4-H HORSE MEMBER ADVANCEMENT CHECKLIST

By

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John Fouts
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Personal Development Skills

- Write a news story for a local paper.
- Participate in a radio or television program.
- Invite a speaker to your club.
- Present a demonstration or illustrated talk to your club or project group.
- Present a demonstration or illustrated talk to a group other than your 4-H group.
- Host a 4-H meeting. See that everyone is welcomed and made comfortable.
- Prepare a display (pictures, clippings, objects) that can be educational or helpful in emphasizing clean air, land, or water; conserving natural resources; conserving energy; or practicing safety.
- Participate in a horse judging or identification contest.
- Attend a 4-H camp.
- Attend a county or state workshop.
- Attend a 4-H Teen Conference or Teen Forum.
- Develop and exhibit a science display related to horses.
- Explore a career associated with horses and report on that career to your project group or community club.
- Secure a speaker to talk at one of your project meetings.
- Plan a fun activity for your club or project group that is separate from a regular meeting.
- Be an apprentice judge at a 4-H horse show and give oral reasons.
- Counsel younger 4-H members.
- Participate in a Horse Bowl or groom squad.
- Develop your own personal development skill with your leader's approval.

Leadership Skills

- Participate in a community service project.
- Participate in a fund-raising activity.
- Be a teen leader.
- Plan a field trip or camp-out.
- Be a camp counselor.
- Help organize a community service project.
- Identify a public need.
- Participate in an exchange program.
- Make arrangements for a field day or tour for your club or county.
- Be a clerk, show chairperson, or apprentice judge at a 4-H show.
- Recruit three or more new horse members for your club.
- Help conduct a horse show.
- Help organize and conduct an educational tour or demonstration.
- Help organize and conduct a field day or judging event.
- Help a leader work with a younger member.
- Help organize and conduct a trail ride.
- Help organize a Horse Bowl.
- Help organize a Horse Skillathon.
- Organize and conduct a 4-H judging contest.
- Develop a leadership skill of your own with the approval of your leader.
4-H HORSE MEMBER ADVANCEMENT CHECKLIST

STEP 1

SKILLS

4-H Knowledge

1. Learn the 4-H Pledge and Motto. 
2. Describe the meanings of the 4-H clover symbol and the colors, green and white.

Safety

3. Demonstrate how to safely approach and halter your horse/pony. 
4. Demonstrate how to safely tie your horse, using a quick release knot. 
5. Demonstrate how to safely move around your horse/pony.

Selecting and Judging

6. Identify and describe the breed or breed type of your horse/pony. 
7. Identify and describe the color and markings of your horse/pony.

Handling and Riding

8. Identify and describe the grooming tools in a grooming kit. 
9. Demonstrate the use of your grooming kit.

Personal Development

10. (Refer to the personal development list.)

Leadership

11. (Refer to the leadership list.)

STEP I completed: ___________________________  ___________________________ 
Approved By  Date
STEP II

SKILLS

4-H Knowledge

1. Review the 4-H Record Book with your leader and parent.

   [Date Passed] [Approved By]

2. Identify one goal for your 4-H Horse Project and write it in your Record Book.

   [Date Passed] [Approved By]

Safety

3. Demonstrate how to safely pick up and clean the front hooves of your horse/pony.

   [Date Passed] [Approved By]

4. Demonstrate how to tie a bowline knot and describe when to use it.

   [Date Passed] [Approved By]

Selecting and Judging

5. Name six light horse breeds.

   [Date Passed] [Approved By]

6. Name and describe six standard colors of horses.

   [Date Passed] [Approved By]

Handling and Riding

7. Explain and demonstrate how to hold the leadline.

   [Date Passed] [Approved By]

8. Demonstrate how to lead your horse at the walk, the trot, and turn around.

   [Date Passed] [Approved By]

Personal Development

9. __________________________________________________________

   [Date Passed] [Approved By]

Leadership

10. __________________________________________________________

    [Date Passed] [Approved By]

STEP II completed: ___________________________________________

   Approved By ___________________________ Date ______________

   [Date Passed] [Approved By]
### 4-H Horse Member Advancement Checklist

**STEP III**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SKILLS</th>
<th>Date Passed</th>
<th>Approved By</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4-H Knowledge</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Lead the Pledge of Allegiance and 4-H Pledge at a 4-H meeting.</td>
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<td>2. Lead a game or song at a 4-H meeting.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Safety</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Demonstrate how to safely pick up and clean the rear hooves of your horse/pony.</td>
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<td>4. Demonstrate three safety precautions to take when handling your horse.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Selecting and Judging</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Name and describe three or more facial markings of a horse.</td>
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<td>6. Name and describe three or more leg markings of a horse.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Handling and Riding</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Locate and name the parts of the saddle.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Locate and name the parts of the bridle.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Describe and/or demonstrate how to saddle a horse/pony.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Describe and/or demonstrate how to bridle a horse/pony.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Personal Development</strong></td>
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<td>11.</td>
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<td><strong>Leadership</strong></td>
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**STEP III completed:**

Approved By

Date
## 4-H Horse Member Advancement Checklist

### STEP IV

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#### 4-H Knowledge

1. Read the 4-H newsletter.

2. Attend or participate in a 4-H event beyond your own club.

#### Safety

3. Demonstrate how to safely bathe your horse/pony.

4. Demonstrate/describe how to safely clip your horse/pony.

#### Selecting/Judging

5. Name and locate the parts of a horse.

6. Spell and define the following horse terms: filly, colt, mare, gelding, stallion, sire, dam, conformation, equitation, hand, weanling, and yearling.

#### Riding and Handling

7. Demonstrate/describe how to mount and dismount.

8. Demonstrate/describe how to walk and jog or trot your horse/pony in two directions.

9. Demonstrate/describe how to stop your horse/pony.

#### Feeds and Feeding

10. Describe what you are feeding your horse and why you are using that particular feed.

11. Use an equine weigh tape or formula to estimate the weight and height of a horse.

12. Weigh and record your horse's feed for one day.

#### Health Practices

13. Describe five characteristic of a healthy horse.

#### Personal Development

14. 

#### Leadership

15. 

__STEP IV completed:__

Approved By __________________ Date __________________
# 4-H Horse Member Advancement Checklist

## Step V

### Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Safety</th>
<th>Date Passed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Describe the horse's monocular and binocular vision.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Describe three things a horse does when it is afraid.</td>
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<td>3. Describe the horse's natural defense.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Demonstrate and describe how to clean and care for your tack.</td>
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### Selecting and Judging

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<tr>
<td>5. Identify and explain the function of two types of bits.</td>
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### Riding and Handling

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<tr>
<td>6. Demonstrate, on a horse under control, a method used to stop a run-away horse.</td>
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<td>7. Demonstrate/describe how to lope or canter your horse/pony.</td>
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<td>8. Demonstrate and/or describe the use of natural aids and artificial aids.</td>
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### Feeds and Feeding

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<tr>
<td>9. Describe the similarities and differences in feeding a stalled horse versus a pastured horse.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Identify two or more kinds of hay and describe their characteristics.</td>
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<td>11. Identify three or more kinds of grains and describe their characteristics.</td>
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### Health Practices

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<tr>
<td>12. Describe/demonstrate how to treat minor wounds of a horse.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. List at least six items you should have in a first aid kit and describe their use.</td>
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<td>14. Explain how to recognize and treat colic, founder, and laminitis.</td>
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### Personal Development

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<tr>
<td>15. Present a demonstration at the club or county level.</td>
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<td>16.</td>
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### Leadership

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<th>Date Passed</th>
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<tr>
<td>17. Be a big sister or big brother to a younger 4-H member.</td>
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**Step V completed:**

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*Note: The document is a checklist for horse advancement with specific skills and tasks to be completed.*
STEP VI

SKILLS

Safety
1. Complete the saddling and bridling safety inspection.  
2. Demonstrate how to safely load and unload your horse/pony.

Selecting and Judging
3. Describe two good and two bad qualities of your horse/pony.
4. Spell, define, and locate the following unsoundnesses: ringbone, curb, thoroughpin, spinet, sidebone, hernia.
5. Place a group of four horses in terms of the breed ideal from the best or most ideal to the least ideal horse.

Riding and Handling
6. Execute or describe circling, serpentine, and diagonals.
7. Demonstrate and describe a turn on the haunches.
8. Demonstrate and describe how to set up your horse for a fitting and showing class.
9. Demonstrate/describe/explain the quartering system for showing in a fitting and showing class.

Feeds and Feeding
10. Explain the amount and quality of water that a horse needs under normal conditions.
11. Explain how and when you should feed and water a horse when the horse is hot.
12. Explain how to evaluate the condition of your horse. Explain how to determine when, how much, and what type of supplemental feed is needed.
13. Explain the conditions and amounts of feeds and/or additives that should be fed to the riding horse.

Health Practices
14. Identify and describe three internal and three external parasites of horses.
15. List the type of vaccinations needed to protect the horse from disease.
16. Discuss with a veterinarian how often and when the vaccinations should be given.

Careers
17. List and describe three careers in the horse industry that interest you.

Personal Development
18. Participate in a judging contest.
19. 

Leadership
20. 
21. 

STEP VI completed: ____________________________  Approved By ____________________________  Date
STEP VII

SKILLS

Safety
1. Conduct a safety inspection of your barn, corral, stall, pasture, and fencing.
2. Conduct a safety inspection of your truck and trailer.

Selecting and Judging
3. Define and explain the following judging terms: balance, smoothness, blending of parts, correctness, slope, straightness, forequarter, barrel, and rearquarter.
4. Describe the characteristics, origin, and use of the following breeds of light horses: Thoroughbred, Standardbred, Quarter Horse, Arabian, and Morgan.
5. Describe the breed characteristics of your horse.
6. Draw, identify, and label the teeth in the horse’s mouth.

Riding and Handling
7. Demonstrate and describe the correct equitation position for your style of riding.
8. Demonstrate and describe show ring procedures, safety, and etiquette.
9. Enter a fitting and showing class at a local show.
10. Enter an equitation class at a local show.

Feeds and Feeding
11. Identify/label the parts of the horse’s digestive system.
12. Identify and define the terms roughage and concentrates.
13. Describe the differences between ruminant (cow) and nonruminant (horse).
14. Draw and describe the digestive system of a horse and a cow.

Health Practices
15. Describe the correct daily feeding and exercise schedule for your horse.
16. Describe methods to prevent internal and external parasite infestation in your horse.

Careers
17. Interview professionals employed in three careers that interest you.

Personal Development
18. Participate in a judging contest and give oral reasons.

Leadership
19. Be a committee chair or an officer in your 4-H club.
20.

STEP VII completed: ___________________________ Approved By __________ Date __________
## STEP VIII

### SKILLS

**Management**
1. List and describe three safe and appropriate types of horse fences.  
2. Define the terms overgrazing, rotational grazing, and sacrifice or holding area.  
3. Explain the basic equipment and facility needs of your horse.

**Selecting and Judging**
4. Identify/label and explain the function of the parts of the hoof.  
5. Identify four ways of traveling faults (paddling, forging, striking, and interfering).  
6. Describe what to look for when identifying lameness in a horse.  
7. Determine age of the horse by using the teeth as a guide.

**Riding and Handling**
8. Demonstrate figure-eights with simple lead changes.  
9. Demonstrate backing at least four steps.  
10. Demonstrate side passing in each direction.

**Feeds and Feeding**
11. Identify the three nutrients that provide energy for the horse.  
12. Identify feeds that provide high levels of fats, carbohydrates, and proteins.

**Health Practices**
13. Describe under what conditions to bandage a horse leg injury.  
15. Identify locations on the horse for intra-muscular injections.  
16. Demonstrate the correct method/technique for administering intra-muscular injections.

**Careers**
17. Write to a community college, vocational school, college, or university that provides training in the careers that interest you.

**Personal Development**
18. Complete a basic first aid training class or course for human beings.
19. 

**Leadership**
20. Assist in organizing a 4-H event at the county level.
21. 

**STEP VIII completed:** _______________________________  
Approved: _______________________________  
Date: _______________________________
STEP IX.

SKILLS

Management
1. Demonstrate and describe appropriate manure disposal and utilization methods.
2. Describe an appropriate annual shoeing/trimming schedule for your horse.
4. Identify appropriate pasture plant species (grasses and legumes) for horses.
5. Identify poisonous and nonpoisonous weeds prevalent in your area.

Selecting and Judging
6. Describe specific characteristics desirable when selecting a broodmare.
7. Judge a class of mares using the pairing technique and give oral reasons on the class.

Riding and Handling
8. Demonstrate how to longe or drive a horse.
9. Describe and demonstrate collecting your horse.
10. Describe the criteria used to select and purchase tack (saddles, bridles, blankets, etc.).
11. Demonstrate forehand and rearhand pivots in both directions.
12. Demonstrate riding your horse over ground obstacles.

Feeds and Feeding
13. Show and describe visual characteristics used when selecting quality hay.
14. Rank and describe the energy levels of at least four different types of grain.
15. Describe four different methods of processing feeds for horses.

SKILLS

Health Practices
16. Demonstrate how you would take your horse's temperature, pulse and respiration.
17. Using a microscope, examine a fecal sample for parasites.
18. Define and describe identification, care and treatment of girth gall, stone bruise, sand crack, bowed tendon, wind puff, and splints.
19. Describe proper care of a horse's teeth and problems associated with horses of various ages.

Careers
20. Using the information you have found on careers, select one or two and spend a day with a person employed in that career.

Personal Development
21. 
22. 

Leadership
23. Clerk, steward, or actively participate in the management of any organized horse activity.

STEP IX completed: 

Approved By 
Date