

# HORSEBACK RIDING SKILLS

153 Skills	Aspects
<b>HALTER SKILLS, LEADING AND MOUNTING</b> 11 Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Leading a horse properly, confidently and safely</li> <li>○ Grooming with Each Brush: 1) Curry Comb, 2) Shedding Brush, 3) Hard Brush, 4) Soft Brush, 5) Hoof Pick, 6) Sweat Scraper, 7) Mane and Tail Comb</li> <li>○○ Leading a horse at a 1) walk and 2) trot through patterns and obstacles</li> <li>○ Backing a Horse in a straight line from the ground</li> <li>○○○ Mounting independently from a mounting block, 2) a leg up, 3) the ground</li> <li>○○○ Groundwork: 1) Yo-yo game, 2) Carrot stretches and 3) Lunging a horse</li> </ul>
<b>WALK</b> 26 Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○○○ Proper riding position for 1) legs, 2) hands and 3) body</li> <li>○ Balance on a horse and balance games, including “around-the-world”</li> <li>○○○ 1) Starting and 2) halting a horse 3) half-halts</li> <li>○○○ Maintaining speed at walk using 1) hands, 2) legs &amp; 3) seat/weight</li> <li>○○○ Steering and supporting a horse at the walk using 1) hands, 2) legs and 3) seat/weight</li> <li>○ Bending a horse through the spine,</li> <li>○ Cueing horse to relax and lift through the back</li> <li>○○ 1) Extension and 2) Collection at the Walk</li> <li>○ Backing a horse from the saddle</li> <li>○○ Navigating 1) patterns and 2) arena obstacles</li> <li>○○ 1) Walking without stirrups, 2) Walking bareback</li> <li>○○ Turn on the forehand 1) un-mounted and 2) mounted</li> <li>○○ Turn on the haunches 1) un-mounted and 2) mounted</li> </ul>
<b>EMERGENCY SKILLS</b> 16 Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Retrieving stirrups</li> <li>○○○ One rein halt at the 1) walk, 2) trot and 3) canter</li> <li>○ Emergency dismounts</li> <li>○○ 1) Tightening girth and 2) adjusting stirrups from the saddle</li> <li>○○○ Ponying another horse 1) with and 2) without rider 3) on trail</li> <li>○○○ Vet Care: 1) Identifying Lameness, 2) Wound Dressing, 3) Leg Wraps</li> <li>○○○ Farrier Care: 1) Soaking Abscesses, 2) Pulling Shoes, 3) Rasping Flares</li> </ul>
<b>TRAIL RIDING ETIQUETTE</b> 4 Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Maintaining distance from other horses</li> <li>○ Not allowing horses to eat or become distracted</li> <li>○ Navigating obstacles on trail</li> <li>○ Pass other horses on trail</li> </ul>
<b>TROT</b> 19 Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Walk-to-Trot Transitions</li> <li>○○○ Maintaining speed at trot using 1) hands, 2) legs &amp; 3) seat/weight</li> <li>○○○ Steering and supporting a horse at the trot using 1) hands, 2) legs and 3) seat/weight</li> <li>○ Identifying Diagonals</li> <li>○○ 1) Sitting the trot and 2) Posting the trot</li> <li>○○ 1) Extension and 2) Collection at the Trot</li> <li>○○ Navigating patterns and arena obstacles at the trot</li> <li>○○ Halt-to-Trot and Trot-to-Halt Transitions</li> <li>○○○ 1) Sitting trot without stirrups, 2) Bareback trot and 3) Posting trot without stirrups</li> </ul>
<b>GAITED HORSES</b> 5 Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identifying Lateral versus Diagonal Gaits</li> <li>○ Feeling Footfalls</li> <li>○ Identifying Gaits: Walk, Flat Walk, Amble, Running Walk, Trot, Pace, Canter, Rack</li> <li>○○ Maintaining Intermediate Gaits through 1) Headset and Collection, 2) Weight and Seat</li> </ul>
<b>STALL &amp; STABLE SKILLS</b> 19 Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How to catch a horse in the field</li> <li>○○○ How to 1) bathe a horse and 2) braid the mane and 3) pleat the tail</li> <li>○ How to blanket a horse for the winter</li> <li>○○○○ 1) Tack parts and 3) types, 3) cleaning and 4) disassembling &amp; maintaining</li> <li>○○○ Trailering horses: 1) packing, 2) loading horses, 3) hooking truck &amp; trailer</li> <li>○○○○ 1) Horse anatomy; 2) Horse conformation 3) Horse colors and 4) genetics</li> <li>○○○ 1) Barn Management; 2) Diet; 3) Cost of horse ownership</li> </ul>
<b>GYMKHANA</b> 13 Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Barrel Racing Game Rules</li> <li>○○○ Cloverleaf Pattern at 1) Walk, 2) Trot and 3) Canter</li> <li>○○○ Keyhole Pattern at 1) Walk, 2) Trot and 3) Canter</li> <li>○○○ Straight Barrels at 1) Walk, 2) Trot and 3) Canter</li> <li>○○○ Cow Games: 1) Team Penning and 2) Team Sorting and 3) Individual Sorting</li> </ul>
<b>CANTER</b> 17 Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Trot-to-Canter Transitions</li> <li>○○○ Maintaining speed at canter using 1) hands, 2) legs &amp; 3) seat/weight</li> <li>○○○ Steering and supporting a horse at the canter using 1) hands, 2) legs and 3) seat/weight</li> <li>○○ Collection and Extension at the Canter</li> <li>○○○○ 1) Identifying Lead, 2) Cueing Lead, 3) Changing Lead, 4) Flying Lead Changes</li> <li>○ Navigating patterns and arena obstacles at the canter.</li> <li>○ Walk-to-Canter Transitions</li> <li>○○ 1) Canter without stirrups, 2) Canter Bareback</li> </ul>
<b>JUMPING</b> 9 Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○○○○ Two-Point: 1) Walk, 2) Trot, 3) Canter, 4) Without Stirrups</li> <li>○ Stride Length and Speed</li> <li>○○○ Jumping 1) cross rails and 2) straight rail jumps, 3) multiple jumps</li> <li>○ Releasing from a jump</li> </ul>
<b>ADVANCED TRAIL RIDING</b> 14 Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○○○ 1) Riding independently on trail, 2) Leading a trail ride, 3) Separating from the group</li> <li>○ Canter on Trail</li> <li>○○ 1) Jumping on Trail and 2) Hunter Pacing</li> <li>○ Rough Terrain</li> <li>○○○ 1) Spooking Horses 2) Reluctant Horses and 3) Runaways</li> <li>○ Side passes and Lateral Movements</li> <li>○○○ Bareback Trail Riding at the 1) walk, 2) trot, and 3) canter</li> </ul>

○ – Beginner	47 Skills
○ – Novice	42 Skills
○ – Advanced Novice	37 Skills
○ – Intermediate	20 Skills
○ – Advanced	7 Skills