

TRAINING AID



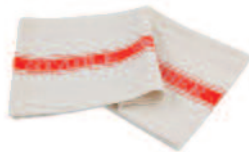
Grooming Tools

Here are some tools you might find in a grooming kit:

For Grade 4, you will need to be able to show that you know what these tools are called, you will also need to know how to groom a stable-kept horse or pony.



Water Brush



Stable Rubber



Tail Bandage

Some key points about horse and pony behaviour:

- In the wild horse's live in family groups of up to 20 horse's, this is called a herd.
- Adult horse's often rest between 7 and 8 hours a day depending on how busy they have been. Horse's are able to sleep standing up or lying down.
- Horse's can use facial expressions to show how they are feeling...
- Holding their head high with their ears pricked shows they are alert and interested
- Laying their ears back and flared nostrils is a warning to stay away.

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Visiting the Farrier

A farrier is a specialist in equine hoof care, including trimming and fitting shoes on their hooves. Keeping your horse's feet trimmed by the farrier, stops them from becoming overgrown.

Tying up a Horse

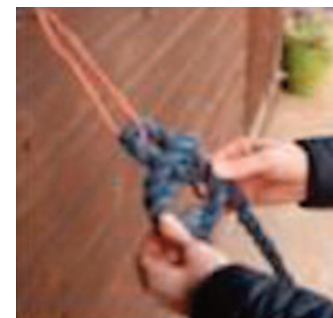
Horse must be tied up with a quick release knot.



Feed the tail end of the rope through the safety string loop.



Pass the tail end over the rope and around to form a loop.



Fold the tail end and insert the doubled-up end through the loop



Tighten the knot so that it is snug. To release, simply pull on the rope end.



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Riding Skills

You will need to be able to ride on your own in an enclosed space and show control in walk and in trot, trying to use the correct aids.

Ride a figure of eight in trot, trot over poles placed on the ground in the arena in rising trot or using your jumping position.



Caring for your tack and tacking up

It is very important to take care of your horse's tack. Your tack should be cleaned regularly to prevent it from rubbing your horse and also so you can check the stitching for any splits or tears. For this you will need a tack cleaning kit. A basic cleaning kit will include: soap, conditioner and some sponges.



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Saddle

- A numnah should be used underneath the saddle, this should be placed on the horse's back first.
- Next, place the saddle on the horse's back, over the withers and then slide it backwards into its natural resting place.
- Next, you must fasten the girth. This is a vital piece of tack that attaches the saddle to the horse and helps to keep it in position.
- Double check girths, your girth is tight enough before mounting.

Bridle

- Stand beside the horse's neck and gently put the bit into their mouth while holding the bridle over the horse's nose.
- The bit should sit level in the mouth and have a couple of wrinkles either side.
- Take the top of the bridle and gently push the horse's ears through so the bridle sits behind their ears.
- The next stage is to fasten the throatlash. To check it is at the correct length you should allow for a fist between the horse's throat and the throatlash.