

Mini 4-H



Horse & Pony

Divisions I & II

Dear Parents,

We welcome you and your child to the Mini 4-H program. Mini 4-H is designed for boys and girls, who are in either first or second grade during this calendar year.

Your job as a Mini 4-H parent is to guide your child in any way that you can, we suggest assisting your child in completing the projects, but not completing the projects for them. It is your child's project and will be an important teaching and learning experience for him. So guide your child, but let him do as much of it by himself as he can.

Your child will need to exhibit something in each of the project areas which he has signed up for. Please see that your child gets the exhibit to the fair during the scheduled time. Your child will receive a ribbon for completing the project. You need to pick up the project after the 4-H Fair or make arrangements for someone else to get the project if you can not.

If you have any questions, you may call the Extension Office at 736-3724. We hope you and your child will enjoy the Mini 4-H program and we will be looking forward to seeing you at the Johnson County 4-H and Agricultural Fair.

Johnson County 4-H Council

Mini 4-H Program Rules

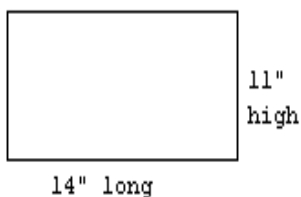
The Mini 4-H program is designed to supplement and introduce both first and second graders to the Johnson County 4-H program.

RULES

1. Mini 4-H is open to any boy or girl who is enrolled in either the first or second grade on January 1st of the current 4-H year.
2. Any first grader may enroll in one (1) or two (2) projects.
Any second grader may enroll in one (1) to four (4) projects.
3. Mini 4-H participants do not enroll in a 4-H club, but do the project at home.
4. Mini 4-H projects include: Arts & Crafts, Bugs, Clothing, Collections, Flowers, Foods, Forestry, Horse & Pony, Livestock, Models, Small Animals, and Wildlife.
5. Enrollment of Mini 4-H is done in April by distributing enrollment information to all first and second grade classes in each Johnson County elementary school.
6. **ALL POSTER EXHIBITS MUST:**

- A. Have a solid, stiff backing, which is 11" high by 14" wide (half standard poster size). This can be 1/4" plywood, HEAVY cardboard, foam board, or masonite.

Exception: Wildlife poster is 11" x 22" .



- B. Be positioned **HORIZONTALLY**.
- C. Have a total exhibit board no larger than 11" high by 14" wide. (Wildlife- 11" x 22")
- D. Be completely **COVERED BY A CLEAR PLASTIC** material.

Mini 4-H Horse and Pony

In this project you will learn many things about horses and ponies. You will be introduced to new words, how to take care of a horse, breeds of horses, grooming, and the tack used while showing horses and ponies.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS:

Division I: Do two of the activities listed on page 7.

Division II: Do five of the activities listed on page 7.

WHAT TO EXHIBIT: DIVISION I

1. Make an 11" x 14" poster on a topic listed below.

WHAT TO EXHIBIT DIVISION II:

1. Make and 11" x 14" poster on a topic different than what was exhibited in Division I.

TOPIC CHOICES:

- A. A picture that you have drawn of a horse or pony
 - B. A story you have written about a horse or pony
 - C. A collection of cut out pictures of horses and ponies
 - D. Pictures of you taking care of or riding your horse
 - E. A combination of any of the above items.
2. Attach a name tag to your exhibit. You may use the tag printed at the bottom of this page.
3. Attach the completed record sheet found in the back of this manual to your exhibit.

NAME _____
GRADE (as of Jan. 1) _____
PROJECT _____
DIVISION _____
SCHOOL ATTENDING _____

Mini 4-H Helper's Page

Welcome to the Mini 4-H program! Mini 4-H is designed for youth to explore a variety of project activity areas and to interact with caring adults and other children.

Children receive this project activity manual when enrolling in Mini 4-H. This manual and the manuals on various other topics will provide fun age appropriate learning activities throughout their year(s) in Mini 4-H.

As a Mini 4-H adult helper your job will be to guide and encourage each child through the activities. A wide range of activities are provided to allow you to choose the ones most appropriate for the children you are working with. It is highly suggested that you do not complete the activities for them. Instead help them, guide them, work with them, and let them do all that they possibly can. 4-H believes in allowing children to learn by doing. The Mini 4-H project activities are hands-on learning opportunities designed to provide a meaningful educational experience for youth.

Additionally, the Mini 4-H program is set up to allow children to display a project activity that is based upon information within this manual. Some children may choose to exhibit their project at the 4-H fair. The 4-H fair is an exciting week that allows community youth to showcase their enthusiasm for learning. Children may choose to display a project activity they did by themselves or one they did with a group.

Mini 4-H is fun! Children will certainly enjoy it. You can have fun too, by guiding and helping as children participate in the program. Encourage and praise the children as they have fun learning and sharing with you. If you have any questions regarding Mini 4-H or other 4-H programs, please feel free to contact your local Extension office.

Mini 4-H'ers Page

Mini 4-H'ers have lots of fun! There are many activities for you to explore. You can try new things, which you can share with your family and friends.

Here are some things to know about 4-H:

The 4-H Symbol: The symbol is a four-leaf clover with an "H" in each leaf. Clover is a plant that grows in fields, yards, and along roadsides. Most clovers only have three leaves. Sometimes, if you look closely you may get lucky and find a clover with four leaves. A four leaf clover is used as the symbol for 4-H to let everyone know 4-H is a special kind of group.



The 4-H Colors: The 4-H colors are green and white. The four leaf clover is green and the "H" in the leaf is white.

A group motto is a saying that tells people what is important to the group.

The 4-H Motto: "To make the best better." When something is better than all of the others it is the best. Think about a time when you did your best. Maybe you threw a ball farther than you have ever thrown it before. Now think about some ways you could do better. You may be able to throw farther by practicing for a while or by watching someone who can throw farther than you, to see how they throw so far. Even if you throw the ball farther than you have ever thrown it before there are still ways that you can do better the next time. 4-H encourages you to always try to do better, even if you are doing the best you have ever done.

The 4-H Pledge

A pledge is a promise you make to yourself and to the people around you. The 4-H pledge is in bold print below. Under each line of the pledge there are words telling what the pledge means.



I pledge my head **to clearer thinking.**

I promise to use my head to make good choices.



my heart **to greater loyalty.**

to use my heart to be a good friend.



my hands **to larger service, and**

to use my hands to do helpful things for others.



my health **to better living.**

to take care of my body and to show others how to live in a healthy way.



for my club, my community, **my country, and my world.**

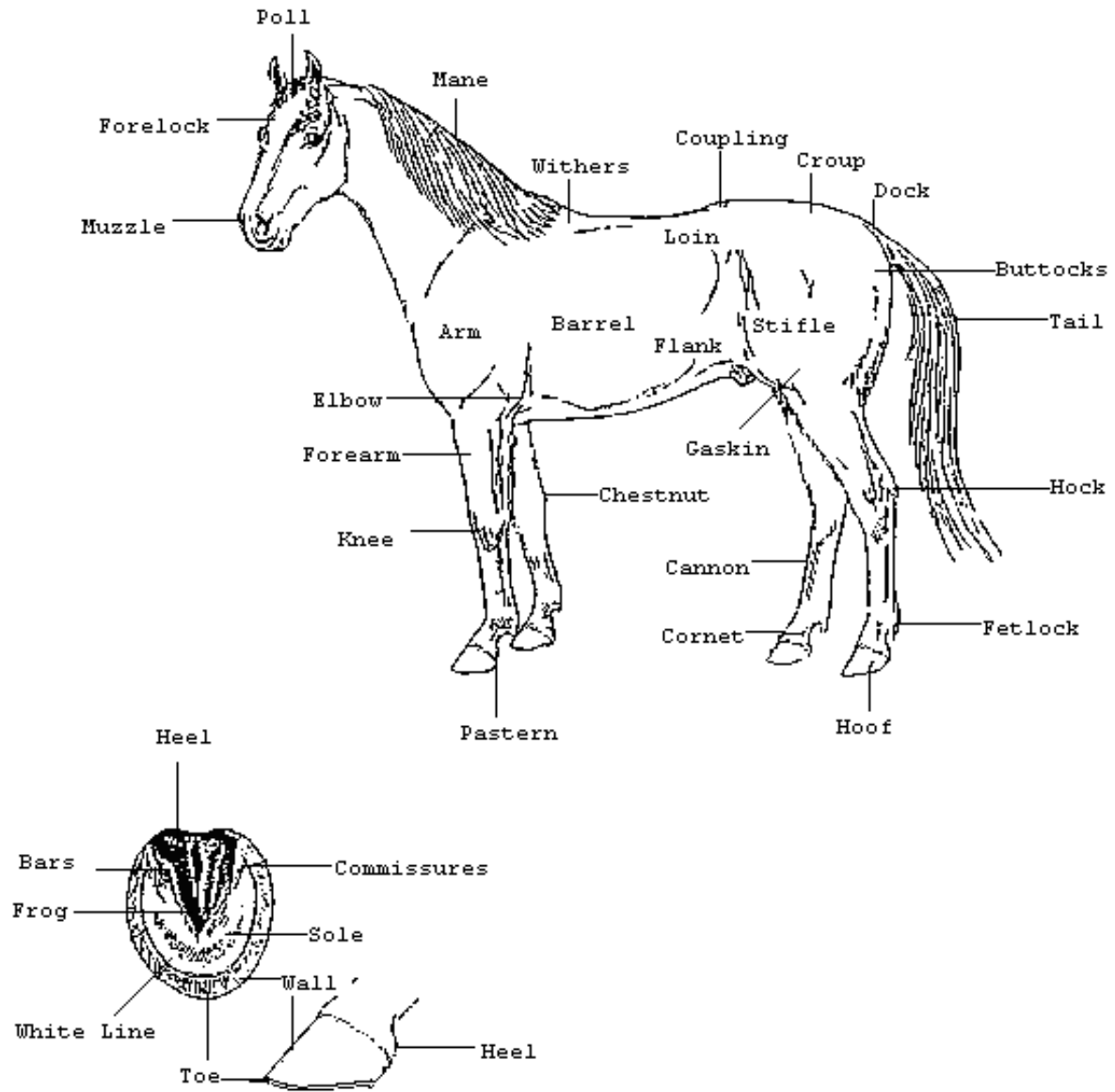
to help my group, my community, my country, and my world be happy and safe for everyone.

Activities Page

Below is a list of activities you may chose from to complete your Horse and Pony project. Division I members are to complete two activities and Division II members are to complete five activities. List the activities you did on your record sheet.

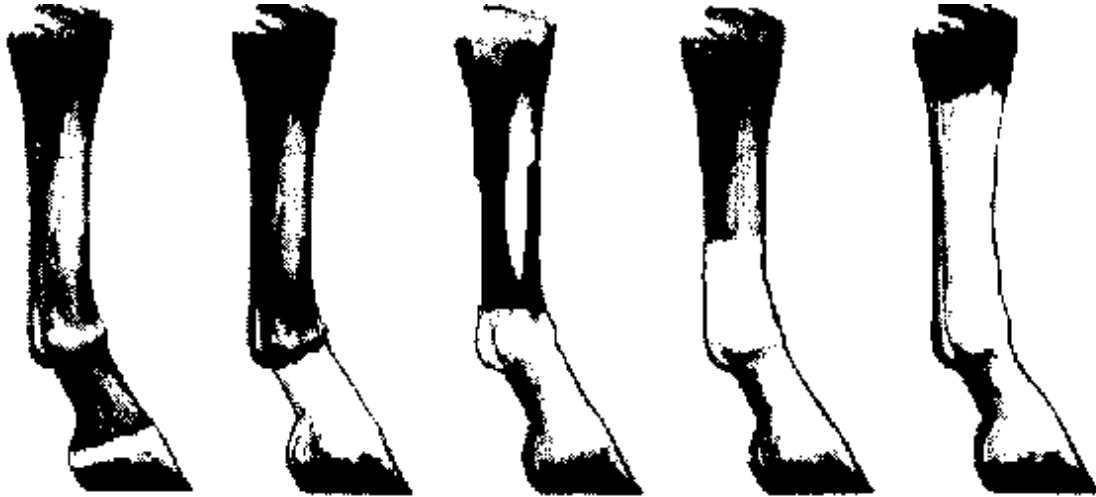
ACTIVITY:	DATE COMPLETED
1. Give one talk or demonstration	_____
2. Name the parts of a horse	_____
3. Name the parts of a saddle	_____
4. See a horse movie	_____
5. Read a horse book	_____
6. Attend a horse show	_____
7. Visit with a farrier	_____
8. Visit with a Veterinarian	_____
9. Tour a riding school	_____
10. Visit a tack shop	_____
11. Introduce a friend to horses	_____

Parts of a Horse



Markings

LEG MARKINGS:



Coronet

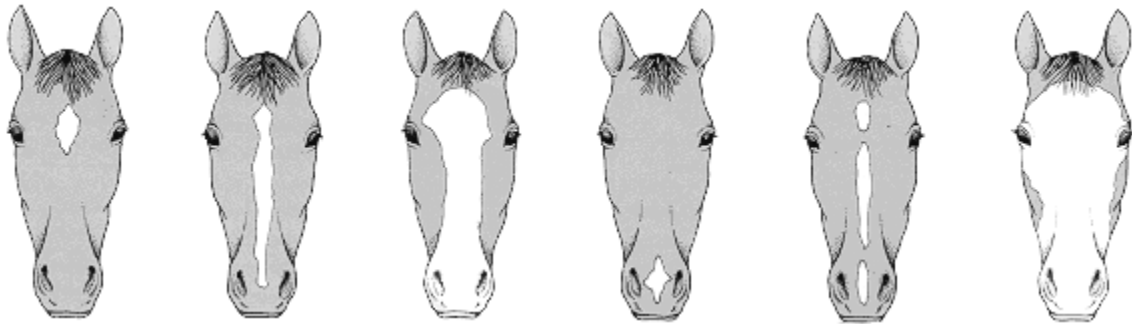
Pastern

Sock

Half Stocking

Stocking

FACE MARKINGS:



Star

Stripe

Blaze

Snip

Interrupted
Stripe

Bald
Face

Caring for Horses

GROOMING:

CURRY COMB: these are used to rough up a horses coat so it is easier to get to the deep dirt and dandruff. This is done by moving the brush in a circular motion with enough pressure to bring up any dirt that is in the undercoat of the hair.



Curry Comb

BRUSHES: Coarse bristled brushes bring out the dirt loosened by the curry comb. Soft bristled brushes remove any fine dust left on the hair and bring out oils that make the coat shiny.



Dandy Brush



Body Brush

RUBBING CLOTH: These remove the last of the dust and make the coat shinier.

MANE AND TAIL BRUSH AND COMB: If a horse's mane or tail is badly tangled a steel brush does well for removing any tangles. However, if they are not tangled then a large tooth plastic comb will work fine.



Mane and Tail Comb

SWEAT SCRAPPER: This removes excess sweat or water after bathing.



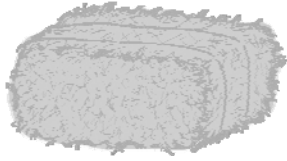
Sweat Scrapper

HOOF PICK: Removes any dirt or mud that is stuck in your horses hooves.



Hoof Pick

FOOD: The right kind of food is important. Basic foods include grass and hay, and some grains like corns and oats.



Hay



Grain

WATER: Horses also need gallons of fresh water a day. After a work out horses that are hot should be cooled off and dried BEFORE you give them any food or water.



Water Bucket

SHELTER: Horses are outdoor animals, but when there is rain or snow they need a place to go. If the horse goes into its stall everyday then it should be cleaned out everyday.



EXERCISE: All horses need exercise. Horses which get let out in a field everyday can run and play for exercise. However, horses which are not kept in a field but in stalls need to be taken out of their stalls and exercised daily.

THREE PEOPLE YOU NEED TO KNOW:

1. Farrier- The person who trims your horse's hooves and puts on new shoes. It is important to care for your horse's feet and keep them healthy and pain free.
2. Veterinarian- The doctor who takes care of your horse's injuries and diseases.
3. Trainer- The person who trains both the horse and the rider. Training is very important. It is everything a horse and rider MUST know!

Appearance

COLORS:

Bay: A dark brown colored body with black legs, mane, and tail. There is black around the eyes and muzzle. Sometimes there are copper or red highlights.

Chestnut: A rust colored body with a blonde mane and tail. Sometimes has red highlights.

Grey: A white coat with black shadowed areas, with a white mane and tail. There is also black on the legs and black on the muzzle and around the eyes.

Brown: Dark brown body with no special markings, with a brown mane and tail.

Black: Black body- either blue-black or brown-black, with a black mane and tail, with blue or brown highlights.

Palomino: Golden colored body, with a white mane and tail. The legs are a darker brown.

Appaloosa: A white body with black or brown spots. Also a dark colored body with a large white spot on the rump with the same colored spots.

Paint/Pinto: A brown, black or bay body with white patches. Can also appear to be mostly white, with dark patches. Mane and tail can be light or dark.

BREEDS: (most common)

HINT: Horses are measured in "hands". A "hand" is four inches. Measurement is from the ground to the withers. Ponies are measured in inches.

Arabian: This breed is used as a parade, stock or saddle horse. The Arabian is 14-15 hands tall and weighs between 900-1000 pounds.

Appaloosa: The Appaloosa is used as a parade, pleasure or stock horse. Usually it is about 15 hands tall and weighs between 950-1000 pounds.

Morgan: The Morgan is a combination roadster and saddler, or a stock horse. It is usually about 15 hands tall and weighs about 1000 pounds. The most common Morgan colors are chestnut, brown, bay, and black.

Palomino: The Palomino is a parade, pleasure and stock horse. The biggest asset of this breed is its golden coat color.

Quarter Horse: This horse is used in quarter racing, as a stock horse, and a pleasure horse. This breed is heavily muscled and has a quiet temperament. They are about 15 hands tall and weigh 1000-1300 pounds.

Standard Bred: This horse is used in harness racing or as a roadster. The Standard Bred is usually 14-16 hands tall and weighs between 850-1300 pounds.

Thoroughbred: This horse is used for racing, hunting, polo, and pleasure purposes. It is 15-16 hands tall and weighs 1000-1200 pounds.

Paint: The paint horse is used as a stock, pleasure and parade horse. They are similar to Quarter horses only paints have more white patches on their bodies. They are about 15 hands tall and weigh 1000-1300 pounds.

PONIES:

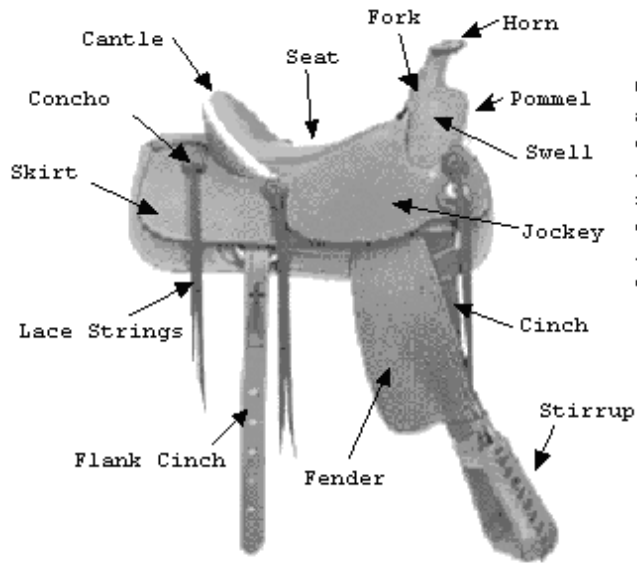
Shetland: Used with a saddle or harness. Around 40" tall and weighs 300-400 pounds.

Welsh: Used with a saddle or harness. Around 58" tall and weighs around 500 pounds.

Pony of Americas: Large western pony usually 46-54 hands tall. Usually ridden western style.

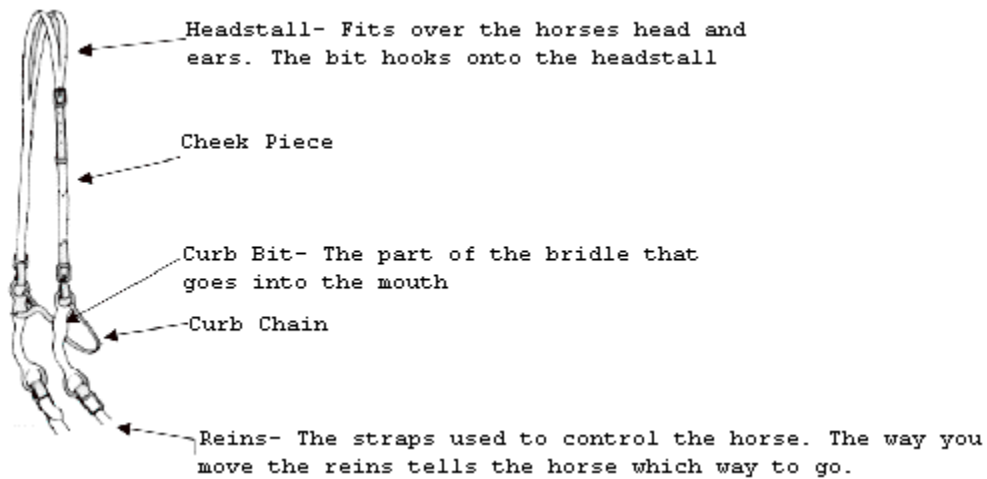
Tack

PARTS OF A WESTERN STOCK SADDLE



Caring for your tack is important. Put all your gear away, hang your blanket out to dry, store your saddle so the leather does not fold or get out of shape, hang the bridle so it does not get tangled, wash the bit, clean the leather regularly, and keep all gear out of the rain!

PARTS OF A WESTERN BRIDLE



BITS



Snaffle Bit



D-Ring Bit



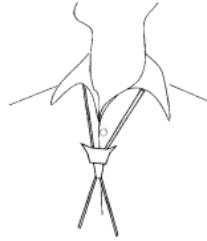
Curb Bit

WESTERN SHOWING ATTIRE:

If you are going to be showing in a western show it is important that you wear proper show clothes. Here is the attire that most shows would like riders to wear.



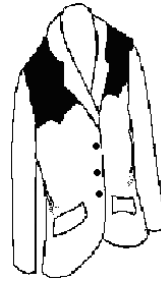
western hat
(felt or straw)



western
tie



long sleeve shirt
with collar



western style jacket



chaps



western
vest



cowboy boots



western belt

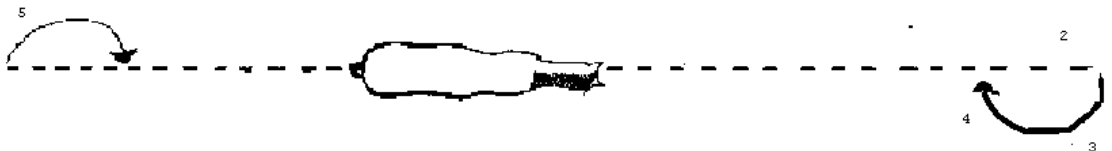
Showing

HALTER CLASS:

1. When you come into the ring walk on the left side of your horse. Hold the lead shank 6-15 inches from the halter with your right hand and carry the loose end neatly in the left. (Do not coil in your hand).
2. Follow the ringmaster's direction as to which way to go. When you line up facing the judge, stand square. Hold your horse's head high with his weight balanced on all four feet. Stand to the front and left of your horse. As the judge passes you, move quickly to the right side. This gives the judge a clear view of your horse. If your horse moves out of his spot in line, move him back quickly.

Now the judge will want to look at you by yourself.

3. From the left side, set the horse in a straight line from the judge. When you are told, lead your horse quickly to the judge in a straight line. Look straight ahead, not at your horse.
4. Stop your horse directly in front of the judge, about one arm's length away. Set up your horse as square as possible. When your horse is ready, position yourself, (stay on the left side with your toes pointed to the horse's shoulder) twist the top of your body to face the judge, nod and SMILE. That will tell him you are in the position that you want. The judge may walk around your horse, if so move quickly and quietly from the left side to the right.
5. When the judge tells you, walk to the right around your horse holding him back so that he will pivot on his hindquarters.
6. When you have completed your turn, pause slightly and get your horse ready for the return. Do not stop and pose your horse. Look over your right shoulder to be sure you and the judge are in a straight line before trotting back into line.
7. Trot your horse back into line, going through the line of horses. Turn your horse, bring him back into line and set him up.

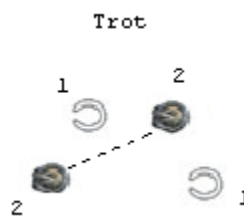


The rest of your classes in a show will be done riding your horse. The most important thing to know for these classes is the gaits of the horse. There are three basic, natural gaits you need to know.

WALK: The horse moves his legs in turn, making four hoof beats. The usual order is right front, left rear, left front, right rear. A horse with a good walk should not move up and down much.



TROT: This gait has only TWO hoof beats because the legs move in pairs. This is a faster pace than a walk and is bouncy and springy. The usual order is left front, right rear, and the right front and left rear work together.



LOPE: There are THREE hoof beats. Two legs move together on the second beat. These should be long sweeping steps. The lead foot will be the first to leave the ground and last to strike the ground.



Now that you have your horse going fairly quickly to get him to stop say "whoa" in a slow and firm manner, gradually pull back or tighten on the reins, brace yourself with your heels low in the stirrups, and lean back slightly.

Safety Instructions

Horses are much bigger than you are and it is important that you are very careful around them to avoid injury to both you and the horse.

1. Walk up to the horse from the FRONT, by his shoulder if you can.
2. Talk to your horse while you are walking up to it. You will not frighten him that way. Sometimes they are sleeping when they look like they are awake.
3. Always stand by the horses side, at his neck to lead or hold him.
4. When your horse gets too close for safety say "back" and move him back.
5. When turning, always turn your horse to the right and walk around him.
6. Use both hands to lead your horse. That way if your horse should act up you can let go with your right hand and still have a hold of the lead with your left.
7. NEVER crawl under the belly of your horse.
8. ALWAYS wear boots when you work with or ride your horse.
9. Do not walk in the DANGER ZONE. The danger zone is anywhere your horse can kick you. Make sure you walk out of kicking range.
10. NEVER wrap a lead rope around your hand or body. If the horse takes off and you are tangled in the rope you could get really injured.
11. Know your horse!
12. Check your tack.
13. Tie your horse with care.
14. Do not play or run around your horse.

RECORD SHEET

MINI 4-H HORSE AND PONY

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ Division _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

School Attending _____

Please answer the following questions. Attach this completed record sheet to the back of your poster.

I read all of this book. _____

Activities from the ACTIVITY PAGE I completed are:

1. Activity: _____ Date Completed _____

Describe: _____

2. Activity: _____ Date Completed _____

Describe: _____

3. Activity: _____ Date Completed _____

Describe: _____

4. Activity: _____ Date Completed _____

Describe: _____

5. Activity: _____ Date Completed _____

Describe: _____

We hope you enjoyed working with your Mini 4-H Horse and Pony project. Keep up the enthusiasm and when you are in the third grade you can have more fun by joining a 4-H club, and continue with the Horse and Pony project or enroll in other projects.

If you have any questions with your Mini 4-H project you can call or stop in the Extension Office. Our phone number is 736-3724 and we are located in the Wright Building, 80 S. Jackson Street, in Franklin.