

Freestyle Horsemanship Level 2 Goals

Stable Management:

- Tying
 - Ability to use cross ties and/or tie to post by wrapping lead rope

- Grooming
 - Ability to groom independently, including picking hooves

- Tacking up
 - Tack up without assistance in the style you normally ride (English -Or- Western)
 - Be able to explain why your horse uses specialized equipment (such as a special pad, etc.)

- Body language
 - Be able to explain how horse is feeling when asked, and explain how you came to that conclusion based on body language

Groundwork:

- Direct Pressure (movement via touch)
 - Back up
 - Hindquarters over
 - Forequarters across

- Indirect Pressure (movement via body language / whip without touch)
 - Back up
 - Hindquarters over
 - Forequarters across

- Gaits and Movement
 - Know and be able to name the 5 natural gaits of the horse

Riding:

- Mounting
 - From right side using a mounting block (with assistance)
 - Stand calmly once mounted without assistance
 - Correct if horse walks off
 - Emergency dismount both sides from halt
- Position & Balance
 - 2 point position at walk and trot
 - Posting trot on lunge line / managed straight line
 - Comfortable sitting the trot for short distances
- Steering & Aids
 - Halt without use of reins
 - Direct rein turn
 - Back up
 - One rein halt from the walk (emergency stop)
- Neutral *Sweet Spot*
 - In movement on the circle
 - Understand and be able to explain the concept of a moving sweet spot
 - Consistent release of pressure with improved timing
- Consideration for the horse
 - Immediately run up stirrups and loosen girth after riding

- Cool down properly after each ride, giving the horse time to return to a normal temperature, respiratory rate and heart rate

*Showing frustration towards, or lack of empathy for the horse will result in immediate failure to pass this level