
LEVEL 2 DEFINITIONS

See USEF Rulebook Chapter WD - WESTERN DRESSAGE

COLLECTED JOG – The horse, remaining “on the bit”, moves forward in a two-beat gait with the neck raised and arched and showing clear self-carriage. The head approaches the vertical position and a light contact is maintained with the mouth. The hocks are well-engaged and flexed and must maintain an energetic impulsion, enabling the shoulders to move more freely. Although the horse’s steps are shorter than in the other jogs, elasticity and cadence are not lessened. The Collected jog must be ridden seated.

Diagram: - - - - -

COLLECTED LOPE – The horse, remaining “on the bit”, moves forward in a three-beat cadence with the neck raised and arched. The hocks are well-engaged and maintain an energetic impulsion, enabling the shoulders to move more freely, demonstrating self-carriage and an uphill tendency. The horse’s strides are shorter than in other lopes, without losing elasticity and cadence.

Diagram: _____

LATERAL MOVEMENTS - In all lateral movements such as shoulder-in and haunches-in, the horse is slightly bent and moves with the forehand and hind quarters on different tracks. The gait should remain free and regular, maintained by a constant impulsion and forwardness, yet it must be supple, cadenced and balanced. The horse should maintain rhythm and not lose impulsion because of the rider’s preoccupation in bending the horse and pushing him sideways.

SHOULDER-IN - The exercise is performed in collected jog. The horse is ridden with a slight but uniform bend around the inside leg of the rider maintaining cadence at a constant angle of approximately 30 degrees. The horse’s inside foreleg passes and crosses in front of the outside foreleg; the inside hind leg steps forward under the horse’s body weight following the track of the outside foreleg, while lowering the inside hip. The horse’s footfall creates three tracks. The horse is bent away from the direction in which he is moving.

Diagram



TRAVERS (HAUNCHES-IN) – The horse is slightly bent around the inside leg of the rider. The forehand remains on the track and the hindquarters are moved inwards. The horse is bent in the direction in which he is moving. To start the haunches-in, the quarters should leave the track or, after a corner or circle, are not brought back on the track. At the end of the haunches-in, the quarters are brought back on the track as one would finish a circle, without counter-flexion of the poll/neck. The horse’s footfall creates four tracks.

Diagram



SIMPLE CHANGE OF LEAD – This is a movement in which, after a direct transition out of the lope into a walk, with 3-5 clearly defined steps at the walk, an immediate transition is made into the other lead. This is considered a Simple Lead Change when done through the walk.

Diagram: _____ ● ● _____

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