

Mounted Skills (D-2 Western)

RIDING EXPECTATIONS: Candidate should ride in an enclosed area without lead line, demonstrating control while maintaining a safe basic balanced position at the walk and jog, and should begin to develop the lope.

The D-2 check-list is a valuable tool to evaluate a member's readiness to test. It is recommended that this check-list be used to evaluate a candidate no earlier than 90 days prior to the certification. The evaluator should sign the "Signature" block when a candidate satisfactorily performs the necessary skills while demonstrating both horse management and riding expectations for the standard without instruction/coaching. If the member is not able to demonstrate the standard, the evaluator should provide detailed comments on what improvements the candidate needs to make in order to demonstrate the standard. An evaluator must be able to give an impartial evaluation of the candidate's proficiency at the standard. The "D-1 through C-2 Examiner's Handbook" and the last page of the "Standards of Proficiency" outlines the qualities of an examiner that is appropriate to use.

Signature
&
Date

Riding on the Flat

- Ride on flat using Riding Expectations.
- Mount and dismount independently (using mounting block if necessary).
- Shorten and lengthen reins at halt and walk. Demonstrate proper hand position for bit and rein equipment, and for age and appropriate control of mount.
- Perform balancing and supplying exercises for rider at walk and halt and discuss 1 or 2 reasons for doing this. Ride at the walk, performing simple turns and large circles.
- Ride without stirrups at the walk.
- Demonstrate emergency dismount at the walk.
- Ride with balance at the jog performing simple turns and large circles.
- Ride at the lope in both directions in an enclosed area and be aware of leads.
- Discuss performance with Examiner, indicating whether or not mount was on correct lead.

Evaluator's Comments:

Riding Over Obstacles

- Ride over obstacles using Riding Expectations.
- Maintain balanced position at the jog, on the rail, and over poles.
- In an enclosed area, complete a simple obstacle course to include poles (walk and jog over), halt, walk, jog, backing, turns, and navigation around cones or upright poles.
- Discuss with Examiner ways to improve ride.

Evaluator's Comments:

Riding In The Open

- Ride safely and considerately on public and private property, in a group, at the walk and jog.
- Ride with control, up and down hills, at the walk and jog.
- Navigate several natural obstacles, to include logs (no more than 12"), trees, and small divets (lowered sections of ground) where available.

Evaluator's Comments: