



The Horse Shelter

Rescuing abused, abandoned and neglected horses throughout New Mexico

Riding Experience Checklist

As part of our adoption application process for **all riding horses**, please complete this form and check each statement that applies to you. This will help our Ranch Managers and Trainer to match you as a potential adopter(s) with a horse(s) that may best suit your riding abilities.

Name of Potential Adopter _____ Date _____

BEGINNER:

- I have never ridden a horse before.
- I have recently begun riding.
- I have not had many riding lessons or it has been a long time. It has been approximately ___ years or ___ months since I had riding lessons.
- I have recently begun taking riding lessons. I have been taking ___ lessons/week for ___ months.
- I rode as a child and it has been ___ years since I have ridden.
- I have only ridden well-broke lesson and/or trail horses.
- I may need assistance to properly tack up a horse.
- I can walk/trot but I am not yet comfortable in faster gates.
- I do not know how to properly exercise a horse on my own.
- I need education on proper horse care and maintenance.

ADVANCED BEGINNER:

- I can walk/trot/canter on a well-schooled horse.
- I can properly tack up a horse.
- I can safely exercise a horse on my own.
- I take regular riding lessons and/or I'm still working to increase my knowledge/ability.
- I currently ride on a regular basis ___ days per week or ___ days per month.

INTERMEDIATE:

- In addition to all of the above, I can walk/trot/canter with confidence and balance.
- I have some groundwork skills and I can properly lunge, roundpen and exercise a horse.
- I am comfortable with loading and trailering a horse.
- I have ridden a variety of horses.
- I have a solid understanding of horse care and maintenance.
- I currently own or have owned a horse(s) for ___ years.

ADVANCED INTERMEDIATE:

- In addition to all of the above, I have the training ability to help a horse gain confidence on the ground and in the saddle.
- I have experience and knowledge in training horses in my chosen riding discipline.
- I am comfortable dealing with a horse that will require much more training or one that can be somewhat difficult.

ADVANCED:

- In addition to all of the above, I have participated in events such as shows, jumping, dressage, barrel racing etc., and could teach others.
- I have given or currently give riding lessons.
- I have fluid movements and an independent seat and hands when riding.
- I am a professional horse trainer or have been a professional horse trainer for ___years.
- I have full confidence when working/riding/training a wide variety of horses.

Other pertinent experience or limitations:
