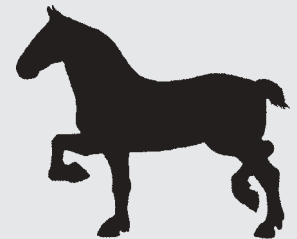
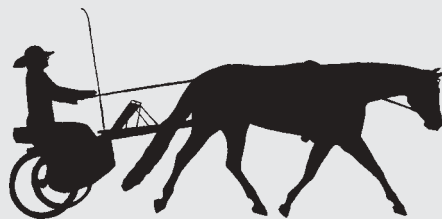
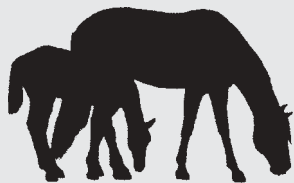
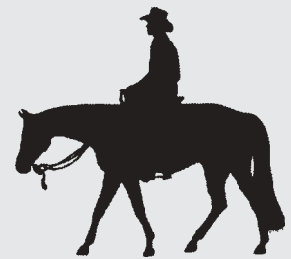
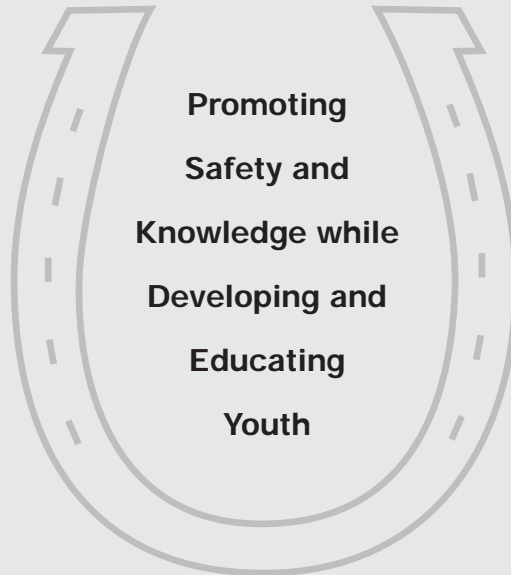
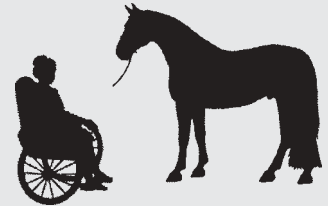
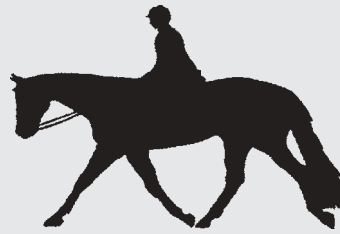


PENNSYLVANIA

4-H Horsemanship Skills

RESOURCE BOOK

4-H Horse Program



PENNSSTATE



How to Use This Book

The Horsemanship Skills Program will help you safely ride and handle horses, improve your horsemanship skills, have fun with horses, and teach you skills for daily living. You can participate in this program with any horse, regardless of your riding style or interests.

In this book you will find member skill sheets and testing information. Use this information to record your progress and prepare for skill testing. References are included to help you study skills and methods for learning skills. Your leaders, parents, and extension agent may help you find additional resources and activities to learn the skills. However, it is *your* responsibility to study, practice, and master the skills.

The program is available to all 4-H members, regardless of ability to ride or own a horse. You are not required to use your project animal, although this is recommended. If you do not own a horse, you may participate by sharing or leasing a horse.

Participation in the program may meet some project requirements and should be included in your project annual record. This program may also be used with the *4-H Horse Safety Checklist* and *4-H Horse Safety Standards*.



Contents

General Information	1
References and Educational Materials	2
LEVEL 1 Member's Skill Sheet.....	3
LEVEL 2 Member's Skill Sheet.....	5
LEVEL 3 Member's Skill Sheet.....	7
LEVEL 4 Member's Skill Sheet.....	9
Testing Information Sheet	11

Prepared by Patricia Comerford, extension horse specialist; Brian Egan, equine extension associate; Patty Kelly, 4-H volunteer leader, Westmoreland County; and Donna Zang, extension director, Butler County; in consultation with Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Program Development Committee.

LEVEL 1 4-H Horsemanship Skills



MEMBER'S SKILL SHEET

Member's Name (Last) _____ (First) _____ (Age) _____

Address _____

Club _____ County _____ Performance or Production
(CIRCLE ONE)

Horse's Name _____ Date started _____

Date completed _____

Basic handling	Mastered (✓)	Member's Comments
1-1 Properly approach a horse safely and correctly		
1-2 Properly halter a horse		
1-3 Lead, turn, and back horse safely and correctly		
1-4 Lead a horse into and out of a stall		
1-5 Tie a horse at appropriate level and length		
1-6 Tie a quick release knot		
1-7 Perform simple grooming on the body of a horse		
1-8 Pick up feet and clean properly		
1-9 Bridle horse—check fit and be able to make basic adjustments		
1-10 Saddle horse—check fit and be able to make basic adjustments		
1-11 Practice safety rules when turning a horse loose		
1-12 Practice safety around the horse while handling		
Riding		
1-13 Mount and dismount properly (may use mounting block)		
1-14 Describe and discuss safely riding in a group		
1-15 Use proper basic seat, leg, and body position with balance		
1-16 Demonstrate proper use of reins; hand position and action		
At a walk with control and proper position:		
1-17 start and stop (gradual and balanced)		
1-18 check and release (demonstrating control of horse)		
1-19 turn while walking and walk in both directions		
1-20 ride a circle both directions and do a figure 8		
At a jog or trot with control and proper position:		
1-21 start and stop (gradual and balanced)		
1-22 check and release (demonstrating control of horse)		
1-23 turn while jogging or trotting both directions		
1-24 ride a circle both directions and do a figure 8		
1-25 Drop and regain stirrups while at a halt		
1-26 Emergency dismount		
1-27 Equipment, dress, overall attitude, and confidence		

To pass this level, the 4-H member must have mastered each section of the test.

Retest will be the entire Level 1 skills.

Level 1 emphasizes basic, correct, and safe principles of handling and riding a horse.

