

ALLEGAN COUNTY 4-H HORSEMASTER PROGRAM

LEVEL FOUR

Introduction: Upon completion of Level Three, you have gained more skill in your horsemanship. Your horse has gained also in his talents and is now able to make the smooth transitions it takes to compete and move to further levels of training. You have acquired a balance seat and have learned to use the aids to communicate with your horse, and he has responded and is listening for your subtle cues. You and your project animal will now take the knowledge you have learned and move to a higher level of training. You will now begin to work patterns and to polish you and your horse's ability to execute perfectly.

GOALS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Upon completion of Level Four, each 4-H Member will be able to: Pass a written test on the Horse Sense (Theory) & Unmounted sections with a minimum passing score of 85%.

1. Demonstrate simple construction of equipment.
2. Demonstrate more subtle uses of natural aids.
3. Ride the Western/English riding patterns.
4. Gain the knowledge to execute patterns.
5. Learn to execute flying lead changes.
6. Know leg conformation and faults.
7. Perform and complete the mounted riding test with a minimum passing score of 5 for each skill evaluated and an overall, minimum score of 75%.
8. Describe appropriate housing of animals, as in the basic construction of stalls, types and sizes, flooring types and their efficiencies. Also outdoor time, safe and fencing etc.
9. Give a demonstration at local, county or state level

HORSE SENSE (THEORY) & UNMOUNTED INSTRUCTION

- Complete Feeding Chart and Maintenance Record (form enclosed).
 - Complete Project Animal Activity Participation Log (form enclosed).
 - Complete Personal Story (form enclosed).
1. Disassemble and reassemble a Western and English bridle and name all the parts
 2. Describe and explain the use of: Running martingale, Standing martingale , Crupper
 3. Pull and/or band/braid a mane and tail.
 4. Have the knowledge of control with a chain shank.
 5. Simple construction of equipment; make a temporary halter from a loose rope.
 6. Leg conformation, defects and their effects on movement and soundness.
 7. Learn proper saddle fit in conjunction with tack check.
 8. Introduction to Bits and Biting: Leverage and direct pressure, Seven pressure points on the horse's head, Basic parts of the bit, Correct adjustment in a horse or pony's mouth, bitless bridles , Bosal, Mechanical hackamore ,
 9. Know normal Temperature, Pulse (heart rate) and Respiration (breathing)
 10. Locate and be able to perform T.P.R. on a real horse
 11. Capillary refill time – what is it, why is it important to know, how to check it on a real horse
 12. Be able to estimate the weight of your horse without a weight tape or scale:
Formula is $HG \times HG \times BL / 330$ HG = Heart Girth and BL = Body Length
 13. Have knowledge of first aid applications of wounds on a real horse.

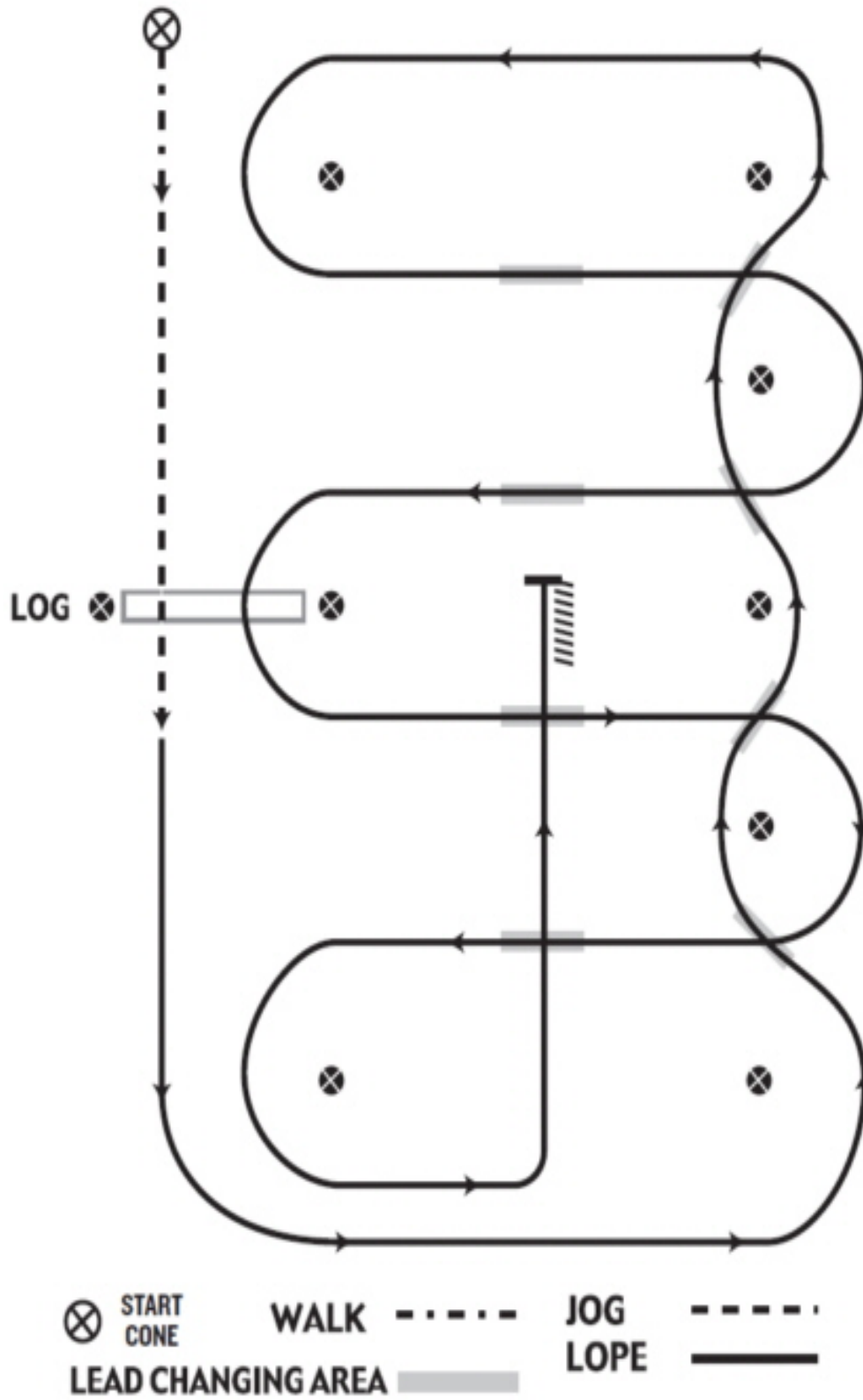
14. Know at least three different types of bedding, efficiency and their absorption values
15. Horse talk – horse terms every 4-Her should know:
 - a. Pedigree, Port ,Hobbles , Round pen , Racking (single-foot) ,Parrot mouth ,Cold-blooded , Warm-blooded , Gestation period , Cow or sickle (refers to what?)
16. Give a demonstration at the local, club, county or state level.
Give yourself an evaluation and ask the person in charge to give you an evaluation, also. (Use Evaluation Forms included), Explain your lesson plan ,Knowledge and preparation ,Attendance and reception
17. Housing: Different types (benefits, downfalls) Hazards
18. Feed and maintenance requirements

MOUNTED SKILLS LEVEL FOUR

(Choice of seat is optional)

1. The reins:
 - a. Leading rein ,
 - b. Direct rein
 - c. Indirect rein
 - d. Pulley rein
 - e. Neck rein/bearing rein
2. The leg aid:
 - a. Function of upper leg, lower leg and feet (heels)
 - b. Apply leg aids at girth, apply leg aids behind girth
 - c. Applying one leg, applying both legs
3. Coordination of all your aids: (advanced moves/patterns):
 - a. Horsemanship – good to moderate, Horse collected and willing, Lateral movements – side pass, both directions,
4. Leads at the canter/lope: Asking for the correct lead and performing it. How to identify correct leads (by feel) , Seat and aids, Flying lead changes
5. Western/English riding pattern at a walk, trot and canter/lope. Simple or flying lead changes
6. Ride schooling figures in the ring at a walk, trot and canter/lope:
 - a. Circles, half circle.
 - b. Figure eight and serpentines
 - c. Changes of direction on the diagonal
7. Perform intermediate trail obstacles :
 - a. Bridge ,
 - b. Backing (L, three cones)
 - c. Side passing (both directions)
8. Perform a Western/English Riding Pattern

Diagram English/Western Pattern: (for reference)



ALLEGAN COUNTY 4-H HORSEMASTER PROGRAM

HORSE SENSE (THEORY)

MULTIPE CHOICE – Circle the best answer:

1. Horses focus their eyes on far away objects: (1)
 - a.) By lowering their heads
 - b.) By raising their heads
 - c.) By opening their eyelids wider
 - d.) Just the same as people do.

2. A proper balance of reward and punishment is the basis for: (1)
 - a.) Training a horse or pony
 - b.) Good grooming
 - c.) Healthy feet
 - d.) A shiny coat

3. A martingale is used for: (1)
 - a.) keep the horse's mouth shut
 - b.) keep the saddle from sliding back
 - c.) prevent the horse from raising his head

4. When using a direct rein with the left hand only, the horse should response by: (1)
 - a.) Turning left
 - b.) Slowing down
 - c.) Moving sideways to the right

5. When a horse is lame in the front limb, he will: (1)
 - a.) Refuse to move
 - b.) Throw his head up when the sore leg hits the ground
 - c.) All the above
 - d.) None of the above

6. When a horse is lame in a rear limb, he will: (1)
 - a.) Sink when the sore limb hits the ground
 - b.) Shorten his stride with the sore leg
 - c.) All of the above
 - d.) None of the above

7. Describe and explain the use of: (2 pts)

a.) Running martingale _____

b.) Standing martingale _____

8. Know average temperature, pulse and respiration rates of a horse. (3pts)

_____ , _____ , _____

Score _____ out of 11

9. Estimate the weight of your horse (using the formula $HG \times HG \times BL / 330$). (5pts)

_____ x _____ x _____ / _____ = _____

10. List three types of bedding: (3pts)

_____, _____, _____

11. Describe proper saddle fit and why it is important: (5pts)

12. Housing:

a. List three different types of housing for a horse or pony. (3pts)

b. Explain appropriate stall construction (4pts)

Size: _____

Material: _____

Flooring: _____

Other: _____

c. Explain possible hazards of stall confinement: (3pts)

d. Explain outdoor time and how it is important to a horse's own natural instinct. (3pts)

e. Explain appropriate pasture maintenance and its benefits: (3pts)

13. Explain Safe Fencing (3pts)

Score _____ out of 32

12. Define the following terms:

- Pedigree _____(1)
- Port _____(1)
- Hobbles _____(1)
- Round pen _____(1)
- Racking (single foot) _____(1)
- Parrot mouth _____(1)
- Cold Blood _____(1)
- Warm Blood _____(1)
- Gestation Period _____(1)
- Lactation _____(1)

Score _____ out of 10

14. Demonstration Evaluation (10 pts) :

Give a demonstration to your club or other public group on an educational subject. Your club leader or 4-h resource person must be present.

- Location and Date: _____

- Subject matter and content: _____

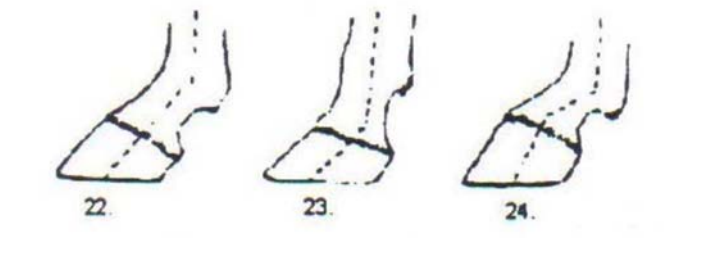
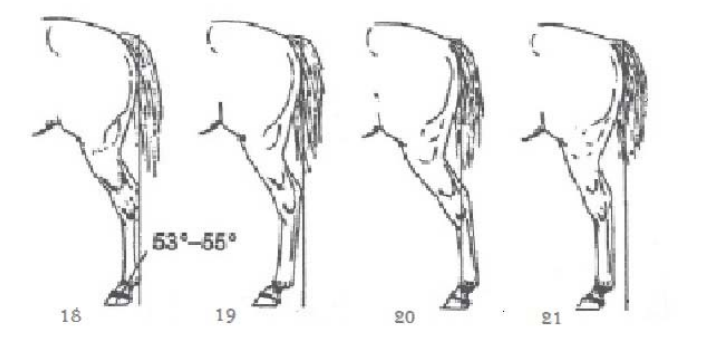
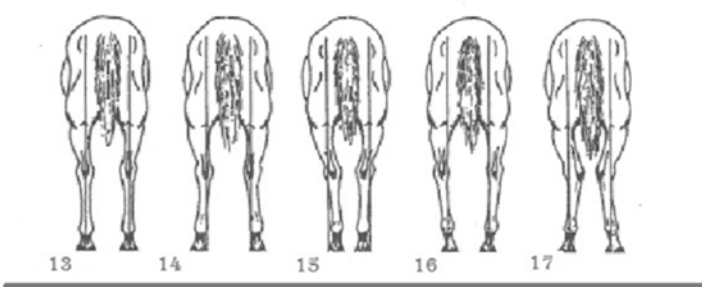
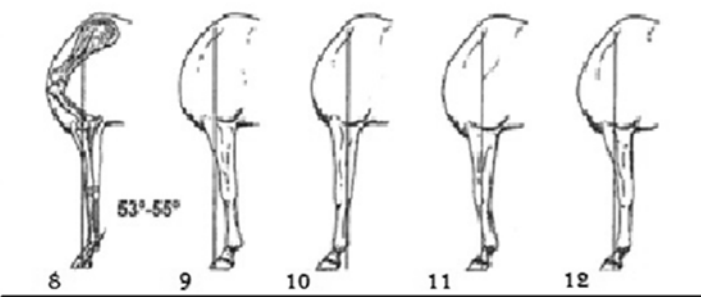
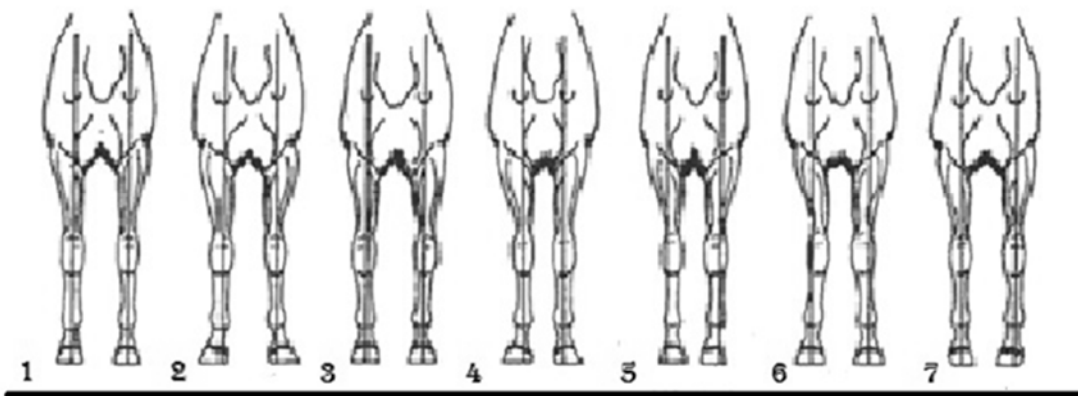
- Attendance and reception: _____

- Leader's Comments: _____

Leader's Signature: _____

Score _____ out of 10

13. Match the illustration with the appropriate conformation fault (24)



Bow Legged – Hind legs	16	Ideal Position – hind leg – side view	18
Base Narrow - Stands Close	5	Bow Legged – Front legs	3
Knock kneed	6	Camped Out – hind Leg	20
Steep pastern	23	Stands Wide	2
Cow Hocked	17	Correct Pastern	22
Stand close	15	Calf Knees	
Weak Pastern	24	Legs too Straight-post legged	
Knees Sprung (buck kneed)		Ideal position-front leg –side view	8
Camped Out –front leg	10	Narrow Chested - Toes Out	4
Ideal Position – Front leg - front view	1	Camped Under – front leg	9
Pigeon Toed	7	Toes Out	
Stands Under – sickled hocked	19	Ideal Position - Hind legs - rear view	13

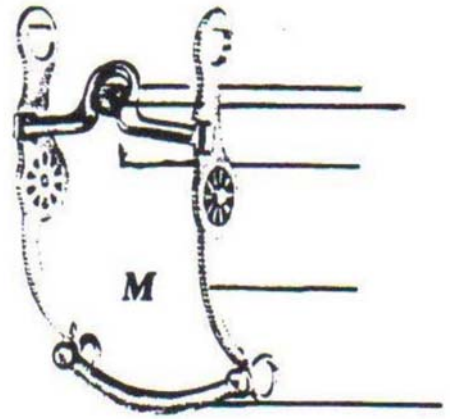
Score _____ out of 24

15. From the illustration fill in the parts of the bit (5)

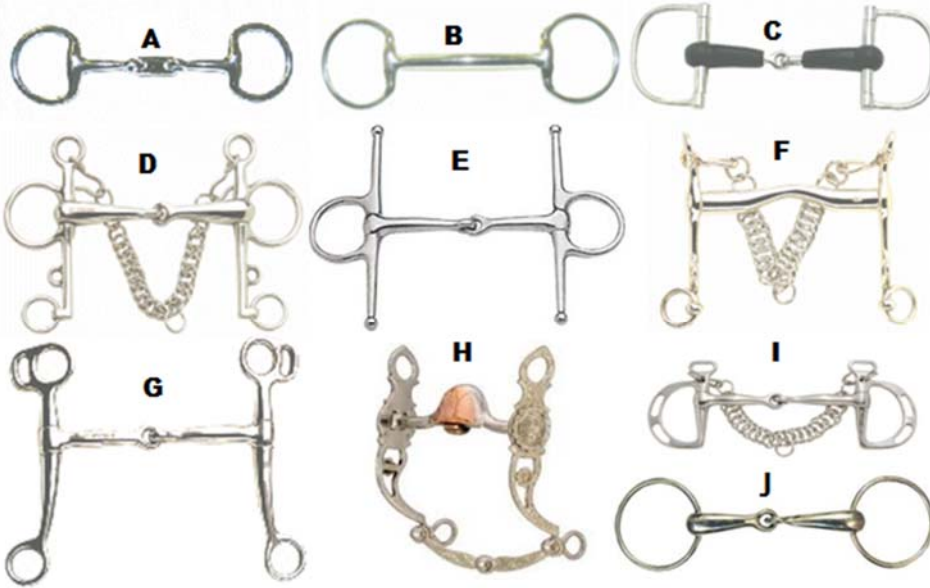
16. Name the two types of bits:

a. _____

b. _____



15. Match the name of the bit with the illustrations (10 pts)



O-Ring Snaffle	___
D-Ring	___
Tom Thumb	___
Full Cheek	___
Kimberwick	___
Spade	___
Pelham	___
Mullenmouth	___
Dogbone	___
Curb	___

17. Name a mild bit and tell why it is considered mild. (2 pts)

18. Name a moderate bit and tell why it is considered moderate. (2pts)

19. Name a severe bit and tell why it is considered severe. (2pts)

FEEDING AND MAINTENANCE OF HORSES

20. List the five basic nutrients your horse needs (5pts)

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
4. _____ 5. _____

21. What are the two types of Hay? Explain what makes hay good quality. (5 pts)

Types: _____,
Quality: _____

22. How much water per day does your horse need/day? How do you ensure that your horse receives quality water? (2 pts)

Quantity: _____
Quality: _____

23. Name two types of Grain and why it is added to a horse's diet? (3pts)

24. What type of supplements or minerals does your horse receive and why? (2 pts)

Type: _____
Quantity _____

25. What is the one type of mineral horses should always have available (free choice)? (1pt)

26. Exercise, grooming, a clean stable/barn, and proper pasture maintenance is all important to keep a healthy project animal. Explain why each is important. (8 pts)

Score _____ out of 26

PROJECT ANIMAL ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION LOG

(Explain activities you and your project animals participate in: Horse Shows, Trail Rides, 4-H Mounted Meetings, Parades other 4-H Events, etc.)

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ALLEGAN COUNTY 4-H HORSEMASTER PROGRAM
UNMOUNTED SKILLS
LEVEL FOUR

Correctly demonstrate the following skills to a designated leader/resource person who will check off each skill and the date completed.

Skill	Possible Score	Actual Score	Inspector/ Date
Demonstrate how to bathe a horse	5		
Band/braid a mane and tail.	4		
Demonstrate the humane use of a chain shank for control	2		
Perform a single showmanship pattern, demonstrate a trot, set-up for inspection, back 4 steps, 180 degree pivot reverse.	4		
Measure Heart girth, Measure body Length calculate the horses weight using formula: $HG \times HG \times BL / 330 = \text{estimated weight}$	2		
Show some first aid applications for treating a wound.	2		
Explain the normal temperature for a horse or pony and demonstrate how to take its temperature.	2		
Explain the normal pulse of a horse or pony and demonstrate how to check its pulse	2		
Explain the normal respiration of a horse or pony and demonstrate how to measure its respiratory rate	2		
Demonstrate how to check capillary refill and what is acceptable	2		
Discuss the conformation of your horse/pony (Head, body, legs, blemishes, overall quality)	8		
Name and explain the use of the four natural aids	4		
Name and explain the use of the two artificial aids.	2		
Total			

SKILLS DATE: _____ INSPECTOR _____

Comments: _____

LEVEL FOUR MOUNTED SKILLS EVALUATION

(Choice of seat is optional)

Scoring System – 75% passing (with a minimum of 5 on each movement)

1-3 Unsafe – difficulty maintaining control

3-5 Attempt to perform movement, but below requirement (example: wrong lead uncorrected)

5-8 Movement performed with errors, but correctly (example: leads and diagonals)

8-10 Movement performed correctly to exceptionally

	Possible Score	Actual Score
Lead your horse or pony to evaluator, perform tack check and explain purpose and proper fit.	10	
Mount your horse or pony (may be assisted) walk along rail	10	
Trot/jog along rail	10	
Extend trot/jog	10	
Lope/canter left lead down center of ring stop halfway right lead change to rail	10	
Reverse at the canter perform a flying lead change	10	
From a canter break to a trot/job	10	
Perform a posting trot with change of diagonals through a serpentine	10	
Ride Western/English riding pattern (simple or flying lead changes)	10	
Ride over a bridge	10	
Back horse or pony through a simple and short pattern (L, three cones, etc.)	10	
Side pass both directions	10	

ADDITIONAL SCORING

Subtle use of aids	10	
Submission of horse to rider	10	
Correctness of position	10	
Balance and collection	10	
Overall safety awareness	10	

Total (180) _____

General Comments of overall ride (may make suggestions for improvement)

Evaluator's Signature _____ Date _____

Enclose a picture of you and your project animal.

Name of Rider _____

Name of Horse or Pony _____

