
GLOSSARY AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

GLOSSARY

Acknowledge The judge motions to start a pattern or to note the end of the pattern. Sometimes a nod or a wave.

Aids Cues used by the rider to communicate with the horse. **Natural aids** are the hands, seat, legs, weight, and voice.

Artificial aids include spurs, crops, and martingales.

Anaerobic Can survive only where there is no oxygen.

Anemia A deficiency of hemoglobin in the blood.

Appointments The tack and/or attire of horse and rider.

Ataxia Poor coordination. Horse may stumble or stagger.

Balk To stop short and stand still; to refuse to move.

Barn sour The horse shows reluctance to leave the barn or other horses. May try to bolt back to the barn.

Bearing rein Rein pushed against the neck toward the direction of turn; neck rein.

Bight of reins The ends of the reins beyond where the hands hold them.

Bitting Teaching the horse to give (yield) to the bit before riding.

Blind spot Area that the horse cannot see (directly in front and behind).

Bosal hackamore Bitless bridle with a braided noseband (bosal) that controls the horse with leverage and pressure on the nose and jaw.

Bowline knot Nonslip knot that will not tighten under pressure.

Breed standard The criteria set by individual breed associations that describe the ideal representative of that breed.

Broodmare A mare used for reproductive purposes.

Canter A three-beat gait called for in English classes.

Cavesson, longeing Heavy halter with stiff noseband used for exercise or training on longe line.

Collection Shortening the horse's stride, but not slowing it, for smoother gaits and quicker response to aids.

Counter canter Canter on the outside lead in a circle.

Crimped A process that breaks and flattens grain, making it easier to digest.

Crossfiring Canter with the forehand and hindquarters on opposite leads; disunited, cross-leading.

Cross-leading See crossfiring.

Crupper Strap ending in leather loop under tail to keep harness from being pulled forward.

Cue A signal from the rider to the horse that elicits a particular response from the horse.

Curb bit Any leveraged bit with a solid or jointed mouthpiece.

Dead-end host An organism from which infectious agents cannot be transmitted to others.

Diagonals Refers to the forefoot of the horse moving in unison with the opposite hind foot at the trot. When posting, the rider should rise as the forefoot on the outside of the turn comes forward.

Direct rein Rein pulled to the side in the direction of the turn.

Disunited See crossfiring.

Draw reins Reins attached to cinch rings, run through snaffle bit rings to rider's hands.

Drop the bit To remove the bit for a judge's inspection. Only performed when the exhibitor is dismounted, usually at the start or end of the class.

Electrolytes Electrically charged chemical compounds that dissolve in water and aid in various body functions. In horses, the most important electrolytes are sodium, potassium, chloride, and bicarbonate.

Enterolith A hard lump or stone that forms in the horse's intestines, often around a foreign object such as sand, hair, etc.

Equitation classes Performance classes that are judged primarily on the rider's position and effective use of aids (hands, legs, seat). Usually divided into hunt seat, saddle seat, and stock seat, and sometimes bareback and Western.

Extended gaits Lengthening the stride, with or without increased speed.

Farrier A person who shoes and trims horses' feet.

Fault A decrease in points in an Equitation Over Fences class due to an error of either horse or rider.

Feathering Long hair around the fetlocks. Often seen in draft breeds.

Feed-through Chemical product that may be added to feed or mineral rations which go through the animal, passing out with the manure to control developing fly larvae.

Feral An animal that has escaped from domestication and become wild.

Figure 8 Two circles lying side by side. Circles should be even with a straight line in the center.

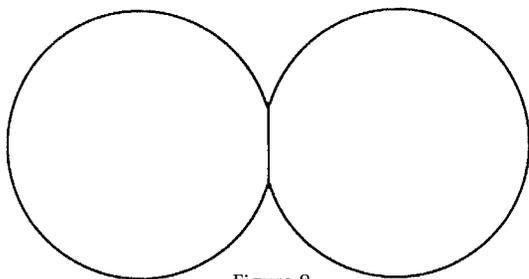


Figure 8

Gait A way of going, either natural or acquired, that is characterized by a distinctive movement of the feet.

Gate hold A request made by an exhibitor to wait before closing the gate and starting a class (usually limited to 5 minutes). Often used when members are sharing a horse or equipment.

Grade A horse of mixed breeding that does not have registration papers. Not a purebred.

Haunches Hindquarters.

Heart girth Circumference of horse where cinch lies, behind forequarters.

Hobbles Joined leather loops fastened around horse's front legs to limit movement.

Hot Excessively energetic.

Hybrid The offspring of two different species.

Indirect rein Inside rein is raised and moves back and to the outside of the turn across the withers.

In-hand The member exhibits the horse on the ground with only a halter or bridle.

Inspection When the judge moves around the horse during a Showmanship class or checks equipment for a performance class.

Jog A two-beat gait called for in Western classes.

Lactation The secretion of milk from the mare's mammary glands.

Lead When loping or cantering, the foreleg that is reaching out the furthest.

Lethargic Exhibiting drowsiness or indifference.

Leverage bit Any bit for which the reins attach to a shank rather than directly to the mouthpiece.

Longe To train or exercise a horse in a circle on a long line.

Lope A three-beat gait called for in Western classes.

Markings Any difference from the predominant coat color of the horse.

Mottled Refers to small dots of white on the muzzle, on the genitalia, and around the eyes of some horses, especially on Appaloosas.

Near side The left side of the horse.

Off course Failure to complete any or all of the elements of a pattern in proper sequence.

Off side The right side of the horse.

Pace A two-beat gait in which the legs on one side of the horse move forward at the same time.

Palatable Pleasing to the taste.

Pathogen A disease-causing agent.

Pattern The layout of maneuvers involved in a class.

Peritonitis Inflammation of the lining of the abdominal cavity.

Pivot A turn in which the horse moves with one foot "planted" to the ground. The pivot foot may move up and down, but should not move from its original spot. The pivot foot should be the foot on the inside of the turn.

Pivot foot The front or back leg on which the horse turns.

Pleasure class A performance class judged primarily on the horse (its manners, way of going, responsiveness, etc.)

Points Coloring of the legs, mane, and tail.

Poll The top of a horse's head, just behind the ears.

Pose To stand a horse with all four feet square or in a balanced position to show horse's conformation to best advantage.

Proboscis A long appendage coming from the head of an animal. Most commonly, the tubular feeding organ of certain insects.

Purebred A horse whose sire and dam are both in the same registry.

Quartering system The discipline that designates your movements during Showmanship when the judge is doing an inspection.

Rack A fast, four-beat gait of the American Saddle Horse.

Ratcatcher A tie worn at the neck in hunt seat apparel. Usually wraps around the collar and is held in place with a pin.

Ration All of the feed given to a horse.

Rollback Reverse at lope; turn over hocks, coming out on either lead.

Running "W" A system of ropes tied to the horse's front legs in order to throw him to the ground.

Sclera The outer white membrane covering the eye.

Scratch When an exhibitor withdraws from an entered class before the class begins.

Serpentine A series of half-circles performed on a line.

Shoulder out Horse is bent with its shoulder toward the outside of the circle.

Slip knot A quick-release knot used to tie the horse safely.

Slow-gait A slow, animated, four-beat gait of the American Saddlehorse in which each foot is held momentarily in midair.

Snaffle bit A gentle bit with a light pull (without curb leverage), usually with a jointed mouthpiece.

Splint boots Leg shields designed to help prevent injury to the inside of the front legs by the opposite hoof.

Squaring up To position the horse with all four legs equally balanced.

Standing martingale Strap from the cinch to a noseband, used to prevent the head from raising too high.

Steamroll A grain processing method that uses steam to soften grain and then runs the grain through rollers that break the outer shells.

Superintendent Person(s) in charge of the event.

Supplements Additions to feed in order to increase certain nutrients.

Surcingle, training A broad strap around the heart girth with rings to support or rasten lines for biting or driving training.

Tack Equipment used on the horse.

Tack collar A leather strap around the neck with sharp tacks used to make the horse stop.

Tölt A four-beat gait without a moment of suspension.

Toxin An organic poison.

Transition A change in gait.

Trot A two-beat gait in which diagonal legs move forward together.

Two-track A sideways movement of the horse with forward motion at the walk, trot, or canter. The body moves at a 45° angle to the direction of travel, leaving two lines of tracks from the front and hind feet.

Untrack Leading the horse forward or backward a few steps.

Vice An acquired abnormal behavior.

Walk A flat-footed, four-beat gait, natural to all horses.

War bridle A rope looped through the horse's mouth and over the poll, which will slip and tighten when pulled.

Wolf teeth Small, unnecessary teeth located in front of the top molars; may be sensitive to bit.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

BOOKS

Horse Industry Handbook. American Youth Horse Council, Lexington, Kentucky.
Dictionary of Equine Terms. Compiled by New Horizons Equine Education Center, Inc. Alpine Publications, Loveland, Colorado.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS

4-H Horse Contest Guide, PNW 574
4-H Horse Judging Manual, PNW 575
4-H Driving Manual, PNW 229
4-H Dressage Manual, PNW 608
Hunt Seat and Jumper Manual, PNW 488

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS

To order publications:
1-800-561-6719
<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/>

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS

Beginning Horsemanship, EM4842
To order publications:
1-800-723-1763
<http://pubs.wsu.edu>

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS

To order publications:
208-885-7982
<http://www.cals.uidaho.edu/edComm/catalog.asp>

NATIONAL 4-H COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS

4-H Horse Program: Horses and Horsemanship (CO 200)
4-H Horse Program: Horse Science (CO 201)
To order publications: 4-hmall.org

WEBSITES

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO EXTENSION 4-H PROGRAM

<http://www.uidaho.edu/cals/ae4hyd>

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION 4-H PROGRAM

<http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu>

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION 4-H PROGRAM

<http://4h.wsu.edu>

UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION

www.usef.org

UNITED STATES DRESSAGE FEDERATION

www.usdf.org

