



**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**EXTENSION**

# Horse

Project levels are designed for members 8-18 years old.



## Starting Out - Beginner

### Inspiring youth to:

- Learn about the requirements of the 4-H Horse project
- Learn tips for choosing the appropriate horse
- Learn safety in horse groundwork
- Identify common horse breeds, colors, and markings
- Learn feeding and healthcare basics
- Develop beginner horsemanship and riding skills
- Keep records and set goals
- Learn to assume responsibility

## Learning More - Intermediate

### Inspiring youth to:

- Learn about characteristics and uses of different horse breeds
- Learn about equine nutrition, digestion, and pasture management
- Learn about common health problems and preventative care
- Develop intermediate horsemanship and riding skills
- Develop sportsmanship when exhibiting
- Develop public speaking skills
- Identify lameness, unsoundness, and blemishes

## Exploring Depth - Advanced

### Inspiring youth to:

- Learn how to deal with current issues and explore career opportunities in the horse industry
- Learn about diseases, horse conformation, and structure
- Develop advanced horsemanship, riding skills, and try new disciplines
- Gain leadership skills by helping others learn about horses
- Learn about types of feed and their nutritional values
- Build lifelong friendships
- Participate in Horse Levels Program

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# Horse

## Tips:

- An average horse eats about 2% of its body weight in forage (hay) each day
- Feed only high quality, mold free hay and grain
- A horse needs its hooves trimmed about every 6-8 weeks
- A horse's teeth continue to grow throughout its lifetime and need to be filed every 1-2 years to remove painful points
- An average horse will drink 10-12 gallons of water each day
- Purchasing a horse is often the cheapest part of horse ownership. You should develop a budget to be sure you have adequate funding for this project.
- Provide clean, fresh water at all times
- Observe your horse's "normal" so you know when they are feeling unwell



## Resources:

- Exhibit & Judging Requirements
- Record Books
- Manual Information

Located at: [Colorado4h.org](http://Colorado4h.org)



# Equine Science Industry Careers



## Farrier

A craftsman who trims and shoes horses' hooves



## Therapeutic Riding Instructor

Provides riding instruction of therapeutic value to people with disabilities



## Horse Breeder

A person who breeds and sells horses



## Tack Shop Owner

A tack shop is a great place to go to obtain the proper tack for your horse



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## **Degrees/Certifications:**

Equine Science  
Equine Nutrition  
Equine Therapy  
Vet Tech  
Animal Behavior  
Farrier  
Horse Trainer



## Equine Photographer

A person who specializes in photography of horses



## Stable Owner

Person who owns or operates a boarding facility for horses



## Horse Trainer

Person who trains horses and helps other people train theirs



## Equine Massage Therapist

Trained to apply the correct therapeutic massage treatment procedure