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# LEVEL 4 DEFINITIONS

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## See USEF Rulebook Chapter WD - WESTERN DRESSAGE

**COLLECTED WALK** - The horse, remaining "on the bit", moves resolutely forward with his neck raised and showing a clear self-carriage. The head approaches the vertical position and a light contact is maintained with the mouth. The hind legs are engaged with good flexion of the joints. The gait should remain marching and vigorous, the feet being placed in regular sequence. The steps cover less ground and are higher than at the Working walk, because all the joints bend more markedly. The step at the Collected walk is shorter than the Working walk, and shows greater activity. **Diagram** .....

**EXTENDED WALK** - The horse covers as much ground as possible, without haste and without losing the regularity of the steps. The hind feet touch the ground clearly in front of the hoof prints of the fore feet. The rider allows the horse to stretch out the head and neck (forward and downwards) without losing contact with the mouth and control of the poll. The nose must be clearly in front of the vertical. **Diagram** .....

**FLYING CHANGE OF LEAD** - The flying change of lead will ideally begin with the sequence of the new outside hind leg, the diagonal pair and followed by the new leading front leg. The change of lead of the hind and front leg take place immediately after the moment of suspension without a break of gait. The aids should be precise and unobtrusive. s much ground as possible, **Diagram** —■—

**HALF PIROUETTE** - The half-pirouette is a half-circle executed on two tracks with a radius equal to the length of the horse, the forehand moving round the haunches. The forefeet and the outside hind foot move round the inside hind foot which forms the pivot and should return to the same spot, or slightly in front of it, each time it leaves the ground. The horse, slightly bent in the direction in which he is turning should remain on the bit with light contact, turn smoothly and maintain the appropriate sequence and timing of footfalls of that gait. The poll stays the highest point during the entire movement. The quarters are well-engaged and lowered and show a good flexion of the joints. **Diagram** ↻

**QUARTER PIROUETTE** - The horse being highly collected for 1 or 2 strides before and then through the execution of a 90 degree turn around the haunches in 2-3 strides, maintaining a correct canter footfall. **Diagram** ↻