

## Riding Lessons Program Overview

Our program is rooted in learning safe handling and holistic horsemanship.

At Painted Ridge Farms we believe in setting our students up for success by learning true horsemanship and care from the ground up. We not only ride horses, but also learn basic general care, groundwork, and routine/emergency horse care.

To become a true horseman/woman, you must have a solid foundation in the basics of horsemanship, both on the ground and in the saddle. Below are some of the items that we focus on during our sessions.

- SAFETY! is the most important item we focus on
- Haltering and leading
- Grooming
- Hoof care
- Tying proper safety knots
- Tacking up/saddling
- Understanding the different types of tack and equipment
- Lunging
- Mounting/dismounting
- Balance and position while on the horse
- Understanding the different gaits; walk, trot/jog, canter/lope
- Proper use of your aids: seat, legs, hands

We accept riders of all ages with a willingness to learn and work hard at practicing wholehorse care.

In our program, we do mostly private lessons as that allows our instructors to focus on the individual learner. This allows each person to learn/grow at their own pace. Once a rider has progressed, it is possible to be included smaller group lessons consisting of 3-4 riders and an occasional trail ride.

We have a group of lesson horses with different abilities so that we can match each individual with the right horse for their skill level. We also allow haul-in lessons in which you may bring your own horse to ride.

We specialize in stock-type horses that mainly ride western but also ride hunt seat for those who would like to try out basic English riding. Here are a few of the areas we specialize in:

- Showmanship (In-hand)
- Western pleasure
- Hunter Under Saddle/Hunt Seat (English)
- Ranch riding
- Trail
- Basic barrel racing/pole bending
- Bareback riding

The list is not all-inclusive. **Please note: We do NOT offer jumping or dressage lessons at this time.** 

During inclement weather or if a lesson horse is injured or sick during your scheduled session, we will either reschedule, use a different horse (dependent on availability) or do some other type of learning. IE; groundwork, horse care, etc.

At Painted Ridge Farms, our goal is to build a team of individuals who would like to become advanced enough riders to participate in local horse shows, barrel races and other events, as a part of the PRH Show Team.

We also would like to offer lessons to individuals who would be interested in being a part of a drill team. \*Only available to riders considered Intermediate and above.

Contact us today to discuss setting up time for a farm tour if you would like to see our facilities or audit a lesson, prior to making the commitment. You can find more information on our website here.