

## 5-Star Study Guide Appendix

### Horse Coat Colors:

Basic - Bay - dark brown body with black mane, tail and lower legs

Black - black all over, including eyes, hooves and skin

Brown - varying shades of brown with lighter hair around the  
Muzzle, lips and flank

Chestnut - reddish color body, mane and tail are same as coat  
Or flaxen colored

White - snow white hair, pink skin, brown eyes. Born white/dies white

Major Variations - Grey - grey body which may lighten with age

Palomino - golden/bright copper color, usually white mane & tail

Pinto - combination of white and any other color, two basic coat patterns  
are overo & tobiano

Dun - single dilution of bay: light to dark shades of yellow with black(dark)  
mane & tail, plus dorsal stripe & zebra (leg) stripes. Also comes in red  
color (red body with red mane & tail) or Grullo (mouse color body)

Buckskin - similar to dun with NO dorsal stripe

Roan - white hairs mixed in with dark hairs, can be bay, red or blue roan

**Markings:** Common face markings are: star, snip, stripe, blaze, bald, combinations

Common leg markings: coronet, pastern, sock, half stocking, stocking

**Breeds of horses:** know 5 breeds and at least 2 things about each of them

**Parts of a horse:** be able to identify between 10 and 20 parts of a horse

**Leg Conformation:** Know the importance of shoulder and hip angles, know the  
difference between toed in(pigeon toed) and toed out, bow legged, base narrow, base  
wide, cow hocked, Knock Kneed,

### Characteristics of good Hay

Leafy(few stems), Green color, Smells good, No mold/dust, No foreign objects

### Driving and Miniature Horse

Driving Gaits: Walk, Slow Collected Trot, Working Trot, Extended Trot, Halt, Back

Hunter vs Jumper: Minimum age of horse = 3 years, Handler does not jump the jump,  
Manes & tails may be braided, All jumps must be collapsable, 3 refusals will be  
grounds for elimination, There will be 4 - 6 jumps. Jumper is judged on faults first,  
In jumping ties will be broken by time, In the jump-off jumps will be raised 1-6  
inches in height, Hunters will be judged on style, manners and way of going.

### Required Horse Show Attire and tack

Attire: Approved protective helmet, Riding boots with a distinguishable heel, Long pants  
or riding breeches, Long sleeved shirt or jacket, Apron or Lap robe for driving

Tack: Bridle, Saddle, Halter for Showmanship, Harness for driving

**Bits:** be able to identify the following bits: Curb, Gag, Pelham, Snaffle( O-ring, D-ring  
And full cheek)

**Horse Show Classes:** Be able to list a minimum of 5 English, Western or Driving classes which might be offered at a 4-H horse show and describe them.

Additionally be able to list 8 gymkhana classes normally used at a 4-H show

**Knots:** Be able to tie a quick-release knot

### **Gates of Horses**

Walk - natural, flatfooted four beat gait

Trot/jog - rapid, two beat diagonal gait

Canter/lope - easy, rhythmical three beat gait

Gallop/run - fast four beat gait

Pace - fast, two beat lateral gait

Back - four beat backwards gait

Important features of a stride: Balance, Directness, Height, Length, Rapidity, Regularity

### **Grooming Tools**

Clippers and/or scissors - clipping long hairs before a show or for body clipping

Curry Comb - used to remove thick, dry mud or heavy hair

Grooming cloth - used for final polish or for the sensitive areas(face)

Hoof Pick - used for cleaning hoof

Mane & Tail comb - used for combing mane & tail or thinning mane

Soft Brush(face brush) - used for fine dirt/dust

Stiff Brush(body brush) - used for coarser dirt/mud

**Tack:** Be able to identify parts of an English or Western Saddle and Bridle OR a Driving harness and driving bridle. Also be able to assemble a bridle, either English, Western or driving

### **Horse Health**

Normal vitals - Temperature: 99-101.5 degrees, Pulse(heartbeat): 35-45 beats per Minute, Respiration: 8-16 breaths per minute

Diseases of horses:

Encephalomyelitis: 3 strains- Eastern, Western and Venezuelan, causes fever, Neurological signs, convulsions, death. Can be vaccinated for.

EPM - caused by a protozoa which is spread by Opossums. Effects the brain and Spinal cord, signs include stumbling, weakness, nerve damage, no vaccine

Equine Infectious Anemia/Swamp fever - spread by biting insects, especially Mosquitos, causes fever, anemia, weakness. Diagnosed with at Coggins Test, no vaccine.

Lyme disease - spread by ticks, causes lameness, arthritis like symptoms, fever, No vaccine

Rabies - spread by infected saliva, causes behavioral changes, anxiety, Incoordination, colic, aggression, inability to swallow, there is a vaccine

Continued next page

Strangles - bacterial disease which causes high fever, heavy nasal discharge, Difficulty swallowing, swollen lymph glands in the throat. There is a Vaccine, but effectiveness varies

Tetanus - bacteria disease often associated with deep puncture wounds, Causes stiffness, difficulty walking, “saw horse” stance, inability to Eat and drink

West Nile - virus transmitted by mosquitos, causes fever, listlessness, Disorientation, weakness, paralysis, death. There is a vaccine.

First Aid Kit: Stethoscope, Thermometer, Saline Solution, Antibiotic Solution (Betadine/Nolvasan), Sterile Gauze Pads, Diaper, Rolled Cotton, Leg Wrap, Vetrap, Adhesive Tape, Scissors, Latex Gloves, Wound Dressing, Antibiotic Salve, Normal TPR for each horse, Vet’s Name & Phone No.

External parasites: Flies, Lice, Mites, Ticks

Internal parasites: Bots, Ascarids(Roundworms), Strongyles(Bloodworms), Strongyloides(Threadworms), Pinworms

Parasite prevention: Fly control, Proper stable cleaning, Not sharing grooming tools, Provide fresh water sources so that horses don’t have to drink dirty water, Spread manure on fields other than pastures, Compost manure if can’t spread, Rotate pastures, Pick up manure in pastures or drag to spread manure out, Don’t overcrowd pastures or corrals.

Promoting good health: Feed nutritionally balanced diet in sufficient quantity, Provide clean, healthy stabling, Have a regular vaccination and deworming schedule, Seek veterinary care when needed, Do routine grooming and exercising

Wounds: Puncture wound: caused by sharp, pointed object, often source of tetanus, Clean/flush wound, check with veterinarian regarding antibiotics and Tetanus booster

Contusion: bruise, initially apply cold water, rest horse, apply topical anti-inflammatories as needed.

Laceration: “tear” with jagged edges, Keep clean, Seek veterinary care depending on size and depth of wound, Apply topicals and cover as recommended by veterinarian.

Incision: clean, made with a scalpel as in a surgery, Keep clean and care as directed by your veterinarian.

**Horse Safety:** know some common ways of being safe around your horse, esp. during:

- a. Catching, handling and leading
- b. Bridling, saddling and mounting
- c. Controlling and riding
- d. Showing your horse safely and with courtesy
- e. General safety rules

**Basic guidelines for showing:**

- a. The showering is not for schooling, teach your horse at home
- b. Allow space between horses so that no one gets kicked
- c. Remain calm and confident
- d. Be courteous and respect other exhibitors
- e. Follow the instructions of the judge, ringmaster and announcer
- f. Be a good sport: win without bragging and lose without complaining

**Dressage:** the letters of the arena are A, F, E, M C, H, B, K, X. You enter at A, Judge Sits at C, you halt at X(in the center)

**Nutrition**

5 basic nutrients: Water, Carbohydrates, Fats, Protein, Vitamins and Minerals

Feeds: visually identify corn, oats, pellets, sweet feed, beet pulp and Alfalfa cubes

**Digestive System:**

Esophagus: 4-5 ft. log tube connecting the mouth to the stomach

Stomach: holds 8-17 qts of food at a time, digestion continues here

Small Intestines: about 68 inches long and holds 48 qts., it is made up of the Duodenum, jejunum and ileum, most absorption of nutrients occurs here.

Cecum: about 4 ft. long and holds 28-32 qts., primary site of fiber breakdown, Water is reabsorbed in the cecum

Large intestine is made up of the large colon, small colon, rectum and anus

Large Colon: 10-12 ft. long and holds 80 qts, continued breakdown of fiber and Water absorption

Small Colon: 10-12 ft in length and holds up to 14 qts., fecal balls are formed Here

Rectum: 1 ft. long and where feces remains until the horse defecates

Anus: the end of the digestive tract

**Aging Horses:** 4 major ways to estimate the age of horses using their teeth

Occurrence of permanent teeth, disappearance of cups, angle of incidence,

Shape of the surface of the permanent teeth, appearance of Galvayne's Groove

**Teeth:** Young horses have 24 temporary teeth, a horse gets it's permanent center incisors at 2 ½ years, corner incisors at 4 ½ years, mares usually have 36 Permanent teeth, stallions and geldings 30-42 teeth.

**Judging Horses:** place the horses in the order which you want and then use

Descriptive conformation terms to explain why you placed the horses in that order.

**Vocabulary**

Balance - when the front quarters and hindquarters appear to be nearly equal size and Development, they "fit" together well.

Blemish - any mark or deformity which diminishes beauty without affecting usefulness, examples might be: capped elbow, splint, quarter crack, thrush, sca, etc.

Capped Hock - enlargement on the point of the hock

Cast - lying or rolling close to a wall or fence so that a horse is unable to get up without assistance. You should call for help before going into the stall, then you will need to roll the horse over or pull him away from the wall so that he may get up.

Cataract - loss of transparency of the lens of the eye

Cavesson - a noseband on a bridle

Coarse - lacking refinement or rough, harsh appearance

Colostrum - the first milk produced by a mare, provides temporary immunity for the foal

Conformation - Structure and arrangement of parts of a horse (how they are put together)

Cups - The hollow space on the wearing surface of an incisor.

Dam - the female parent of a horse

Get of Sire - the foals of a particular stallion

Grade Horse - a horse of unknown breeding which does not have registration papers

Founder - inflammation of the laminae of the hoof

Hackamore - A bitless bridle often used for young horses or barrel racing horses

Heaves - Lung disease, COPD in horses

Hobbles - straps fastened to the front legs of a horse to prevent straying OR part of a racing harness connecting the front and rear legs of the same side of pacing horses

Markings - distinct color patterns on horses, commonly on the face and legs.

Martingale - strap running from the girth, thru the front legs and attaching to either the noseband (cavesson) of the bridle OR the reins

Offspring - the foals of a horse

Parrot Mouth - Lower jaw is shorter than the upper jaw

Placenta - afterbirth, membrane which surrounds an unborn foal

Port - part of a bit mouthpiece curving up over the tongue

Quality - Fineness of texture, freedom from coarseness

Registered Horse - a horse with purebred parents from a particular breed registry

Ringworm - fungus, NOT an external parasite

Roman Nose - undesirable outward arched profile of the nose area

Rowel - the toothed wheels on spurs

Sire - the male parent of a horse

Smoothness - when all the parts of a horse blend together well

Splint - abnormal bony growth on the cannon or splint bone

Stylish - Having a pleasing, graceful, alert, general appearance

Swayback - having a decided dip in the back

Tack - riding equipment of gear for the horse

Unsoundness - any abnormal deviation in structure or function which interferes with the usefulness of the horse. Examples might be: poll evil, parrot mouth, Undershot jaw, bowed tendons, ring bone, side bone, navicular disease, Founder, heaves, roaring, etc.

