

# Kolts & Kitties Horse Certificate Program



# LEVEL 1: BEGINNER

## Horse Knowledge

1. Name & locate the following parts of the horse:

fetlock	flank	forearm	heart girth
hock	knee	muzzle	pastern
poll	rump	shoulder	withers

2. Name 4 breeds that make good saddle horses.
3. Define the following: mare, stallion, gelding
4. Describe 4 coat colors
5. Identify your horse's:

breed or type	sex	age
coat color	markings	

6. List the type & date of 4 horse shows and/or judging contests you watched or participated in.

## Equipment

1. Name & locate these parts of a saddle:

horn	cantle	dee rings
fender	pommel	skirt

2. Name & locate the following bridle parts:

curb strap	headstall	noseband,
bit	throatlatch	

3. What are two requirements of a good saddle blanket?

## Safety

1. Name & demonstrate, 6 safety rules to observe when working or riding their horses.
2. Explain & demonstrate how your horse should be safely tied. Include:

equipment used	length of tie	height
location	type of knot	

## Personal Development/Leadership

(Fill in 4 options selected from page 13 of this Advancement Program)

1.	2.
3.	4.

## Management Skills

1. Care & feeding;

How often should you feed a horse?
Name 3 life stages/circumstances where a horse might need concentrates.
How long should you wait to feed your horse before/ after working?

2. Go to a feed store & get information on 2 different horse feeds. List the name, cost per 50 pounds, & percentage of protein for each type.
3. List 4 pieces of grooming equipment, explaining their purposes. Demonstrate their use on your horse.
4. Explain how often you feed & water your horse.
5. List 2 types of hay & 2 types of grain. What do you feed your horse?
6. List 3 health precautions to follow when taking your horse to a show.
7. List 4 areas of your horse that should be clipped for showing.

## Horsemanship

1. Demonstrate the following with your horse:

Halter & tie	Brush/groom	Bridle
Saddle & fasten girth	Mount & dismount	Walk a figure 8
Trot a figure 8	Start & stop	Unsaddle

2. Name three "aids" used in riding.
3. Pose your horse as if you were in a showmanship contest.
4. List the proper attire for a showmanship class, either English or Western

## 4-H Knowledge

1. Write the 4-H motto.
2. Recite the 4-H Pledge.
3. List the dates & locations of four 4-H meeting you attended.

# LEVEL 2: NOVICE

## Horse Knowledge

1. Define the following terms:

filly	colt	foal	sire
conformation	hand	dam	

2. Locate the following parts on your horse:

withers	back	point of hip	croup	heart girth
hock	stifle	fetlock	knee	poll

3. Locate these parts of your horse's feet & legs:

sole	frog	wall
gaskin	stifle	cannon

4. How many beats are there to the following gaits:

walk	running walk	slow gait	canter
pace	trot	gallop	rack?

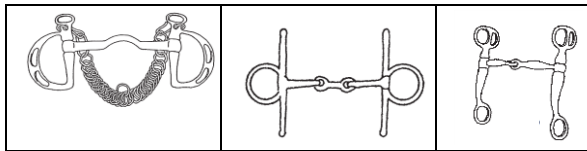
## Equipment

1. Locate the following parts on a bridle:

browband	crownpiece	throatlatch
bit	reins	cheekpiece

2. Name three types of saddles.

3. Identify 3 types of bits used by horsemen, describe differences & uses.



4. Explain why correct stirrup length is important when riding & how to determine proper length.

## Health Care Practices

- Describe the proper care of horses' feet.
- List 3 visible signs of a healthy horse.

- What are the normal temperature, pulse & respiration reading of a horse?
- List 3 visible signs of an unhealthy horse.
- Describe the following unsoundnesses & tell where they are located:

ring bone	curb	thorough pin
splint	side bone	hernia

- List 6 items needed in an equine first aid kit.
- List 3 external & 3 internal parasites & describe the proper prevention & treatment for each.

## Horsemanship

- Name 4 natural & 3 artificial aids used when riding or working a horse.
- Explain & demonstrate how to safely & properly execute a showmanship pattern.
- Explain & demonstrate using your horse.

walk	trot
Canter on a left lead	Canter on a right lead

- Demonstrate a stop from the walk, trot & lope
- Demonstrate the principles & use of correct seat & balance.
- Demonstrate from the ground using your horse:

How to properly back	sidestep 2 steps both directions
----------------------	----------------------------------

- Demonstrate how to properly pick up a horse's front & rear feet: also clean the hoof.
- Explain the rider's diagonals at a posting trot.

## 4-H Knowledge

- Name the 4 objectives of the 4-H Horse Project.
- List the dates & locations of four 4-H meeting you attended.
- Name 3 non-project specific activities 4-H activities you can participate in.

## Personal Development/Leadership

(Fill in 4 options selected from page 13 of this Advancement Program)

1.	2.
3.	4.

# LEVEL 3: JOURNEYMAN

## Horse Knowledge

1. List the type & date of four horse shows and/or judging contests you watched or participated in.

## Selection & Judging

1. Describe 3 characteristics of each of the following breeds that make them unique:

Quarter horse	Arabian	Morgan
Appaloosa	Thoroughbred	Saddlebred

2. Name 2 paint/pinto coat color patterns.

## Horse Care & Feeding

1. Name 3 major nutrients needed in your horse's diet.
2. Describe how to properly cool down a hot horse.
3. Describe the symptoms, causes & treatment for the following diseases:

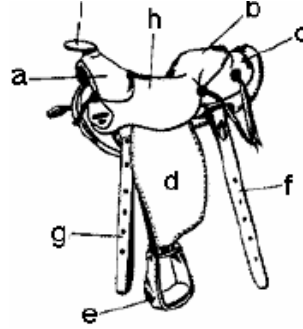
Strangles	Rhino Pneumonitis	Influenza
Tetanus	Equine Encephalitis	

4. List 4 diseases that can be prevented by vaccination.
5. Explain how & where to take a horse's temperature, pulse & respiration. Demonstrate on your horse.
6. Name 2 medicines that should be in an equine first aid kit
7. Name at least 3 health precautions when taking a horse to a show.
8. Demonstrate proper cleaning & grooming of your horse's coat, mane, tail, face & feet.
9. Demonstrate how to measure a horse's height.

## Equipment

1. Explain differences between snaffle & curb bits.
2. List 3 types of snaffle bits & 3 types of curb bits.

3. Identify the following parts of a stock saddle:



## Horsemanship

1. Explain the proper cues to put your horse into the left lead. Demonstrate on your horse.
2. Demonstrate & explain what you do when you "gather" your horse.
3. Explain & demonstrate a "fixed" or "set" hand.
4. Demonstrate the proper aid (hands, legs & weight) at the walk, trot & canter.
5. Demonstrate how to tie a bowline knot. Tell why it is a good knot & where to use it.
6. Do the following performance tests:

Canter from a standing position, right lead & left lead.
Canter from a walk, right lead & left lead
Canter from a trot, right lead & left lead
Make a series of figure 8's at a canter, changing leads so your horse is always on an inside lead (with an interrupted or simple change.)
Make a series of figure 8s at a trot, posting on an outside diagonal.
Back in a straight line, two lengths mounted.

## 4-H Knowledge

1. List club committees/ offices you have served on.
2. List dates/locations of four 4-H meeting you attended.

## Personal Development/Leadership

(Fill in 4 options selected from page 13 of this Advancement Program)	
1.	2.
3.	4.

# LEVEL 4: MASTER

## Horse Knowledge

1. Locate & describe the function of the following:

Sole	Frog	Hoof Wall
Pastern	Cannon	

2. Tell whether the following are unsoundnesses or blemishes, give their location, describe them, & explain their effect on the horse's usefulness:

Navicular Disease	Splints	Thrush
Bowed Tendon	Founder	Heaves

3. Describe the following gaits in reference to the number of beats, speed & length of stride:

walk	jog	trot
extended trot	canter/lope.	

4. Describe these conformation faults:

pigeon toed	sickle hocked	base narrow
cow hocked	coon footed.	Club Foot

5. Describe these defects in a horse's action:

padding	forging	lameness
interfering	rope walking.	

## Safety

1. Explain the correct method to pick up & hold your horse's feet, front & hind. Demonstrate.

## Horse Care, Health & Feeding

1. Name 4 visual characteristics of good horse hay.  
2. Explain why each of the following is important:

protein	TDN
dry matter	calcium & phosphorus & vitamins.

3. Give the average length of the following:

gestation	estrous cycle	estrus.
-----------	---------------	---------

4. Give the daily requirements of protein, energy, calcium, phosphorus, & vitamin A; as well as the average pounds of feed; for the following:

400 lb Weanling	1000 lb Idle Horse
1000 lb Working Horse	1000 lb Lactating Mare

5. Discuss the importance of calcium & phosphorus in rations of young horses.

6. Give the cause, prevention & treatment of the following diseases:

strangles	Potamic Fever	Azoturia
tetanus	Equine Viral Arteritis	Laminitis
Equine Infectious Anemia		Navicular.

7. Explain 4 purposes for shoeing a horse.

8. Define colic including symptoms, causes & treatment.

## Equipment

1. Describe & demonstrate the proper fit of the following equipment with your horse:

bit	throat latch	curb strap or chain
halter	cinch or girth.	

2. Explain why the following are used on the legs:

splint boots	track or elastic bandages
bell boots	quilted or fleece pads.

## Horsemanship

1. Describe the proper position of your body, legs, feet & hands in stock seat equitation, then demonstrate this position.  
2. Explain how to teach a horse to back from the ground & how to cue the horse to back while mounted. Demonstrate backing your horse from the ground & while you are mounted.

3. Describe the proper tack, clothing & body position for the following seats:

Stock Seat	Saddle Seat	Hunt Seat
------------	-------------	-----------

4. Describe the following for a 4-H equitation class:

Name of class	rider's proper position
correct appointments	correct class routine
possible faults of horse and/or rider.	

5. Explain the cues used for the following movements, then demonstrate while mounted:

sidepass	forehand turn	haunch turn
two-track	halt.	

6. The horse has a great power of association. Explain what this means & why this is important to the rider.

## 4-H Knowledge

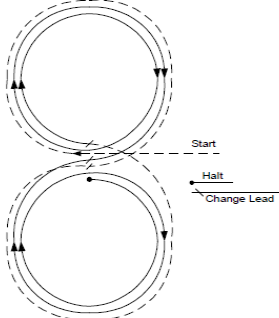
1. List committees/offices you have served on.  
2. List dates/ locations of 5 4-H meetings attended.

## Personal Development/Leadership

(Fill in 4 options selected from page 13 of this Advancement Program)	
1.	2.
3.	4.

# LEVEL 5: EXPERT

Each exercise is worth 10 points. A score of 70 is required to pass this level. The movements of each exercise should be performed in one continuous pattern.

<b>Score</b>	<b>Exercise</b>
	1. Starting at the center of the arena, walk forward 4 steps & backwards 4 steps, being sure your horse is collected. Settle your horse a few seconds before asking him to back.
	2. Sidestep right & left 6 steps (or 3 crossovers) in each direction. Stop your horse before changing directions.
	3. Turn on the forehand, 360° in each direction with the pivot foot kept within a 3' imaginary circle. This must be a continuous movement with no backing around the pivot foot.
	4. Turn on the haunches, 360° in each direction with the pivot foot kept within a 3' imaginary circle. This must be a continuous movement with no backing around the pivot foot.
	5. Walk 6 steps. Leg yield (or 2 track) at a walk 4 steps to the left followed by 4 straight steps. Then Leg yield (or 2 track) at a walk 4 steps to the right followed by 4 straight steps.
	6. From one end of the arena, start a jog trot from a standing position, without posting & without walking steps. Halt at opposite end of arena & turn. Halt.
	7. From the entrance of the arena, demonstrate posting trot on a straight-away down the center of the arena. Post on either diagonal, changing diagonals at least 3 times. Walk to the center of the arena & halt.
	8. Execute 3 figure 8's: 1st figure 8 at a posting trot, demonstrating correct diagonals. Without halting, execute 2nd figure 8 at a canter/lope using a simple change of lead, coming down to a walk at the center of the figure 8. Halt. Execute a 3rd figure 8 at a canter/lope, coming down to a trot at the center of the figure 8. Halt.
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 65%;"> <p>9. Beginning at the center of the arena, execute 1 figure 8 at the canter/lope starting to the right, demonstrating 1 complete flying change of lead. Without interruption, execute the 2nd flying change of lead &amp; continue on with 2 circles to the right. Without halting, execute the 3rd flying change of lead &amp; continue on with 2 circles to the left. Halt</p> </div> <div style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">  </div> </div>
	10. From the far end of the arena, start from a walk down the center of the arena. Canter, straight forward with 2 complete flying changes of lead on the straight-away. Halt, turn & canter back to the center of the arena. Halt your horse & allow him to settle. Square him up & stand for 10 seconds.
	<b>Total Score</b> (a score of 70 is required to pass this level.)

(Judge's Signature & Date)

# LEVEL 5: EXPERT

## Written Description:

1. Walk forward & backward the exact number of steps indicated by the judge; repeat twice.
  - The rider must specify the exact way the steps will be counted (all 4 feet or a specific foot.)
  - The number of steps requested may vary for each repeat.
  - Do not count the last half step to bring the feet even.
  - The front feet should be approximately within half the hoof's length of being even at the end of each move.
  - An inadvertent half step in the opposite direction is a fault.
2. Side step right & left with at least 12 steps, or 6 crossovers, in each direction (1 crossover is 2 steps); repeat.
  - The forefoot must cross in front of the stationary foot.
  - The hind feet must cross in front or be placed side by side.
  - Balance the horse before changing directions.
3. Turn on the forehand, full 360° one way and then the other; repeat.
  - The horse may be repositioned before repeating.
  - The movement must be done with forward motion, with no backing around the pivot foot.
  - Pivot foot must be the inside fore foot. It may move within a 24" diameter circle (12" radius from the starting point.)
  - The rider must not be asked to place the horse in a circle drawn on the ground. The judge will measure a questionable distance.
4. Turn on the haunches, full 360° one way and then the other; repeat.
  - Pivot foot must be the inside hind foot. It may move within a 36" diameter circle (18" radius from its starting point.)
  - Keep forward motion.
5. Two track at least three times in each direction as requested at a walk or trot.
  - The horse's body must be kept straight ahead while tracking at a 45° angle.
  - Forward motion must be combined with side motion in a consistent 45° line of travel.
  - Allowing the horse to lead with its shoulders, then quarters, is not acceptable.
  - The distance each way must be reasonable & not tire the horse.
  - Two steps forward motion are allowed before the horse changes direction.
  - The rider should not be asked for an exact number of steps.
6. Start a jog trot from a stand position; repeat 2 or more times.
  - No walking steps are allowed.
  - The diagonal feet should come up at the same time to start the two beat trot.
  - Proper collection & impulsion are required for a smooth trot.
  - Do not post.
7. Post the trot on a straightaway, starting on either diagonal, changing diagonals at least three times as requested by the judge; repeat twice.
  - Demonstrate good equitation & smooth changes with no extra "bumps".
8. Perform one figure 8 at the posting trot (change to the correct diagonal at the trot), then without halting execute a second figure 8 at the canter, using an interrupted change of lead.
  - Start the canter from the halt, with no walking or trotting steps.
9. Execute one figure 8 demonstrating two complete flying changes of lead, continuing on to two circles to the right (or left). Make a third complete flying change & two circles the left (right). Halt at starting point.
  - Change of leads may be executed with either the front or rear legs changing first.
  - A delayed half stride in the rear, or disrupted change is not allowed.
10. Starting from a walk and at least 20 feet from a wall or fence, pick up a canter immediately. Execute two complete flying changes of lead on the straightaway. Maintaining the canter, return to center of the area and halt. Allow the horse to settle and stand for 30 seconds without moving any foot. (thirty seconds are allowed to settle the horse.) The rider will indicate to the judge when the 30 second count should start and this will be timed with a watch.

The horse must not be canted, or angled, for the lead changes; only a slight leading of the correct shoulder & haunch is acceptable. Trotting steps, a disrupted change, resistance by horse, charging, or unplanned changes are not acceptable.



## BONUS LEVEL: THE 4-H COLT TRAINER

This step is for horse club members who are raising or training a colt. Demonstrate & explain the following with your colt.

### All Ages—Weanlings, Yearling, Two-Year Olds

1. Halter your colt
2. Lead your colt as directed.
3. Back two lengths.
4. Pick up the front & rear feet.
5. Groom your colt as for a show (including clippers)
6. Pose your colt properly for the breed
7. Sack out your colt.
8. Show how your colt yields to pressure

### Yearlings and Two-Year Olds

1. Turn on the forehand 180 degrees, right and left, pivot foot kept within 2 feet of starting point.
2. Turn on the haunches 180 degrees, right and left, pivot foot kept within 3 feet of starting point.
3. Side pass two steps right and left.

### Two-Year Olds

1. On the lunge line, demonstrate a walk, trot, and canter in both directions
2. Stop and rest colt on longe line.
3. Saddle and bridle your colt.
4. Drive a simple pattern of cones with long lines.



# PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT / LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

## Choose 4 activities for each level

- \_\_\_ 1. Lead the Pledge of Allegiance or 4-H pledge at a 4-H meeting. (Beginner & Novice levels only)
- \_\_\_ 2. Present a demonstration or illustrated talk to your club or project group.
- \_\_\_ 3. Present a demonstration or illustrated talk to a group other than your 4-H group.
- \_\_\_ 4. Participate in a community service project.
- \_\_\_ 5. Serve as chair of a club committee.
- \_\_\_ 6. Participate in a horse judging, bowl, or hippology contest.
- \_\_\_ 7. Serve as a junior leader for a 4-H horse group.
- \_\_\_ 8. Make arrangements for a tour by your project group.
- \_\_\_ 9. Attend Teen Rally or a 4-H camp.
- \_\_\_ 10. Serve as a camp counselor.
- \_\_\_ 11. Attend a district or state animal science workshop.
- \_\_\_ 12. Serve as a clerk, show chairperson, or apprentice judge at a 4-H show.
- \_\_\_ 13. Attend 4-H Junior Leaders Conference.
- \_\_\_ 14. Develop and exhibit a science display related to horses.
- \_\_\_ 15. Explore a career associated with horses and report to your project group or community club.
- \_\_\_ 16. Secure a speaker to talk at one of your project meetings.
- \_\_\_ 17. Plan a fun activity for your club or project group that is separate from a regular meeting.
- \_\_\_ 18. Develop an option of your own with your leader's approval. (This may be used more than once.)
- \_\_\_ 19. Obtain one or more new horse members for your club.
- \_\_\_ 20. Help conduct a horse show.
- \_\_\_ 21. Help organize and conduct an educational tour or demonstration.
- \_\_\_ 22. Help a leader work with a younger member.
- \_\_\_ 23. Help organize, train, and participate in a mounted drill team.
- \_\_\_ 24. Help organize and conduct a trail ride.
- \_\_\_ 25. Serve as a counselor to younger 4-H members.
- \_\_\_ 26. Show your horse at a non-4-H horse show.