

Horse POSTURE and MOVEMENT COMPARISON

OBSERVE

horse traveling while saddled/ridden in his/her normal gear as well as with no saddle

COMPARE

with same activity on 22' or 45' line and/or ridden at WALK, TROT, CANTER.

OWNER NAME:

Horse Name / BREED:

SADDLE TYPE/BRAND:

SADDLE TYPE/BRAND:

Evaluated by:

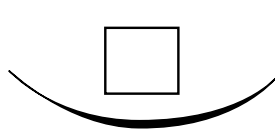
Date:

Instructor

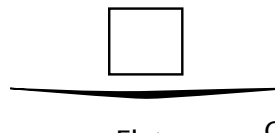


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1. GENERAL BODY SHAPE WHILE MOVING:



Overall shape looks concave, topline contracted



Flat



Overall shape looks convex, shoulders free, topline rounded

2. BODY INDICATIONS WHILE MOVING:

Tense, bracey, muscles not soft

Soft muscles, esp. in neck

Head high, bobs up, is held still or swings side to side, chin out, strung out body

Belly sags

Belly tucked up

Chin tucked, topline stretched

CAN'T BEND through body

Reaching head and neck out and down, blowing, relaxing tension

3. STRIDE LENGTH + LATERAL FLEXIBILITY:

Short strides, under tracking

Long strides, tracking up

Lateral bends difficult

Medium strides, under tracking

Long strides, over tracking

Lateral bends easy, unrestricted

4. STRIDE QUALITY:

Choppy, esp. at trot

Heavy on forehand

Hind legs NOT deep underneath

Trips or Stumbles

Long, smooth, springy, rhythmic

Hind legs ARE deep underneath

5. FOOTFALL:

Hard, loud pounding

Medium

Soft, quiet

Louder on front

Stabs up puffs of dirt

6. TRANSITIONS UP:

Head nods up

Head nods down

Reluctant when asked

Rushes or breaks gait

Rounds and flexes back

Willing, smooth, maintains gait

7. TRANSITIONS DOWN:

Sudden, hard

Slow to respond

Stops on forehand

Willing, responsive and smooth

Stops when asked

Stops on hind end

8. FACIAL and other EXPRESSION:

Eyes squinty or dull, resigned

Ears pinned, annoyed

Tail swishing

Soft eye, happy face

Not tense

Yawning, releasing adrenaline