

Level IV Skills Test

4-H MEMBER'S NAME: _____

HORSE'S NAME: _____

Horse must be the member's 4-H project horse and be identified on a current ID sheet.

Horses used for Level IV should be 3 years old or older.

The 4-H'er must show proficiency at all skills listed below to pass Advanced Horseman, Level IV.

Note: The entire riding portion of Level IV must be done with a single horse and can be ridden with one hand on the reins (Western riders) or two hands on the reins (English riders).

Exception: Horses 4 years old or younger, if ridden with a snaffle bit or bosal as described in the Nebraska 4-H Horse Show and Judging Guide, may be ridden two-handed.

I. Basic Horse Handling		Pass	No
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A. The 4-H'er should be confident and knowledgeable when working around their horse.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.	While dismounted, the member should indicate confidence and knowledge gained from working with their horse.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	While riding, the member should indicate their experience and confidence of having extensive horsemanship skills.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. The horse should be groomed and fit to be shown at halter and/or showmanship appropriate to its breed and type.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Exhibit correct showmanship skills.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.	Demonstrate proper training of the horse to be shown in hand. This includes horse's foot placement, leading at a walk and a trot, turn on haunches of 180 degrees and 360 degrees and back up.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	Display correct presentation of the horse as described in the Nebraska 4-H Horse Show and Judging Guide.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
II. Riding - The following maneuvers will be randomly called. Emphasis in evaluation will be placed upon the balance and skill of the rider, as well as the obedience and willingness of the horse. Know and demonstrate, as called, the basic aids for obtaining the following movements. Be prepared to explain how the aids influence the horse's movements.			
A. Display greater mastery of riding skills exhibited in previous level tests.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.	Walk, jog/trot, lope/canter in a circle, keeping the horse balanced with correct bend in the circles.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	With the horse standing with light rein contact complete a collected, balanced stop from a straight movement from each of the following gaits.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a.	Walk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	b. Jog/trot		
	c. Lope/canter		
	3. Complete a collected, balanced stop from a jog/trot and lope/canter in a circle.		
	4. Back the horse 4 to 6 steps in a straight line. Explain cues required to back a horse in a straight line.		
	5. Demonstrate riding ability at each of the following gaits, starting each gait from a standstill.		
	a. Walk		
	b. Jog/trot		
	c. Lope (Western riders) or Walk to Canter (English riders)		
	6. Complete a simple change of leads in a figure 8.		
	a. Dropping to a jog/trot, both directions		
	b. Coming to a stop, both directions		
	7. Complete a simple change of leads on a straightaway:		
	a. Dropping to a jog/trot, both directions		
	b. Coming to a stop, both directions		
	8. Demonstrate a simple pivot/turn on the haunches, turning 180 degrees each direction.		
	a. Right		
	b. Left		
	9. Demonstrate a forehand turn, turning 180 degrees each direction.		
	a. Right		
	b. Left		
	10. Complete a side passage, at least four steps each direction.		
	a. Right		
	b. Left		
	11. back the horse in a circle.		
	12. Complete a flying change of leads in a figure 8. Be able to explain cues used.		
	a. Right		
	b. Left		
	13. Display correct, safe procedures when mounting and dismounting (rider may be asked to dismount on off-side.)		
	a. Control of horse.		
	b. Position while mounting and dismounting.		
	c. Correct procedures used.		
	Note: It is suggested the following movements be called for in order.		
	14. Demonstrate a collected and extended trot.		
	15. Demonstrate a collected canter/lope and hand gallop.		
	16. Demonstrate a two track to the right and left, while traveling down the center of the		

	arena at the following gaits:		
	a. Walk		
	b. Jog/trot		
	c. Lope/canter		
	Note: Answer either 17 or 18 as appropriate.		
	17. Western Riders: Execute a roll back, both left and right, and exit in a lope traveling down the center of the arena. (I.e. Lope down the center of the arena, ask the horse to stop using its hind end, then reverse 180 degrees and depart in a lope from a standstill.)		
	a. Right		
	b. Left		
	18. English Riders: Execute a serpentine with at least five turns as follows:		
	a. Rising trot, changing diagonals as necessary.		
	b. Canter, with simple changes of lead.		
	19. Demonstrate a correct sliding stop/stop on the hindquarters.		
	20. Execute a pivot (turn on the hind end) in the following manner:		
	a. 360 degrees to the right.		
	b. 360 degrees to the left.		
	21. Complete a flying change of leads on a straightaway. NOTE: These lead changes are to be done at a collected lope/canter.		
	a. Right		
	b. Left		
III. Equipment and Dress			
	A. Is equipment suitable to the style of riding and properly fitted to the horse and rider?		
	B. Is the rider's attire suitable to the style of riding? Clothes need not be new, but must be neat, clean, and well-fitted to complement the rider and horse. All articles must be worn properly. Flashiness in equipment and dress will not be considered, except as it exhibits good taste.		
IV. First Aid			
	A. Display a first-aid kit for horses and be able to explain the proper use of the contents. Member should also be familiar with basic health care and how to determine if a horse is healthy or sick.		
	Note: First aid kits should include, but are not limited to, the following: Bandaging supplies, scissors, thermometer, foot care equipment, restraints equipment, disinfectants, and a flashlight.		
V. Feeding			
	A. The member must be able to discuss the feeding program of the horse in full, considering nutrient balance, work balance, costs to feed daily and yearly and changes made for periods such as showing, changes of season, breeding, etc.		

Based on this examination, the above 4-H member (has) (has not) passed the Skills Test of Advanced Horseman, Level IV.

Date: _____ Examiner: _____

Comments and suggestions for improvement: