussion in order to evidence the majority of this section.
		Speed control	
		Warming up	
		Cooling out	
		Aids (natural/artificial, inside/outside)	
		Arena safety rules	
		Rules for safely riding outside the arena	
8	General impression and safety	Overall authority, safety, and confidence	Horse and all equipment must be clean and neat and evidence of good grooming of the horse should be apparent.
		Ability to maintain safe distance	
		Rider and horse turnout	