LEVEL 1 REQUIREMENTS

To complete Level 1 you must be able to pass the following requirements. This can be done by performing the Level 1 arena test, which has all the movements in it (or an alternate test made up by your instructor), or by having your CHA instructor check off each skill as you pass it. This may be done in regular riding lessons, in a group test, or an individual test.

RIDING REQUIREMENTS

_____ 1. Approach and lead a horse correctly and safely.

_____ 2. Mount with control and without disturbing the horse.
   *(Horse may be held by an assistant. Riders may mount from a safe mounting block.)*

_____ 3. Dismount safely with control and prepare your horse to lead.
   *(Reins should be removed from the horse's neck and English stirrups run up)*

_____ 4. Ride at a walk with good Level 1 position and control.

_____ 5. Ride at a trot around the rail with good Level 1 position and control.

_____ 6. Halt from the walk and the trot on command, with control and without hurting the horse.

_____ 7. Ride turns and reverses at the walk and trot with good Level 1 control.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

_____ 1. Give 5 safety rules and a reason why each is important.

_____ 2. Demonstrate 3 simple grooming steps.

_____ 3. Show how to check your equipment before riding.


NOTES TO INSTRUCTORS ON TESTING

The goals of Level 1 are a good foundation of safe, secure and simple basics.

Requirements for Level 1 may be tested:
- Individually
- In a group
- By checking off each requirement as the rider passes each one

Students should not be required to memorize the arena test. The difficulty of the horse they are riding should be taken into consideration. Students should be scored on their technique and safety rather than on the performance of the horse.

The arena test is not a requirement in itself, but one way of testing the rider. Alternate tests such as group tests are also acceptable. Level 1 tests must be passed before a rider may take the Level 2 tests. Only CHA certified instructors may issue student certifications and awards.
MULTIPLE CHOICE (select the best answer)

1. The first choice of a frightened horse is to:
   a) Neigh loudly
   b) Stand and paw the ground
   c) Run away

2. When approaching a horse you should approach him:
   a) At his shoulder
   b) From the front
   c) From the rear

3. A horse should be tied up with:
   a) The bridle reins
   b) A rope attached to his bit
   c) A halter and lead rope

4. When leading a horse safely, you should:
   a) Walk on his left, halfway between his head and
       his shoulder
   b) Walk in front of him
   c) Walk on his right halfway between his head and
       his shoulder

5. To remove tangles from the horse’s mane or tail:
   a) Start at the bottom and work up through the tangles
   b) Comb downward through the tangles
   c) Use scissors to remove bad tangles

6. When riding, your eyes should be:
   a) Looking down to be sure your horse is behaving
   b) Looking at your hands, seat and heels to be sure
       that they are in position
   c) Looking ahead to see where you are going

7. To stop your horse, you should:
   a) Pull on the reins very hard to make him obey you
   b) Say Whoa loudly several times
   c) Say Whoa and then shift your weight back and
       check and release on the reins

8. When riding at the trot, you should keep your hands:
   a) Up in the air and out to the sides for balance
   b) Quiet, not pulling on the horse’s mouth
   c) Pulling on the reins for balance and to keep the
       horse under control

9. When approaching a horse in a tie stall, what should you do first:
   a) Place your hand on his rump and move him over
   b) Speak to him and get his attention
   c) Stand behind him as you enter the stall

10. When mounting, you should never:
    a) Hold on to your reins
    b) Dig your toe into the horse’s ribs
    c) Ask your teacher to check your equipment

TRUE OR FALSE

__ 1. Feeding treats to horses can get your fingers bit.
__ 2. When leading with a lead rope, you can wrap the
    leftover rope around your hand.
__ 3. You should speak to your horse before touching him.
__ 4. Saddling is done from the left side.
__ 5. When riding properly, your heels should be higher
    than your toes.
__ 6. On trail rides, you should not let your horse eat grass.
__ 7. Going uphill, lean back for better comfort and safety.
__ 8. The clothes you wear for riding don’t matter
    except for show.
__ 9. A rubber currycomb is used to scrub in circles or
    against the way the hair grows.
__10. When you turn your horse while leading him, you
    should usually turn him around to the right.

SHORT ANSWERS (fill in the missing word)

1. When riding Western, the reins are usually held in
   your __________________________ hand.

2. The four natural aids are:
   1. __________________________
   2. __________________________
   3. __________________________
   4. __________________________

3. Squeezing with your legs tells your horse to

4. If you make a turn which takes you off the rail, into
   the center of the ring, and then back to the rail going
   in the opposite direction, it is called a

5. When a rider rises up and down with the beats of
   the trot, he is __________________________
FILL IN THE PARTS OF THE TACK
You may fill in either the parts for English or Western saddle and bridle, according to which seat you ride or which your instructor requires.

Western Tack

Western bridle parts to choose from:

1. Cheek piece
2. Crownpiece
3. Curb bit
4. Curb strap
5. Reins
6. Shaped Earpiece
7. Throatlatch

Western saddle parts to choose from:

1. Cantle
2. Cinch
3. Concho
4. Fender
5. Gullet
6. Horn
7. Latigo keeper
8. Long latigo
9. Pommel
10. Rear cinch strap
11. Rear jockey
12. Saddle strings
13. Seat
14. Seat jockey
15. Short latigo
16. Stirrup
17. Swell
English Tack

**English bridle parts to choose from:**

1. Browband
2. Cavesson (noseband)
3. Cheek piece
4. Crownpiece
5. Rein
6. Snaffle bit
7. Throatlatch

**English saddle parts to choose from:**

1. Billets
2. Buckle guard
3. Cantle
4. Flap
5. Girth
6. Gullet
7. Knee roll
8. Pad
9. Panels
10. Pommel
11. Safety stirrup bar
12. Seat
13. Skirt
14. Stirrup iron
15. Stirrup leather
**LEVEL 1 ARENA TEST • SCORE SHEET**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Leading to O</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(5 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Safety check and mount at O</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Walk to C (control &amp; equitation)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Trot or jog to B (control &amp; equitation)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Stop at B thru the walk. Continue trot or jog to M</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Reverse at M to B</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Trot or jog to E (control &amp; equitation)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(10 pts)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Transition to walk at E. Turn and walk to center of arena X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Stop and pause at X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Dismount at X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Prepare the horse to lead; at walk lead horse out of arena</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(5 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total = 100 pts.
Passing score 70%.

**Scoring**

- 0 = Not performed
- 1 = Very bad
- 2 = Unsatisfactory
- 3 = Poor
- 4 = Insufficient, not good enough
- 5 = Sufficient, fair
- 6 = Satisfactory
- 7 = Fairly good
- 8 = Good
- 9 = Very good
- 10 = Outstanding

**Passing scores are 5 and over.**

Please note that **10 means outstanding, not perfect**, (10 is a possible score, though rare).

- An alternate riding test may be used. This is only a suggested one.
- Instructors may require posting and riders may have assistance in mounting.

PASSING: Yes _____ No _____ Instructor’s signature _____________________________

Remember that the goals of Level 1 are a good foundation of safe, secure and simple basics.
# Level 1 Arena Test • Score Sheet

(Based on 10 points each, a total of 100 points)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Directions</th>
<th>You are scored on</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. To O</td>
<td>Lead horse (saddled)</td>
<td>Leading safely and correctly</td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. O</td>
<td>Check tack and mount (Assistant will hold horse)</td>
<td>Safety check and mounting properly (Control of horse, not disturbing horse while mounting)</td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. A</td>
<td>Enter ring at walk</td>
<td>Position, seat and control at a walk Not cutting corners</td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. C</td>
<td>Jog or trot (posting optional) Continue jog or trot to B Without breaking gait</td>
<td>Position, seat and control at jog or trot Good corners</td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. B</td>
<td>Halt through the walk</td>
<td>Control while stopping Not hurting the horse while stopping</td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. B</td>
<td>Continue trot to M</td>
<td>Ability to get horse to trot from B</td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. M</td>
<td>Reverse without breaking gait In half circle, returning to rail at B</td>
<td>Turning and control while reversing At the jog or trot</td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. B</td>
<td>Continue jog or trot to E Without breaking gait</td>
<td>Position, seat and control at jog or trot Good corners</td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. E</td>
<td>Turn and walk to center of ring (X) Stop in front of judge</td>
<td>Position and control While turning and stopping</td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. X</td>
<td>Dismount, prepare horse to lead Leave arena Leading horse at walk</td>
<td>Dismounting safely In control of horse Preparing and leading horse Correctly and safely</td>
<td>(10 pts.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total = 100 pts.
A score of 70% is considered passing.

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