

Ocean Equine Training: Rider Levels



Beginner 1 – "Learning the Ropes"

Skill	Date Demonstrated	Instructor Initials	Notes
Unmounted Skills			
Identify grooming tools and their use			
Lead a horse safely (supervised)			
Tie with quick-release knot (with help)			
Identify basic parts of horse and tack			
Clean brushes and area after grooming			
Mounted Skills			
Mount and dismount safely (with help)			
Hold reins correctly			
Maintain posture at walk			
Steer simple patterns on the line			
Begin posting and sitting trot (on line)			
Try two-point position (on line)			
Instructor Notes / Next Steps:			

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Beginner 2 – "Finding Balance"

Skill	Date Demonstrated	Instructor Initials	Notes
Unmounted Skills			
Groom and tack independently (checked)			
Clean tack with help			
Identify colors, markings, and breeds			
Describe horse behavior and safety zones			
Mounted Skills			
Walk/trot independently around arena			
Ride circles, serpentines, figure eights			
Maintain rhythm and balance over trot poles			
Walk↔Trot transitions			
Hold two-point over poles			
Practice canter position at halt			
<u>Instructor Notes / Next Steps:</u>			

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Intermediate 1 – "Building the Toolbox"

Skill	Date Demonstrated	Instructor Initials	Notes
Unmounted Skills			
Tack fit checks			
Basic booting/wrapping awareness			
Identify feed basics and horse needs			
Describe warm-up and cool-down routines			
Mounted Skills			
Warm up independently with plan			
Adjust horse rhythm and balance			
Ride full courses up to 2'6"			
Ride lateral work: leg yields, circles, serpentines			
Maintain connection and impulsion			
Instructor Notes / Next Steps:			

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Intermediate 2 – "Refinement"

Skill	Date Demonstrated	Instructor Initials	Notes
Unmounted Skills			
Evaluate horse condition & training needs			
Explain effect of tack or position on movement			
Safely assist lower-level riders (under supervision)			
Mounted Skills			
Ride in elastic contact with soft hands			
Identify & correct balance, rhythm, straightness			
Jump related distances & adjust stride length			
Transitions within gaits (lengthen/collect)			
Ride courses up to 2'9" confidently			
<u>Instructor Notes / Next Steps:</u>			

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Advanced – "Independent & Confident"

Skill	Date Demonstrated	Instructor Initials	Notes
Unmounted Skills			
Evaluate and adapt tack/fit for horse			
Recognize subtle behavior changes and respond appropriately			
Guide lower-level riders with demonstrations			
Mounted Skills			
Ride independently on flat and over fences			
Identify and problem-solve horse performance issues			
Execute complex courses with minimal prompting			
Adapt training strategies to each horse			
Maintain correct position and balance at all gaits			
Share knowledge and mentor other riders			
Instructor Notes / Next Steps:			

Ocean Equine Training: Notes



Lesson #	Date	Notes / Observations	Focus for Next Week	Progress Check
<u>Lesson 1</u>				
<u>Lesson 2</u>				
<u>Lesson 3</u>				
<u>Lesson 4</u>				
<u>(Optional) Bonus / Clinic Lesson</u>				