



Mickelsen Family Farms Riding Progression Skills

Beginner Mastery Checklist

(must be initialed by instructor)

Skills: (all in indoor arena)	Pass 1	Pass 2	Pass 3	Pass 4	Pass 5	Mastery
GROUND WORK SKILLS:						
Catching horse and putting on halter all by yourself/ or with assistance if needed						
Walking horse to hitching post and tying off properly all by yourself without assistance						
Showmanship skills – leading horse walking, trotting, stopping (horse doesn't run student over)						
Grooming/picking up feet and cleaning them out all by yourself/ or with assistance if needed						
Saddle up – carry it and put on all by yourself except tightening or with assistance if needed						
Bridling horse by yourself/ or with assistance						
Lead line lunging horse without assistance						
Taking bridle and saddle off and putting away all by yourself without assistance						
RIDING SKILLS:						
Walking horse without assistance (loose rein with hands down and relaxed, proper balance and posture with heels down and straight back)						
Stopping and backing horse using proper body technique						
Trotting horse without assistance (loose rein with hands down and relaxed, proper balance and posture with heels down and straight back)						
Walking and stopping without stirrups showing proper balance						
Trotting and stopping without stirrups showing proper balance						
Bareback walking without assistance (loose rein with hands down and relaxed, proper balance and posture with heels down and straight back)						
Bareback trotting horse without assistance (loose rein with hands down and relaxed, proper balance and posture with heels down and straight back)						
Obstacle course on a walk and trot						
Mastery Test Date:						

