

Ground Manners

(USPC D Manual, 2nd Ed., pgs 145-159 & USPC C Manual, 2nd Ed., pg-282)

Name: _____

Date: _____



What does "Ground Manners" mean?

How a horse _____ when _____ on the ground (unmounted).

Why is it important?

Good manners makes the horse _____ and easier to _____.



What do YOU (the handler) need to do?

Communicate (speak) clearly

Pay _____

Be Aware of your _____ at all times



Things you can EXPECT from a well-mannered horse:

1) Turn to _____ when you come into his _____.

2) Easy to _____ and _____



3) _____ for you to lead him through the door or gate

4) _____ quietly when tied.



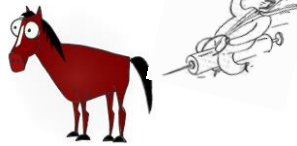
5) Allow to be _____ and _____



6) Stand _____ to be _____ and saddled.



7) Accept _____ and _____

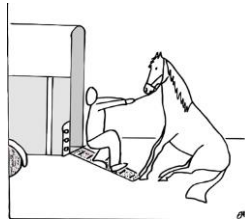


8) Lift each _____ easily when asked.



9) Accept gentle touching with the _____ without fear or resentment.

10) Get on a _____



11) Leading

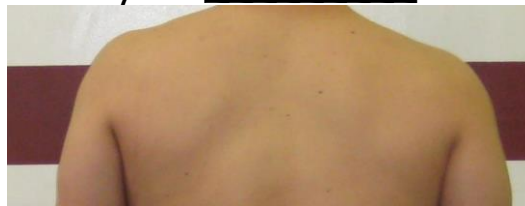


a. Obey when on a LOOSE _____.

b. _____ when you say "Whoa" or "Stand"



c. Should stay even with your _____ when walking or trotting in hand.



d. No crowding, pulling ahead, or hanging back while being _____.

e. Should stop when you _____.



f. Should move off promptly when asked.

g. Allow you to _____ from both sides

h. _____ when asked



i. Obey simple _____ such as Walk on, Trot, Whoa, Stand, and Over.

Teaching good manners requires:

Patience
Practice
Attention to detail

Letting a horse make mistakes and then punishing him for them is bad training. Pay attention to your horse to stop him BEFORE the mistake and REWARD him for doing well.

You **MUST** handle your horse correctly **ALL THE TIME**.

Careless and inconsistent handling is unfair to your horse and could be dangerous. It lets him develop bad habits that have to be corrected; this is the fault of a careless handler.

Good Start:

1. Know that your horse is NOT A PET. It is a 1,000 pound animal who at any moment can react unexpectedly.
2. Know that horses scare easily, especially in unfamiliar surroundings
3. Approach your horse from where he can see you, towards his shoulder is best. Don't come up to him from his blind spots (front of eyes, or from the rump)
4. Move slowly
5. Speak quietly. Don't run, shout, or make loud noises.
6. If he is nervous, pat him and talk quietly to him.
7. Some things are ordinary to us but scare horses; Pay attention to the things around you. Balloons, bouncing balls, crinkly bags, opening an umbrella, a bike rider; all these can look like a monster to your horse if he isn't used to it.