

'C+' Standard of Efficiency Test Sheet

Minimum Age: 14

Felt Colour:

PINK

General

At this level you are building a solid foundation in horse care, management and riding skill. You should begin to be an independent horseman/woman who is able to make decisions based on their knowledge. The C+ Test is roughly equivalent to the British Horse Society Stage Two Exam.

Objective

- To become an educated and practical rider.
- To ride over fences at all paces.
- To gain practical experience and knowledge of the care of a stabled pony and of a pony at grass.
- To be capable of riding a well-mannered pony out hunting and in all pony club activities.
- To ride intelligently and with due regard for others and with a knowledge of pace, distance and discipline when riding alone and in groups.

Riding

- Working towards a supple, balanced position on the flat and over fences.
- Comment on the suppleness of your own horse.
- Discuss horses' response to the aids and any loss of balance.
- Apply aids correctly for increase and decrease of pace, turns and circles.
- Turns on the forehand from the halt.
- Stand still. Salute.
- Free walk on a long rein or with a loose rein.
- Change of leg at canter through trot and talk about balance of the horse.
- Know the aids for and show leg yielding at walk.
- Ride with reins in one hand.
- Ride up and down steep hills and banks.
- Jump a variety of fences show jumping and cross country.
- Jump up and down hill.

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- Identify which fence was jumped the best and why.
- Jump doubles.

What you need to know:

- Understand the reasons for the equipment the horse or pony is wearing.
- Discuss the advantages of a correct position.
- Name the scales of training.
- Discuss whether the pony is working forwards in a suitable rhythm and tempo.
- Understand the meaning of suppleness in a horse or pony.
- Know the sequence of legs at all paces.

Horse & Pony Care

- Practical care and working of a pony off grass.
- Knowledge of the care, feed and work of a stabled pony.
- Know principles of watering and feeding.
- Have knowledge of the different items of forage.
- Understand the importance of roughage.
- Recognise when to feed hay or haylage.
- Know the articles of grooming kit and be able to use them effectively.
- Know the structure of the horse's foot as shown in the manual.
- Know the names of the farrier's tools.
- Be able to name external parts of the foot.
- Describe a hunter shoe.
- Be able to fit a saddle and bridle.
- Bits and their uses; snaffle, double jointed snaffles and the action of gags.
- Prepare a horse for travel and load and unload safely.
- Put on a stable bandage.
- Know when a horse is lame.
- Identify signs of illness.
- Know the symptoms and reason for poor condition.
- Know when to call the vet.
- Be able to care for a wound until vet arrives.
- Be able to put a poultice on a leg.
- Stable and work area to be kept clean and tidy.

Read

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- Keeping a Pony at Grass
- Relevant sections of 'The Manual of Horsemanship'
- A Working notebook: 'C' Riding and Care