



# Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards Knowledge Level 1 (K-1)

4-H Member: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

KEY: ES = Exceeds Standard      MS = Meets Standard      DNMS = Does not Meet Standard

## Horse Handling

- Know at least 2 things you should consider to safely approach a horse that is turned out in a pasture and in a stall

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Horse Breeds, Conformation and Movement

- Describe and be able to recognize bay, black, and chestnut coat colors

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Grooming and Bandaging

- Know how to pick out a horse's hoof, and explain why it is important
- Discuss two reasons why daily grooming is important

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Health Care and Veterinary Knowledge

- Discuss who a veterinarian is and what they do

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Tack and Equipment

- Know at least 2 reasons for cleaning tack

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Stable Management and Safety**

- List two things that are not safe to do or have in a barn

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Transportation and Travel Safety**

- Discuss one way a horse can be made safer or more comfortable in a trailer

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Knowledge Level 1 Written Test**

- Comments:

PASS \_\_\_\_\_  
RETEST \_\_\_\_\_

ES: _____ MS: _____ DNMS: _____
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Comments/Suggestions:

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Examiner Name

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Examiner Signature

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Date

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Sections Requiring Retesting:

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ES \_\_\_\_\_ MS \_\_\_\_\_ DNMS \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards Knowledge Level 2 (K-2)

4-H Member: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

KEY: ES = Exceeds Standard	MS = Meets Standard	DNMS = Does not Meet Standard
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## Horse Handling

- Name at least 2 places to safely tie a horse
- Name at least 2 things to be considered when safely leading a horse

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Horse Breeds, Conformation and Movement

- Recognize the following colors and patterns: grey, appaloosa, palomino, buckskin, and pinto

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Grooming and Bandaging

- Explain the proper procedure for daily grooming. Be sure to include body, mane and tail, and hoof care in your explanation.

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Health Care and Veterinary Knowledge

- Describe 5 basic symptoms that might indicate that your horse is in need of veterinary care
- Describe at least 2 ways you can tell a horse is properly cooled out after work
- Know 2 reasons for daily hoof care
- Describe 2 reasons why regular farrier visits are necessary

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Transportation and Travel Safety**

- Describe the purpose of the following things used to make your horse safe while traveling in a trailer: Break away halter, head bumper, blanket, tail guard, shipping boots or shipping bandages

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Knowledge Level 2 Written Test**

- Comments:

PASS \_\_\_\_\_  
RETEST \_\_\_\_\_

ES: _____ MS: _____ DNMS: _____
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Comments/Suggestions:

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Examiner Name

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Examiner Signature

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Date

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Sections Requiring Retesting:

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ES \_\_\_\_\_ MS \_\_\_\_\_ DNMS \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards

## Knowledge Level 3 (K-3)

4-H Member: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

KEY: ES = Exceeds Standard	MS = Meets Standard	DNMS = Does not Meet Standard
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### Horse Breeds, Conformation and Movement

- Know at least 2 different variations of the grey coat color

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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### Grooming and Bandaging

- Give at least 2 reasons for clipping a horse
- Name at least 3 different types of body clips
- Give at least 2 safety measures to use when bathing a horse
- Give at least 2 reasons for wrapping a horse's leg
- Name at least 2 types of protective boots and what they are used for

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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### Health Care and Veterinary Knowledge

- Name and describe at least 1 type of wound that should be treated by a veterinarian
- Explain why a regular vaccination program is important to your horse and identify at least 3 disease that you should regularly vaccinate a horse against every year
- Know at least 2 signs of a hoof that needs trimming or shoeing

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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### Nutrition

- Name at least 2 basic rules for feeding
- Explain a feeding schedule for a horse or pony (be sure to specify horse's age and use), including amounts of hay and grain

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Stable Management and Barn Safety**

- Know appropriate care of a horse after hard work, including 1 example for each of the following: cooling out, inspection of legs, watering, and feeding
- Know at least 2 safety concerns you should take into consideration when properly securing a hay net/hay bag

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Tack and Equipment**

- Name at least 2 areas on tack that you should check for safety
- Know at least 3 different types of bits
- Identify a tie-down, breast strap, martingale, and breast plate
- Identify at least 3 types of horse blankets and explain their purposes

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Knowledge Level 3 Written Test**

- Comments:

PASS \_\_\_\_\_  
RETEST \_\_\_\_\_

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ES: _____ MS: _____ DNMS: _____
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Comments/Suggestions:

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Examiner Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

4-Her has paid required participation fee (examiner's initials) \_\_\_\_\_

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Sections Requiring Retesting:

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ES \_\_\_\_\_ MS \_\_\_\_\_ DNMS \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards Knowledge Level 4 (K-4)

4-H Member: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

KEY: ES = Exceeds Standard	MS = Meets Standard	DNMS = Does not Meet Standard
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## Horse Breeds, Conformation and Movement

- Identify the following blemishes and unsoundness: splints, bowed tendon, capped hock, toe crack, quarter crack, and fistula
- Know the footfall patterns of the walk, trot (jog), canter (lope), gallop, and pace.

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Grooming and Bandaging

- Know at least 3 different ways a horse's mane may be presented in specific disciplines or breeds
- Know how to bandage a wound located on the cannon and what materials would be needed
- Name the areas of the leg protected by a stable bandage

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Health Care and Veterinary Knowledge

- Discuss cause, transmission, and symptoms of at least 2 diseases that may affect horses in Maryland
- Describe and be able to identify the teeth of a male and female horse
- Discuss 2 reasons for why dental care for horses is important
- Discuss 2 reasons for having a routine deworming program
- Explain what Equine Infectious Anemia is and what a Coggins test is used for. Be sure to indicate how often this test must be done and why you must have documentation of it.

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Nutrition

- Name 2 types of feedstuffs

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Tack and Equipment**

- Know at least 3 things you can do to check if a blanket fits properly

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Stable Management and Safety**

- Know at least 2 good and bad characteristics of each of the following: feed, water, pasture, and hay
- Name at least 2 safety precautions to consider when storing hay and grain
- Know at least 3 stable vices, possible causes, and at least 1 way to try to correct each of them
- Name at least 4 ways to help prevent external and/or internal parasites

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Transportation and Travel Safety**

- Know at least 3 things to check each time before using a trailer
- List at least 5 items that should be included in a trailer safety kit

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Knowledge Level 4 Written Test**

- Comments:

PASS \_\_\_\_\_  
RETEST \_\_\_\_\_

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ES: _____ MS: _____ DNMS: _____
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Comments/Suggestions:

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Examiner Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

4-Her has paid required participation fee (examiner's initials) \_\_\_\_\_

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Sections Requiring Retesting:

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ES \_\_\_\_\_ MS \_\_\_\_\_ DNMS \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards Knowledge Level 5 (K-5)

4-H Member: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

KEY: ES = Exceeds Standard	MS = Meets Standard	DNMS = Does not Meet Standard
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## Horse Breeds, Color, Conformation and Movement

- Name at least 2 signs that a horse may exhibit when they are lame

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Grooming and Bandaging

- Explain how you would apply a leg bandage. Be sure to include important considerations that differentiate a properly applied bandage from an incorrectly applied bandage and how an incorrectly applied bandage might affect the horse.

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Healthcare and Veterinary Knowledge

- Prepare and be able to discuss a 6-8 week outline for a conditioning program suitable for a discipline of the candidate's choice
- Know the recommended vaccination schedule and health requirements for horses in Maryland
- Explain what a parasite is, why a regular deworming program is important to your horse's health, and how you would select and administer deworming medications to your horse
- Know at least 2 types of shoes and specific uses
- Recognize and describe at least 3 characteristics of both good and bad shoeing
- Explain how to take a horse's temperature, pulse, respiration, and capillary refill time and how to tell if the resulting vital signs represent a problem
- Explain how to recognize and respond to dehydration

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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## Nutrition

- Describe a horse's ration when developing fitness, maintaining fitness, taking a day off, or sick.
- Identify 8 of the following types of feed ingredients: molasses, sweet feed, pelleted feed, salt, wheat bran, rice bran, cracked corn, whole corn, beet pulp, barley, oats, and alfalfa meal
- Explain how points, waves, and hooks develop and how they affect your horse's ability to chew

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Stable Management and Safety**

- Name at least 2 characteristics of an unsafe pasture
- Name at least 3 basic requirements of a safe barn layout

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Transportation and Travel Safety**

- Name at least 2 possible causes of loading and unloading problems

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Knowledge Level 5 Written Test**

- Comments:

PASS \_\_\_\_\_  
RETEST \_\_\_\_\_

ES: _____ MS: _____ DNMS: _____
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Comments/Suggestions:

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Examiner Name

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Examiner Signature

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Date

4-Her has paid required participation fee (examiner's initials) \_\_\_\_\_

Sections Requiring Retesting:

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ES \_\_\_\_\_ MS \_\_\_\_\_ DNMS \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards Knowledge Level 6 (K-6)

4-H Member: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

KEY: ES = Exceeds Standard

MS = Meets Standard

DNMS = Does not Meet Standard

## Horse Breeds, Conformation and Movement

- Know what conformation points might contribute to the following unsoundnesses: bowed tendon, curb, ringbone, sidebone, navicular, interfering, overreaching, forging, and splints

ES \_\_\_\_\_

MS \_\_\_\_\_

DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

## Grooming and Bandaging

- Know at least 3 suitable materials for bandaging, including 1 advantage and 1 disadvantage of each

ES \_\_\_\_\_

MS \_\_\_\_\_

DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

## Health Care and Veterinary Knowledge

- Know how a horse's teeth grow, how baby teeth are replaced by permanent teeth, and how a horse can be aged by examining the teeth
- Know the importance of body condition scoring and be able to score an unfamiliar horse
- Know the importance of colostrum for a newborn foal

ES \_\_\_\_\_

MS \_\_\_\_\_

DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

## Nutrition

- Know a feeding program for 2 of the following: an underweight horse, an overweight horse, a geriatric horse, and a horse in intense training
- Know availability, cost, and origin of hay and grain available in Maryland typically used to meet a horse's nutritional requirements
- Know seasonal variations of feeding a horse

ES \_\_\_\_\_

MS \_\_\_\_\_

DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Stable Management and Safety**

- Know at least 5 toxic plants and/or weeds in your area, including what parts are most toxic, when they are most toxic, and the symptoms of poisoning
- Name at least 3 management decisions that would help to maintain a healthy pasture
- Know the importance of soil testing and why it is used in pasture management

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Transportation and Travel Safety**

- Know at least 2 techniques for loading and unloading difficult horses

ES \_\_\_\_\_  
MS \_\_\_\_\_  
DNMS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Knowledge Level 6 Written Test**

- Comments:

PASS \_\_\_\_\_  
RETEST \_\_\_\_\_

ES: _____ MS: _____ DNMS: _____
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Comments/Suggestions:

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Examiner Name

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Examiner Signature

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Date

4-Her has paid required participation fee (examiner's initials) \_\_\_\_\_

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Sections Requiring Retesting:

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ES \_\_\_\_\_ MS \_\_\_\_\_ DNMS \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_