

IONIA COUNTY 4-H



Horse and Pony Project Record Book Junior 12-14

Name: _____ 4-H Age: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Years in Horse Project: _____

4-H Club Name: _____

Horse/Pony 4-H Club Leader: _____

Exhibitor Number: _____

Date Began Record Book: _____ Date Completed Record Book: _____



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Rev. 01/2026

Objectives of the 4-H Horse Project:



- _____ To develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, and sportsmanship.
- _____ To experience the pride and responsibility of owning a horse or pony and to learn care, feeding, and management of the animal.
- _____ To learn safety precautions to prevent injuries to themselves, to others, or to their mounts.
- _____ To prepare for citizenship responsibilities by working together in groups and supporting community projects and activities.
- _____ To appreciate horseback riding as a healthy and wholesome form of recreation. |

understand that this is a **completed** Horse Project Record Book as required.

4-H'ers Signature: _____

4-H Leader's Signature: _____

Why Keep Records?

When was your horse wormed? What does your horse eat? How much bedding do you use?

Careful record-keeping helps to answer these and other "hard-to-answer" questions at a moment's notice.

Properly kept records will give you a clear picture of what you have done in your horse project. In fact, at the end of the year, you will have solid facts rather than haphazard "guesstimates".

Keep this record as a part of your 4-H member personal record, as this information is helpful if you ever apply for 4-H awards or a 4-H scholarship.

REMEMBER: Records are not only for your benefit...they are the key to your horse's future!

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Determining Skill Level Placement

- Evaluators should use the following checklist to determine skill-level placement
- When a rider has mastered all the skills at their level and 50% of the skills on the next level, they may move up and continue to work on the remaining skills.
- Put a checkmark next to the riding level the 4-H'er will be riding at.

Rider Name: _____

Date: _____

All riders must demonstrate the basic ring etiquette guidelines as listed below:

_____ Knows when and how to pass safely

_____ Remains on the rail

_____ Moves in and out of a crowd safely

_____ Maintains proper distance around other horses

_____ **WALK/TROT:**

_____ Leads safely

_____ Stops with control

_____ Mounts and settles horse

_____ Executes a 90 degree turn on the haunches

_____ Dismounts safely

_____ Maintains a controlled walk

_____ Ties with a quick-release knot

_____ Backs at least 4 steps

_____ Maintains a controlled trot

_____ **NOVICE – All previous plus:**

_____ Lopes a controlled small circle

_____ Recognizes correct leads

_____ Recognizes diagonals

_____ Recognizes gaits

_____ **INTERMEDIATE – All previous plus:**

_____ Executes a 180 degree turn on the haunches and forehand

_____ Maintains correct leads on the rail

_____ Lengthens the walk

_____ Lengthens the trot

_____ Executes simple lead changes

_____ Backs and "L"

_____ Performs a figure 8 with lead changes

_____ Transitions from walk to lope

_____ **ADVANCED – All previous plus:**

_____ Side passes

_____ Hand gallops with control

_____ Serpentine at the trot

_____ Back through figure 8

_____ Executes a 360 degree turn on the haunches and forehand

_____ Counter canters

_____ Flying lead changes (optional)

Horse Leader's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Evaluator's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Description of Primary Horse/Pony Project

Attach Photo Here

Photo should show ENTIRE HORSE clearly

Registered Name of Horse: _____

Horse's Nickname: _____ Year Born: _____

Breed: _____ Registered: _____ Not registered: _____

Color: _____ Mare: _____ Gelding: _____

Horse's Height: _____ Horse's Weight: _____

I own this horse: _____ Purchase Date: _____ I lease this horse: _____

Please describe your horse: _____

Description of Secondary Horse/Pony Project

Attach Photo Here

Photo should show ENTIRE HORSE clearly

Registered Name of Horse: _____
Horse's Nickname: _____ Year Born: _____
Breed: _____ Registered: _____ Not registered: _____
Color: _____ Mare: _____ Gelding: _____
Horse's Height: _____ Horse's Weight: _____
I own this horse: _____ Purchase Date: _____ I lease this horse: _____

Please describe your horse: _____

Horse Health

Veterinarian's Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Normal Range Vital Signs (or have someone help you take your horse's/pony's vital signs)

Temperature: _____ Respiration: _____ Pulse: _____

Immunizations:

What does "immunization" mean? What immunizations do you give your horse/pony, and why?

Deworming:

Why/how often do you deworm your horse? _____

Dental Care:

Equine Dentist's Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Did you have any dental work done for your horse this year? _____ If yes, please explain. _____

Hoof Care:

Farrier's Name: _____ Phone #: _____

How often do you get your horse's hooves trimmed? _____

Does your horse have shoes? _____ If yes, why? _____

Coggins Test *(Please attach a copy of the current test results):*

Date Taken: _____

Exams, Illnesses and Injuries:

Did your horse get hurt or sick this year? _____ If yes, please describe it: _____

If not, please explain what you did to maintain your horse's health: _____

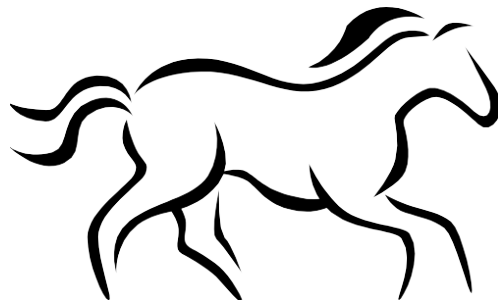
Feeding and Bedding

Housing and Bedding:

Describe where your horse/pony lives. Make sure to include details of the barn/shelter, bedding, pasture, etc. _____

Feeding:

Describe what all you feed your horse/pony. Do they get grain, supplements, treats, minerals?



Project Plans and Results

What were your goals for this year? _____

Did you accomplish these goals? _____

Based on what you learned throughout this year on setting goals and working to achieve them, what could you do differently, keep the same, or improve upon for next year?

Educational Experiences

Please list any seminars, clinics, demonstrations, meeting presentations or educational books that you completed this year. (*Examples: Showmanship Clinic at MSU; Equine nutrition speaker at 4-H group meeting; Vet-a-Visit; Communicating with Your Horse book by John Lyons; Learning to Groom video*)

Date: _____ Event/Topic: _____

What I learned: _____

Date: _____ Event/Topic: _____

What I learned: _____

Date: _____ Event/Topic: _____

What I learned: _____

Date: _____ Event/Topic: _____

What I learned: _____

Attach additional page(s) if necessary.

Show Record

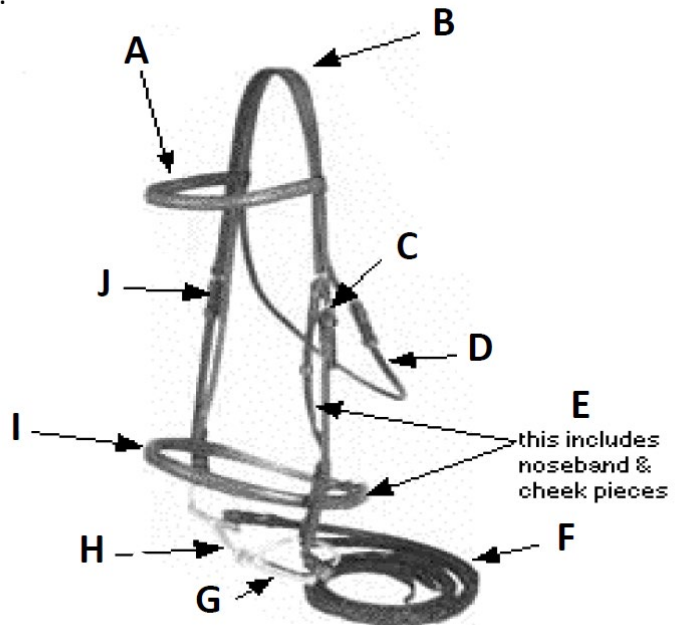
Date: _____	Show: _____	Class: _____	Placing: _____
Date: _____	Show: _____	Class: _____	Placing: _____
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Date: _____	Show: _____	Class: _____	Placing: _____

Note: If you were unable to show this year, please explain why: _____

Basic Horse Knowledge – Educational Page

1. A baby horse is born with no teeth? TRUE or FALSE _____
2. What is the correct name for a baby horse? _____
a) Foal b) Calf c) Kid
3. What is the correct name for an ADULT female horse? _____
a) Filly b) Mare c) Colt
4. What is a common way of figuring out a horse's age? _____
a) Examining its hooves b) Examining its mane c) Examining its teeth
5. What is the common unit of measurement for measuring a horse's height? _____
a) Centimeters b) Feet c) Hands
6. What is the typical average speed of a horse when it is galloping? _____
a) 25 to 30 mph b) 35 to 40 mph c) 40 to 50 mph
7. Horses only sleep standing up? TRUE or FALSE _____
8. Label at least four parts of an English Bridle:

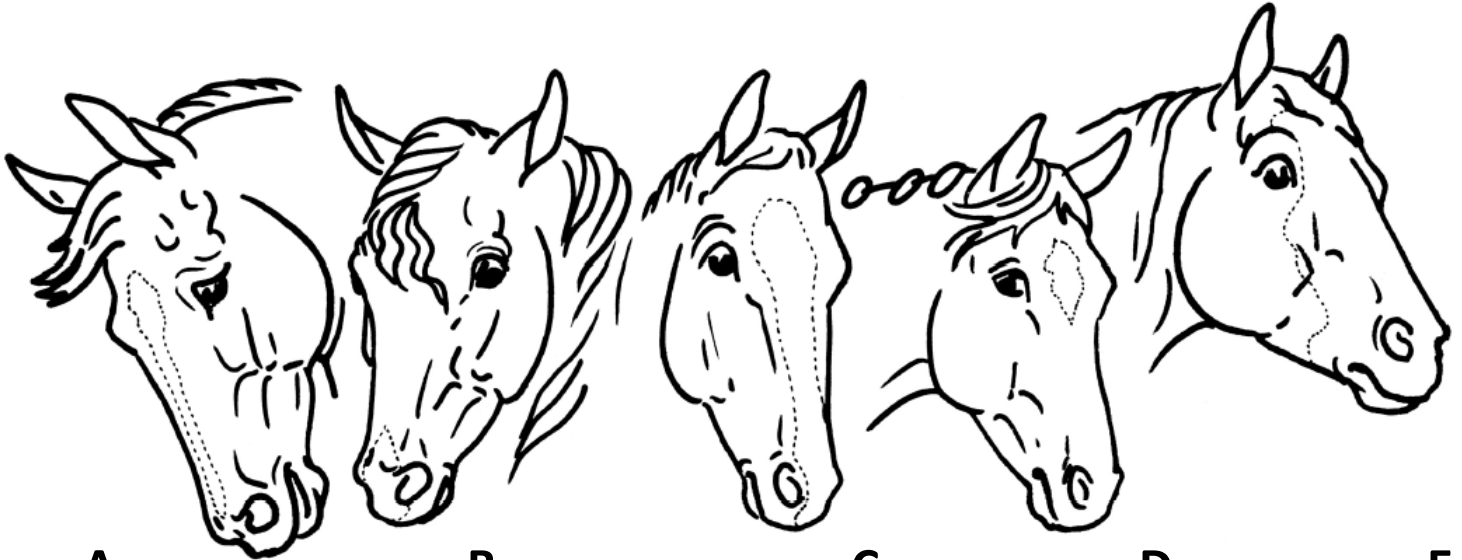
- _____ Bit
- _____ Bit Ring
- _____ Browband
- _____ Buckle
- _____ Cavesson
- _____ Cheek Piece
- _____ Headstall
- _____ Noseband
- _____ Reins
- _____ Throatlatch



Educational Page

FACE MARKINGS

Do you know a horse's face markings?



A

Star

B

Blaze

C

Stripe

D

Bald Face

E

Snip

Grooming

___ Curry Comb

___ Body Brush

___ Hoof Pick

___ Mane Comb

___ Sweat Scraper

___ Dandy Brush

___ Pulling Comb

A



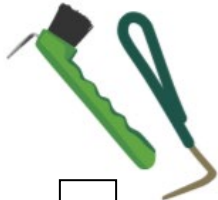
B



C



D



E



F



G

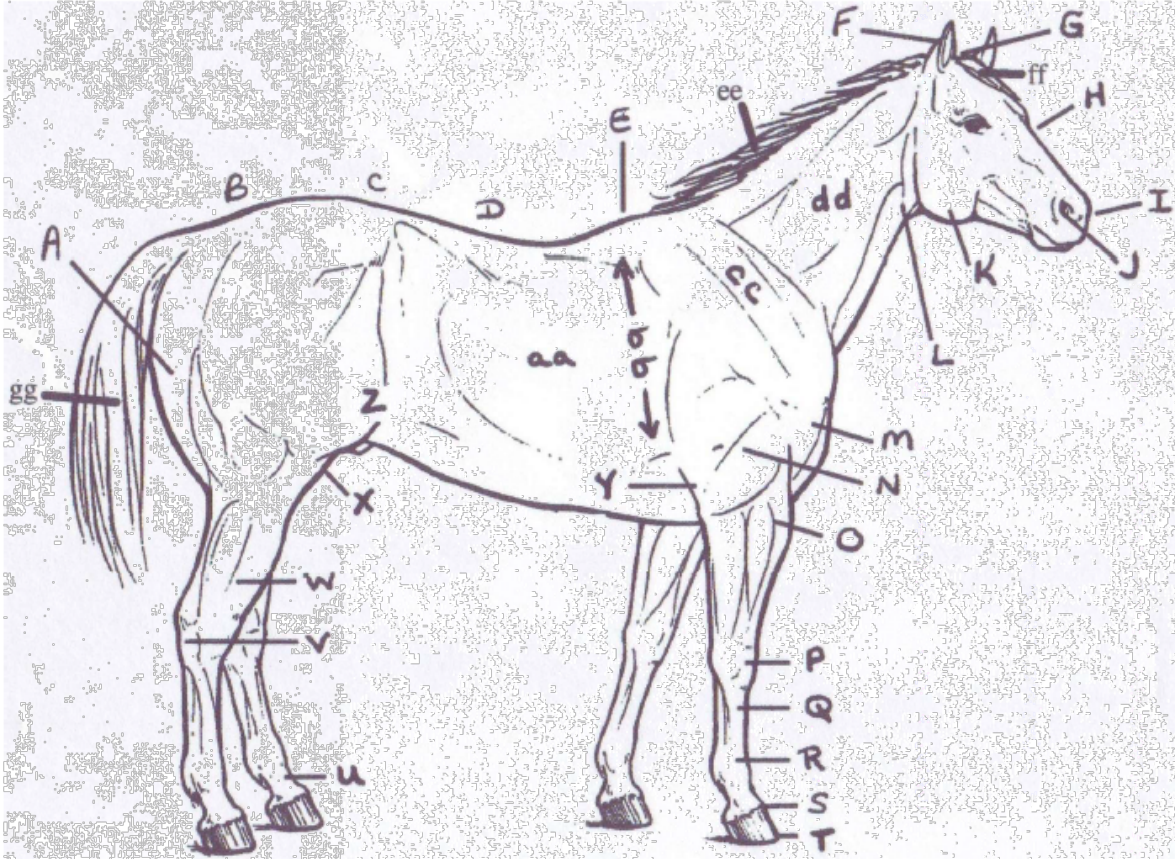


Educational Page

Label each part with the correct letter

Label each name with the correct letter

8-11 (11) | 12-14 (22) | 15-19 (all)



- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| ___ Arm | ___ Elbow | ___ Muzzle |
| ___ Back | ___ Face | ___ Neck |
| ___ Barrel/Ribs | ___ Fetlock Joint | ___ Nostril |
| ___ Buttock | ___ Forearm | ___ Pastern |
| ___ Cannon Bone | ___ Forehead | ___ Poll |
| ___ Cheek | ___ Gaskin | ___ Shoulder |
| ___ Chest | ___ Heart Girth | ___ Stifle |
| ___ Coronet Band | ___ Hock | ___ Tail |
| ___ Crest | ___ Hoof | ___ Thigh |
| ___ Croup/Rump | ___ Knee | ___ Throat Latch |
| ___ Ear | ___ Loin | ___ Wither |

Photographs of Your 4-H Horse/Pony Project

Add more pages if needed

My 4-H Horse/Pony Project Record Book Score Sheet

4-H Member: _____

4-H Club: _____

Page #		Possible Points	Your Points
1	Cover Sheet	5	
	All information neat and complete.		
2	Why Keep Records	5	
	All signatures included.		
3	Skill Level	5	
	Leader's signature.		
4-5	Description(s) of Project	10	
	All information is neat and complete. Includes photograph of project animal(s).		
6	Health Records	10	
	All information is neat and complete.		
6	Coggins	10	
	Current copy attached-required.		
7	Feeding and Bedding	10	
	All information is neat and complete.		
8	Project Plans and Results	5	
	All information is neat and complete.		
9	Education Experiences	10	
	All information is neat and complete.		
10	Show Record	5	
	All information is neat and complete.		
11-12	Educational Pages	20	
	All information is neat and complete.		
13	Photographs	5	
	Photographs are neatly arranged.		
	Total Points	100	
	A: 90 points or above, B: 80 – 89 points, C: 79 points and below		
	Grand Total		