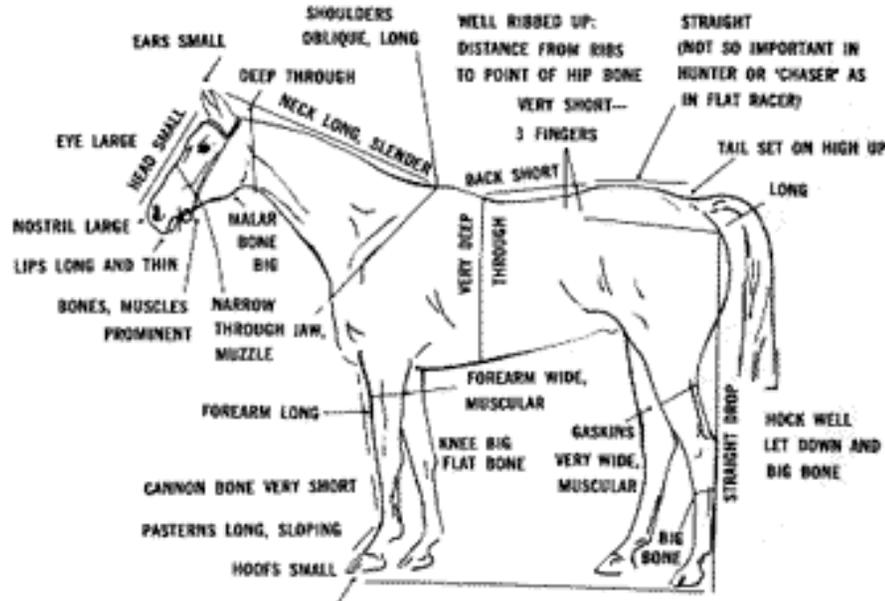


Conformation Faults

USPC D Manual 2nd Ed., p255-257

Name: _____

Date _____



Desirable Conformation

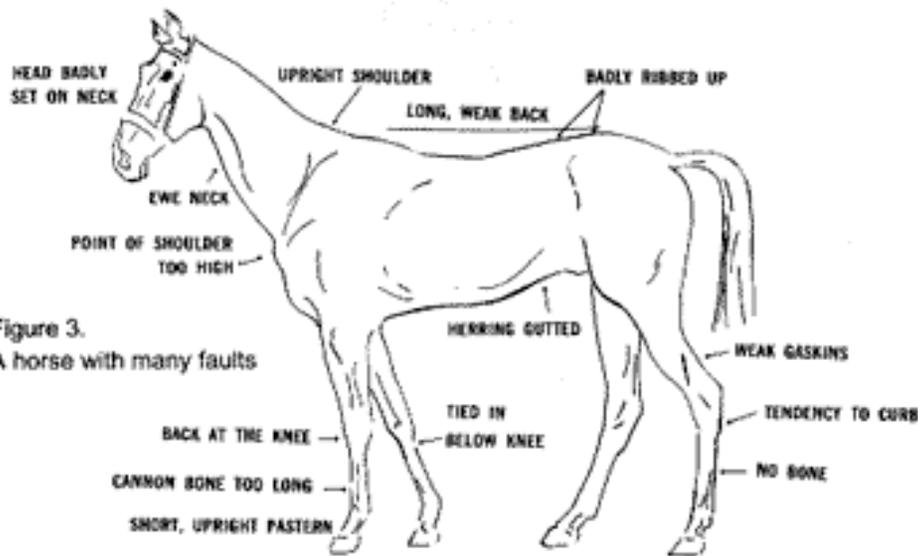


Figure 3.
A horse with many faults

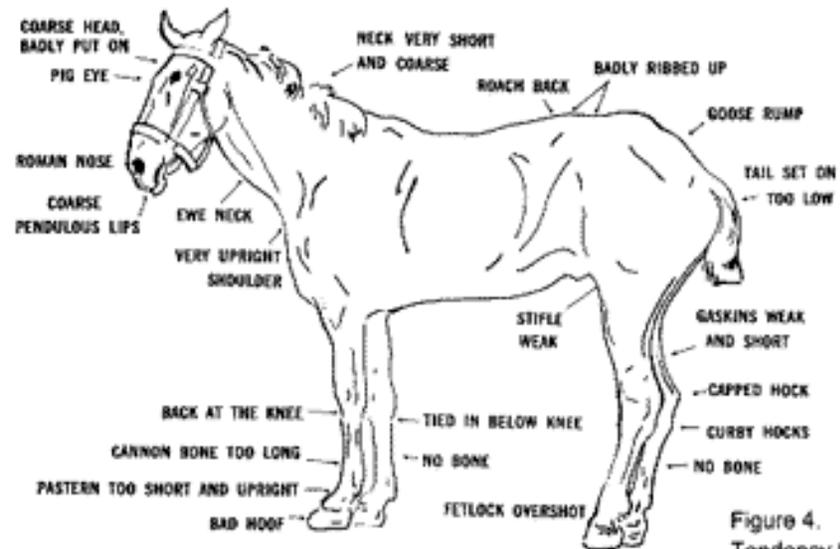


Figure 4.
Tendency toward unsoundness

Horse with Many Faults Tends toward Unsoundness

What is Conformation? _____

Name 3 things that good conformation improves:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

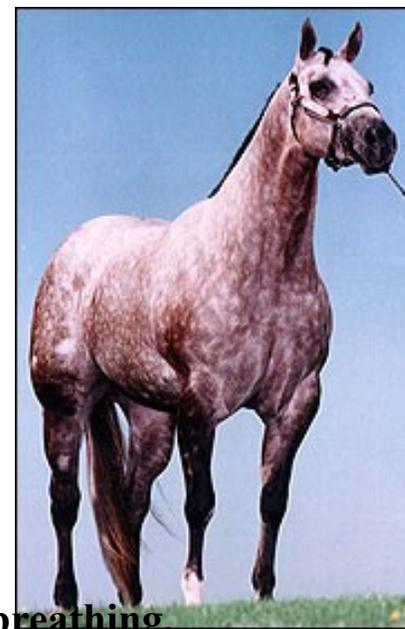
Some types of conformation look less attractive but don't effect the way the horse moves.

For example: a dish face or roman nose are types of head conformation, but do not effect the horse's breathing.

But small nostrils, or a parrot mouth can hinder your horse's eating and breathing.

It's important to remember that every horse has good and bad points in its conformation.

No horse is perfect and many horses (including Olympic caliber horses) excel even with their conformation faults.

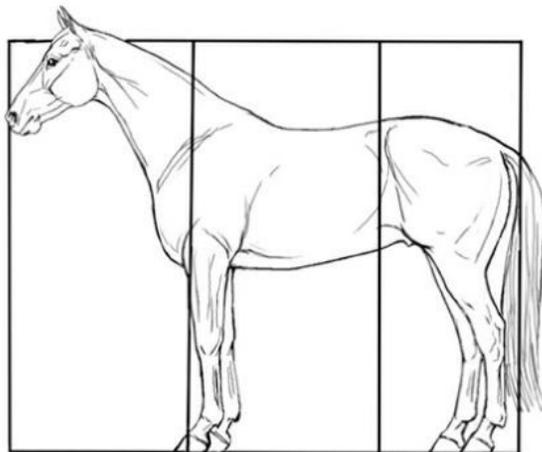


A horse with athletic conformation can be divided into even thirds.

1/3 head & shoulder

1/3 back

1/3 hindquarters



Horse divided into thirds.

A horse with good conformation has a body that fits into a square (excluding head and neck). His height will be the same as his body's length



Head

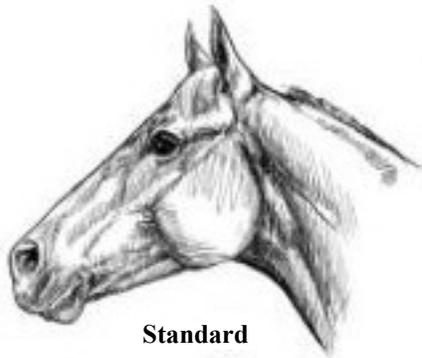
Good

Faults

 (less responsive to bit)

 (reduced vision)

 (air flow)

 (eating problems)

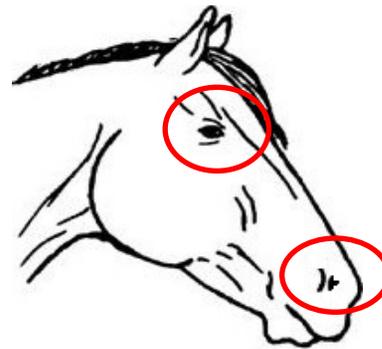
Standard



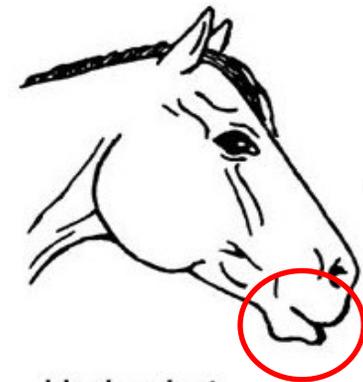
Roman Nose



Dish Face



Pig-eyed



Undershot



Parrot Mouth
(Overshot)

D3- Name one common fault of the Head

Neck

D3- Name one common fault of the Neck

Good

Blends smoothly into withers

Not thick or puffy at throat

Faults

_____ (short, choppy gaits)

_____ (hard to flex, head held too high)



Ideal Neck



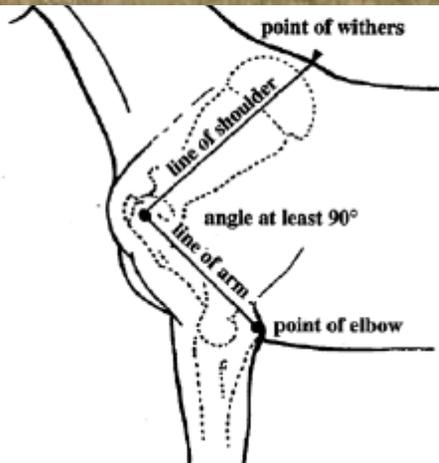
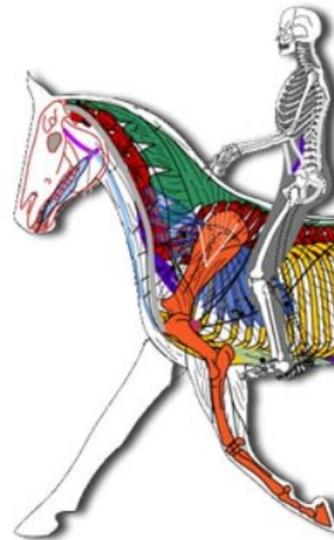
Shoulder

Good

This gives longer, smoother strides, easier to jump

Faults

Causes rough gaits & harder to fold front legs for jumping



D3– Name one common fault of the Shoulder

Pastern

Good

medium _____

medium _____

(Pasterns are the 'shock absorbers,
And need to be springy)

Faults

_____ (rough gaits)

_____ (not springy enough)

_____ (weak)

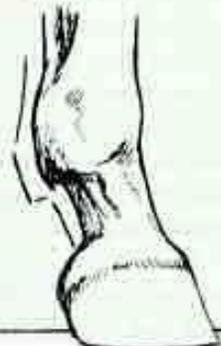
Pastern Conformation



Good Pastern angles -
strong & absorbs shock



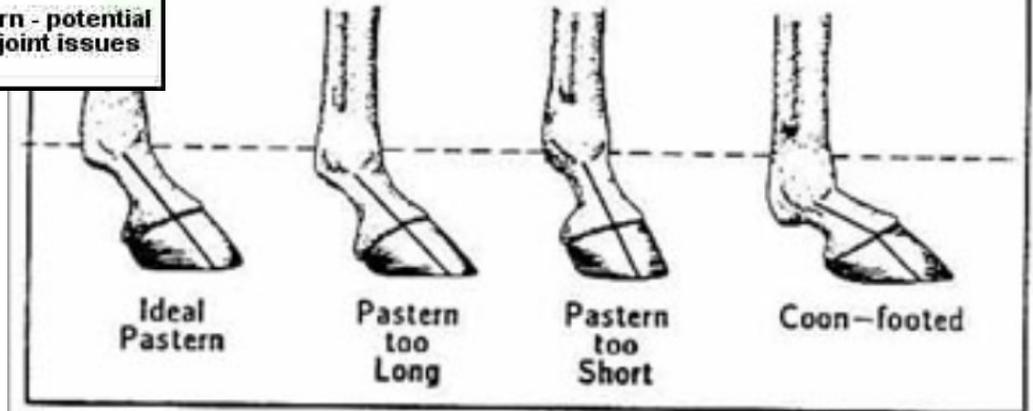
Weak, sloping Pastern -
prone to injury



Upright Pastern - potential
for bone and joint issues

**D3- Name one common
fault of the Pastern**

PASTER CONFORMATION



Back

Good

Smooth into loin
and _____

A short muscled back is stronger
And good withers help keep the
Saddle in place.

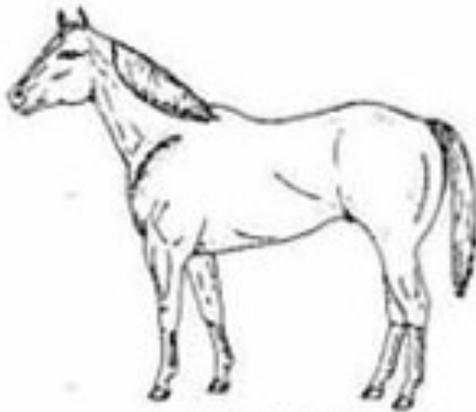
Faults

too _____

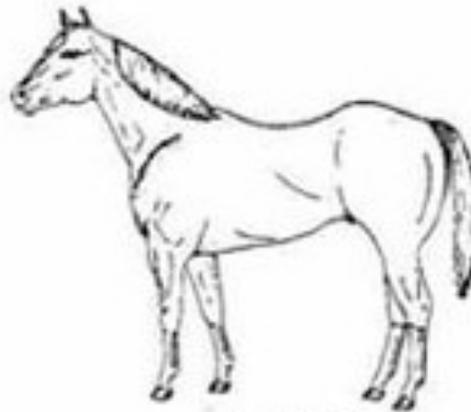
withers too _____

withers too fatty_

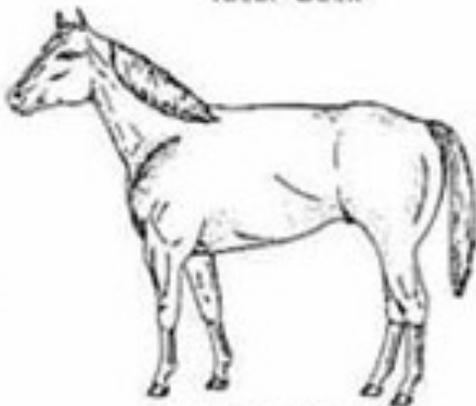
A long back is weaker, and high
withers are harder to fit a
saddle



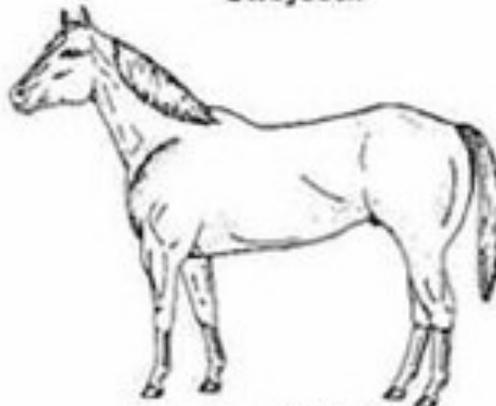
Ideal Back



Swayback



Roach-backed

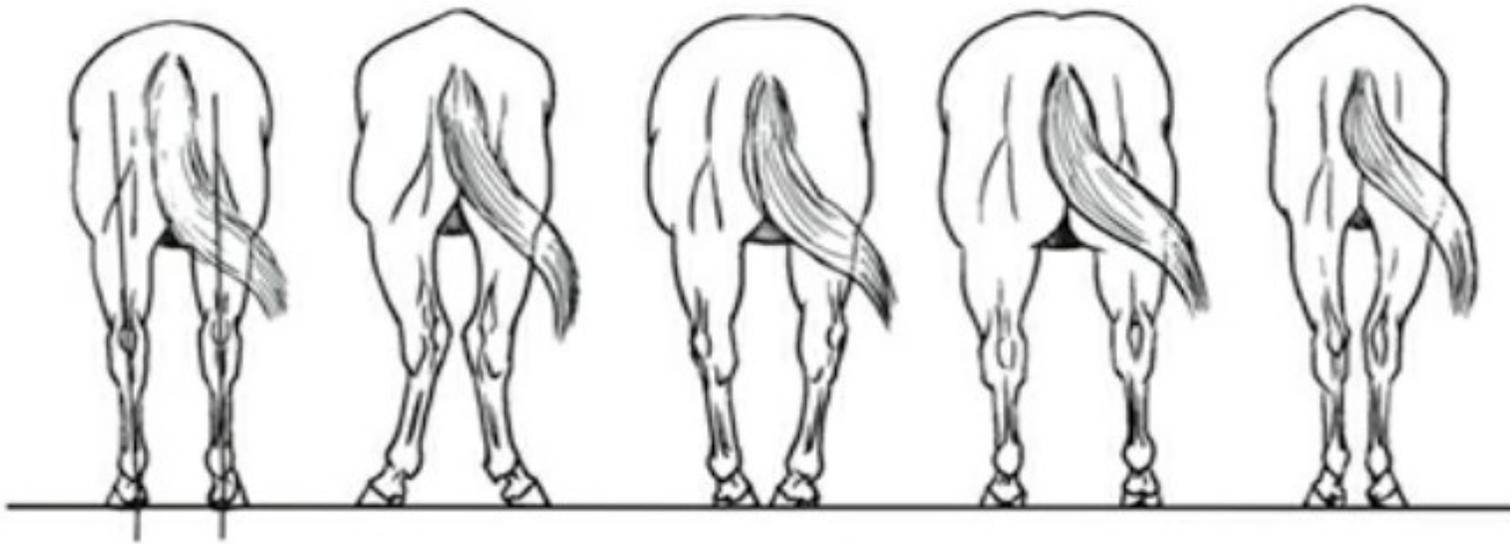


Long Backed



**D3- Name one common
fault of the Back**

Hind Legs



1. Good Hind Legs, straight, parallel
2. _____ Hocks (stress hocks)
3. _____ hocks (stress Hocks)
4. Too _____ (short strides)
5. too _____ (poor muscles)