

CSHA Horsemastership Grooming & Handling Test Judge's Score Sheet

Total maximum points 100

For test purposes all tasks to be performed in sequence on near side of horse. Verbalize the reason to judge. Grooming attire shall be clean and of same type as riding attire. Clean protective clothing (smock/apron) may be worn over riding attire. Hats/helmets are optional.

Necessary Equipment		
Halter and Lead Rope	Curry Comb	Hoof pick
Stable sheet/blanket	Root Brush (hard, stiff bristles)	2 pails, 1 with water
Saddle pad	Body (Dandy) Brush	2 sponges
Saddle and Bridle	Finishing Brush (long, soft bristles)	Grooming cloth
Extra rope for knot demonstration is optional		

1. Prepare to groom

Maximum Points: 4

Was on time and ready to start grooming
Attire clean and appropriate
Equipment and Tack clean and set up efficiently
Horse tied with appropriate knot

Total section One

2. Remove Stable Sheet/ Blanket

Maximum Points: 3

Unfastened sheet buckles rear to front; remove sheet/blanket with lay of hair; turned inside out, shook and hung inside out

Total section Two

3. Clean feet in sequence: fore, hind

Maximum Points: 7

Near fore

With left hand/shoulder against horse, ran left hand down leg. Picked up hoof and held with left hand or placed on knee. Cleaned foot with hoof pick - heel to toe strokes; cleaned cleft, commissures, inspected whole foot; carefully and safely put foot down.

Near hind

With left hand near point of hip ran right hand down leg to middle of cannon and lifted leg. Used his/her left leg to support fetlock. Cleaned foot with hoof pick - heel to toe strokes; cleaned cleft, commissures, inspected whole foot; carefully and safely put foot down.

Total section Three

4. Curry and Brush Body in sequence.**Maximum Points: 7****Curry horse**

Used correct equipment (curry comb). Used irregular back and forth motions.

Used correct sequence: Poll to withers chest shoulder arm forearm to knee elbow to knee.

Back barrell abdomen loin flank rump hind leg to hock inside and out. Frequently cleaned curry by hitting against boot heel.

Brush horse

Used correct equipment (body brush). Brushed with lay of hair.

Used correct sequence: Poll to withers chest shoulder arm forearm to knee elbow to knee.

Back barrell abdomen loin flank rump hind leg to hock inside and out. Frequently cleaned brush by drawing it across curry comb.

Total section Four**5. Brush/Clean Face****Maximum Points: 7**

Untied lead rope, placed over arm or shoulder, removed halter and fastened around horse's neck as neck strap. Used correct equipment (finishing brush).

Used correct sequence: head, face, ears, poll, cheeks, complete jaw.

Used damp sponge to clean face. Used correct sequence: eyes, face, ears, lips, nostrils.

Replaced halter and retied lead with slip knot.

Total section Five**6. Clean Lower Legs and Dock Area****Maximum Points: 7**

Correct different damp sponge than on face.

Used correct sequence: elbow knee to pastern hock to pastern. Paid attention to fetlocks.

Cleaned teat/sheath area; dock; between hind legs; under tail; anus. Frequently rinsed sponge by pouring water onto sponge (did not rinse in pail).

Bent while cleaning legs (did not kneel down)

Total section Six**7. Clean/Brush Mane and Tail****Maximum Points: 6**

Used correct equipment (root brush). Used correct sequence: mane, tail; started at ends, working upwards to roots. Used fingers to untangle if necessary

Total section Seven**8. Finishing: Polish Coat****Maximum Points: 6**

Used correct equipment (grooming cloth)

Used correct sequence: Poll to withers, chest, shoulder, arm, forearm to knee, elbow to knee. Back, barrell, abdomen, loin, flank, rump, hind leg to hock inside and out.

Total section Eight

9. Saddle Horse score either Western or English**Maximum Points:** 6**a) Western Saddle**

Shook saddle pad and checked underside for foreign matter. Placed pad high on horse's back, then pulled backward with the lay of hair until slightly forward of final position. Checked if both sides equal. Checked lining of saddle for foreign matter, placed off side (right) attachments over saddle seat. With left hand in gullet and right hand on cantle/skirt, lifted and gently placed saddle on horse's back.

Went to off side, eased down attachments; checked that nothing is twisted; returned to near side.

With right hand on saddle horn and left hand holding pad, shook saddle into place. Pulled pad at withers into fork. Placed left stirrup over horn/seat. With left hand on horse's shoulder, reached under belly, grasped cinch. Ran latigo trough D-ring and tightened cinch until snug. Secured cinch either by tying into D-ring with girth hitch or using cinch buckle. If double rigged, secure back cinch in a safe manner.

Total section Nine a)**b) English Saddle****Maximum Points:** 6

Checked underside of saddle (and saddle pad if used) for foreign matter. Secured irons at top of stirrup leathers. With left hand in gullet and right hand on cantle, lifted and gently placed saddle on horse's back.

If pad is used it may be secured either before or after placing saddle on horse.

Went to off side, attached girth; checked proper placement of saddle and nothing is twisted; returned to near side, attached and tightened girth.

Total section Nine b)**a) or b) Safety awareness****Maximum Points:** 1

Groomer had hand on horse's rump when changing sides

Total Safety awareness**10. Bridle Horse****Maximum Points:** 7

With bridle over shoulder or within easy reach, untied horse, placed lead over arm/shoulder, removed halter and fastened around horse's neck as neck strap.

Crown with throatlatch open in right hand, mouthpiece supported and positioned under muzzle with left hand. Right hand near horse's forehead, drew bridle upward, left hand guiding bit into mouth without banging teeth. May use thumb to open mouth.

Placed crown over ears. Gently bent ears forward. Fastened throat latch, put ends through keeper and runner, checked correct fit and straightened forelock.

English sequence of fastening: Throat latch, cavesson/nose band, curb chain/strap

Stated reason for walking horse prior to mounting. Checked cinch/girth, lowered stirrups/irons.

Total section Ten**11. Unbridle Horse****Maximum Points:** 7

With reins over arm, fastened halter around horse's neck and unfastened throat latch.

English unfastened in sequence: curb chain/strap, cavesson/nose band, throat latch

Used left hand to steady horse's head, eased crown down over ears with right hand, removing bridle without banging horse's teeth. Hung bridle over shoulder. Replaced halter and retied horse, using slip knot.

Rinsed bit by pouring water over bit.

Total section Eleven

12. Unsaddle Horse score either Western or English**Maximum Points: 6****a) Western**

Unfastened cinch and gently let it down. If double rigged, unfastened back cinch first. Unfastened cinch hitch or pulled latigo through D ring. Went to off side and placed cinch(es) and right stirrup over saddle seat.

Returned to near side and lifted saddle off horse. Pad may be removed separately or with saddle. Hung pad upside down to air and dry. Brushed where saddle and bridle had disturbed hair.

Total section Twelve a)**b) English****Maximum Points: 6**

Unfastened and removed girth, put it over seat. Secured irons. Lifted saddle off horse. Pad may be removed separately or with saddle. Hung pad upside down to air and dry. Brushed where saddle and bridle had disturbed hair.

Total section Twelve b)**a) or b) Safety awareness****Maximum Points: 1**

Groomer had hand on horse's rump when changing sides

Total Safety awareness**13. Replace Stable Sheet****Maximum Points: 3**

Groomer placed stable sheet across the withers, fastened chest strap, pulled sheet back into place. Fastened body straps front to back.

Total section Thirteen**14. Lead Horse Safely and Correctly****Maximum Points: 7**

Groomer untied lead rope. Held lead strap in right hand 12-16" from halter with remaining slack in figure 8 in left hand. Lead horse, walking on its left, slightly behind its head. Arm held in a natural position. Turned horse safely and correctly and lead back, stopping in front of judge.

Total section Fourteen**15. Demonstrate Bowline****Maximum Points: 7**

Correctly demonstrated tying bowline knot. Explained reason for use. Optional to use separate rope for bowline.

Total section Fifteen**16. General Accomplishments****Maximum Points: 8**

Knowledge and explanation of grooming procedure.

Was gentle and considerate with horse, yet made it behave. Courteous to judge

Total section Fifteen**TOTAL SCORE**

Judge's Comments:

Judge's Signature_____
Date