

Showmanship

Poise and posture



- **Always** carry your arms and hands in proper position, as shown above. Arms bent 90 degrees at the elbow, wrists are kept straight.
- Your back is straight, eyes and chin are up and with a smile on your face you are exuding confidence!
- Always walk in a sharp, brisk fashion; never lazy dazy!

Holding area in show ring



- Exhibitors must in set up position, with your horse's body straight and feet squared AT ALL TIMES in the holding area!
- Exhibitor must be able to see the judge, this will determine which side of your horse you are on, while waiting for your turn to start your pattern

Setting your horse up for inspection

1. After stopping horse, turn facing him, point your toes at your horse's toes

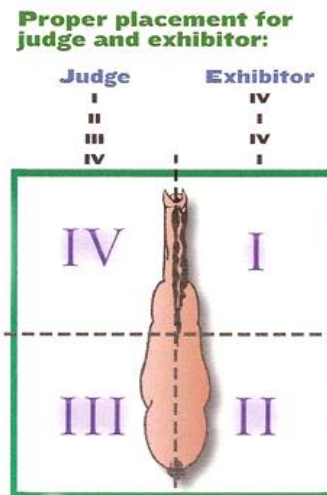


Square Feet

- Always set up the back feet first, starting with the same foot each time. To move the back feet, feel the horse's head slightly down with the lead shank, asking him to move one foot at a time. Always plant one foot, the same foot, and move the other foot to square him up.
- Next, move the front feet, by feeling the horse's head up slightly with the lead shank, asking him to move one foot at a time.
- Always ask for the same sequence every time you set the horse up, he will memorize it and eventually do it on his own!
- After you have set your horse up, give the judge a nod, telling him/her that you are ready for inspection.

Judge Inspection and the Quarter System

- When judge does inspection, exhibitor moves as noted in picture. When the judge is in the horse's shoulder region, exhibitor moves to the opposite side. When the judge is in the horse's hind region, the exhibitor is on the same side of the judge.
- Always smile! You are confident in showing your horse!
- Always keep eye contact with your judge- they like this!
- When inspection is done, the judge will give you a nod, and you can proceed to doing the rest of your pattern.



Patterns

1. Be prepared, know your pattern! Always study your pattern before the show. Bring your pattern out with you in the warm up for practising before the class.
2. Pay attention to what side the cones are on.
3. As the competitor ahead of you is half way through their pattern, you move up to the start line.
4. Square your horse up and put yourself in the set up position, being able to see the judge. If the judge is on the left hand side your horse, you are waiting on the right hand side of your horse - and vice-versa
5. When the judge is ready for you to start, he/she will give you a nod.
6. Smile when doing your pattern! This shows confidence, plus your horse will feel your confidence - after all, you are their leader!



Here is a
practise,

pattern to
have fun!

AQHA LEVEL I CHAMPIONSHIPS
Rookie Youth
Rookie Amateur

Rookie Showmanship

Note: The drawn description of this pattern is only intended for the general depictions of the pattern. Contestants should utilize the arena space to best exhibit their horses.

1. Walk $\frac{1}{2}$ line
2. Trot around end and down line
3. Halt and execute a $\frac{3}{4}$ turn
4. Walk to judge
5. Set up for inspection
6. After inspection, $\frac{1}{4}$ turn and trot to marker
7. Exit at a walk or trot

