



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

**Western Novice Level 1
Riding Test**

Western Level 1
____ Passed
____ Retest

Rider's Name: _____ Age: _____ Email: _____

4-H County: _____ 4-H Club: _____

Rater's Name: _____ Date: _____ Rater's Phone Number: _____

Horse's Name: _____ Coat Color: _____ Sex: ____

Obvious Markings: _____

Directions: To pass this level, the 4-H member must receive "met expectations" or higher for each section of the test. Level 1 should emphasize correct and safe principle of handling and riding. Rider must use legal tack and equipment.

Excellent (E) If applied to specific maneuvers, they were consistently executed correctly and fluidly. If applied to an overall impression, it was correct/present during all parts of the test.

Proficient (P) If applied to specific maneuvers, they were executed correctly most of the time and generally fluidly with minor flaws. If applied to an overall impression, it was present correctly and consistently throughout the test with minor lapses.

Met expectations (ME) If applied to specific maneuvers, they were executed correctly but may be better on one side than the other, or execution was inconsistent. It's clear that the rider can apply the aids correctly. If applied to an overall impression, the basics are present, but elements may have been briefly incorrect or absent during the test. Rider may have needed prompting (not teaching!) from the rater.

Not Yet Proficient (NYP) If one or more of these is true to a greater or lesser degree: Rider is unable to produce the maneuver in one or both directions. Aids are applied but ineffective at producing the desired maneuver. Horse repeatedly balks or misbehaves. Rider asks rater how to execute a maneuver.

Rater: Forms should be filled out the day of the test and submitted to the member's extension office within a week.

**If the size or physical strength prevents saddling or bridling, someone may assist with instructions given by the member.

Basic handling	Rating: E, P, ME, NYP	Rater's Comments
A. Properly halter, lead and tie a horse		
B. Simple Grooming; correct use of tools; pick up feet and clean properly		
C. **Bridling and saddling; proper adjustment of equipment		
D. Safety around the horse		



Showmanship A. Demonstrate walk, trot, stop and set-up all in a straight line. B. Demonstrate the quarter system. C. Demonstrate a 90 degree turn and back 3 steps		
Riding A. Mount, dismount (mounting block may be used if necessary)		
B. Correct seat, body position and balance at walk, jog, and lope.		
C. Proper use of reins; hand position and action		
D. Control at the walk; both directions		
E. Control at the jog; both directions		
F. Control at the lope; both directions demonstrating correct leads		
G. Demonstrate balanced gradual stop from all gaits on a straightaway		
H. Equipment, dress, and overall attitude		