

Level II 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.)

The rider must show proficiency at all skills listed below to pass the Intermediate Horseman level.

NOTE: The entire riding portion of Level II must be done with a single horse and 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
			Pass
A. The horse should be groomed and fit to be shown at halter and/or showmanship appropriate to its breed and style.			
	1. Is the horse clean?		
	2. Trimmed muzzle, jaw, bridle path, fetlocks (clipped ears are not required) appropriate for the breed.		
	3. Hooves in good condition, trimmed and/or shod.		
	4. Mane/tail combed and styled appropriate for the breed.		
B. Demonstrate the proper technique to pick up and clean a horse's foot.			
	1. Front foot.		
	2. Hind foot.		
C. Exhibit correct showmanship skills.			
	1. Demonstrate the proper training of the horse to be shown in hand. This includes horse's foot placement, leading at a walk and trot, pivots of 180 degrees and 360 degrees, and back up.		
	2. Display correct presentation of the horse as described in the Nebraska 4-H Horse Show and Judging Guide for its breed and type.		
II. Riding			
A. Display greater mastery of riding skills than given in INTERMEDIATE HORSEMANSHIP Level II.			
	1. Demonstrate correct use of soft hands riding one-handed (Western riders), and two-handed (Western and English riders.)		
	2. Demonstrate basic control and correctness of position of upper body and legs when riding at a walk, jog/trot, and lope/canter (line through ear, shoulder, hip, and heel.)		
B. Discuss and demonstrate the proper use of the basic aids required for riding at the			

following gaits in a straight line and circle.			
	1. Walk		
	2. Jog/Trot		
	3. Lope/Canter		
	a. Line		
	b. Circle (Correct leads, both directions, must be used)		
C. Complete a collected, balanced stop from each of the following gaits. Horse should stand without excessive rein pressure until asked for the next gait.			
	1. Walk		
	2. Jog/Trot		
	3. Lope/Canter		
D. Back your horse four to six steps in a straight line. Explain cues required to back a horse in a straight line.			
E. Emphasis on 4-H'ers horsemanship skills while performing the following tasks:			
	1. Light hands		
	2. Balance		
	3. Use of aids- hands, seat, and legs		
III. Equipment			
A. Discuss and identify the basic difference between a snaffle bit and a curb bit.			
B. Discuss differences in the use of snaffle bits and curb bits.			
C. Demonstrate correct tying of the following knots:			
	1. Cinch Knot		
	2. Manger Tie		
	3. Bowline		
IV. Personal Dress and Gear			
A. Member dressed in appropriate Western/English attire for the riding test. Head gear (English or Western) and appropriate boots along with clean jeans or breeches and shirts are recommended. Flashy or expensive clothes are not needed. Be practical and neat.			

Based on this examination, the above 4-H member (has) (has not) passed Intermediate Horseman, Level II.

Date: _____ Examiner: _____

Comments and suggestions for improvement: