



## HORSE SHOW BASICS

### Horse Show Estimated Costs

#### Show Fees

Division	\$50
Office Fee	\$10-\$15

#### Transportation/Horse Costs

Haul Fee Under 100 miles	\$1.75/mile
Haul Fee Over 100 miles	\$1.35/mile
Schooling Horse Rental	\$40/day

#### Trainer Fees

Schooling Fee	\$40
Rated Show Schooling Fee	\$50
Hotel Split for overnight stays	Varies

### What to Pack for a Horseshow

- Chairs
- Water/Snacks
- Sunscreen
- Change of Clothes
- Waterproof Boots
- Cash for Food Truck
- Paper Towels/Baby Wipes
- Tide Stick
- Hair Ties
- Safety Pins
- Check Book (no joke, many shows only accept checks)

### Horse Show Day Estimated Timeline

**5:30am** - Arrive at barn, wrap horse

**5:45am** - Load Horses

**7:30am** - Arrive at show, offload horse, tack up for schooling

**8:00am** – Show Begins

**8:00am - ?????** – Sit around and wait, then hurry up to get ready when it is your turn to show.

**End of Show** – Pack trailers and head to barn to offload horses



## HORSE SHOW BASICS



### BASIC UNIFORM

**Helmet** - In the hunter world, the helmet is black. There are many styles ranging from matte to the traditional velvet/suede look.

**Hair** - For the little ones, pig tail braids and bows! Yes, bows!!! Trust me, this phase isn't long enough.

**Hunter Jacket** - Usually Navy, Black, or Hunter Green. Should have 3 buttons as that is the standard hunter style jacket.

**Show Shirt** - Show shirts can come in short sleeve and long sleeve. The shirt has snaps at the top to close the collar up.

**Riding Gloves** - Should be black and plain

**Jods/Breeches** - these are the riding pants. For young riders, they should be jods, which have the cuffs at the bottom that will go over the boots.

**Jodphur Garter Straps** - Yes - these are a thing. They are the leather straps you see below the knees in the picture to the right. I have found that they make ones with velco and I recommend those because they are easy! The regular straps have to be wrapped around the leg and early in the morning can be a test of your patience.

**Paddock Boots** - These boots come in brown and black and both are acceptable. This will complete your Hunter Uniform.

I know many young riders like bling...unfortunately Hunter Showing is all about tradition and everything is very plain. However, those hair bows can be big and colorful.



## HORSE SHOW BASICS



### HORSE ITEMS NEEDED

- Saddle**
- Girth**
- Bridle**
- Crop** (if needed)
- Show Pad** - White Pad with either synthetic or wool around the edges
- Grooming Tote** - bring all your brushes, combs, hoof pick
- No Rinse Shampoo** - this is a shampoo you can use without water. A life saver.
- Show Sheen**- Makes the horse sleek and shiny
- Hoof Oil** - Apply to hooves before going in the show ring.
- Saddle Stand** – for your saddle when you are not showing
- Leather Cleaner** – you will need to clean boots and possibly tack
- Rags** – you will need these for cleaning boots and cleaning the horse

The night before a show means bath time for the horse!! They sell tons of horse shampoos, but dawn dish soap does the job too.

**TIP: Walk the horse around and let them graze until their coat dries, if you can. They like to roll when they are wet.**

**\*\*NOTE – don't stress when your horse gets dirty overnight – some find a way to get dirty no matter what, which is why there is a need for the No Rinse Shampoo.**



## HORSE SHOW BASICS

# Horse Show Prize Lists Decoded for a Non Horse Person

I remember looking at my first prize list for a horse show. I was lost and wondered what it all meant, it was as if I was reading a different language. I am using our local prize lists that are most common.

Trust me, it is not that complex once you figure it all out. I will start out by defining some basic terms.

**O/F** - Over Fences, the horse will be jumping those cool jumps

**U/S** - Under Saddle, this is a flat class. Think Nascar, the horses go around in a circle, but they go left and right.

**Eq or Equitation** - a class where they are judging the way the rider rides and not the horse.

**Green** - I don't want to say beginner, but think of this as the horse/pony's rookie season.

**Pony** - guess what? Ponies are still horses, but they are under 14.2 hands high, so they have their own group of classes.

**Thoroughbred** - yes, this is a breed of horse, but they made a division for horses that were once race horses! Yes, horse people take race horses then train them to jump over things!!!! This is really awesome because they give many race horses a second chance, which is awesome.

**Division** - a group of classes, usually consists of 2 over fence classes and an under saddle class.

**Course** - the order in which the jumps need to be jumped. In normal classes, there is usually a Course A and Course B.

**Junior** - Rider under 18

**Adult Amateur** - Non-Professional Adult Riders

## Let's now decode a prize list -

**Lead Line** - the rider has someone holding the horse on a rope, or lead as we call it, while the rider demonstrates riding ability. Get ready for some cuteness!!! These are the little ones who are just starting to ride! Yes, they make show clothing for the tiniest humans. Crazy BUT ADORABLE!!

**Pre-Short Stirrup** - these are still the young riders. They aren't jumping yet. Just walking and trotting in circles. And for those who say it is easy....have you tired to trot and steer a horse?

**Short Stirrup** - this is a class when the young riders are just learning to jump, they are normally jumping small jumps and have a very simple course.

**Pleasure Horse/Pleasure Pony Division** - so this is one of those flat classes, no jumping. This is judging the horse/pony and if it is pleasurable. Its solely based on the horse and how it moves and reacts. So you need a well behaved horse/pony that looks fun to ride.

**Schooling Hunter Divisions** - these are divisions that are meant to help school or teach horses. Some riders use these as warm ups so their horses can see the jumps and get around the ring.

**Green Hunter** - the rookie horses have their own division.

**Thoroughbred Hunter** - these horses have to be registered with Jockey Club, so you need a special pass to get into this one.

**Children's Hunter** - if you have a horse and are under 18, this is your class!

**Adult Amateur Hunter** - Once you become an adult, you have your own division...i wonder is this when you have to start paying for your own classes and your parents can take a vacation with the money they save?

**Children/Adult Amateur Hunter** - this is the free for all. If you have a horse, you can compete in this division. They usually are lower heights that the regular Adult Amateur and Children's Hunter divisions. I consider it the stepping stone to the larger divisions.

**Special Hunter** - I guess it is special since everyone is invited to this party. You have a horse or a pony - you can play. You are a junior or adult amateur - you can play.

**Equitation Classes** - most every division has an equitation class. The equitation class judges the rider and how they get the horse to move.

**See - its not too scary - now we can talk about those pony classes.**

**Children's Pony Hunter** - This is offered to juniors on ponies. This is like the stepping stone to Pony Hunter.

**Pony Hunter or Green Pony Hunter** - I saved the most complicated for last!!!! They have Small, Medium and Large ponies. Their size is based on their height. So why does this matter? The size of the pony determine the height of the jump. I know, crazy! But it gets better sometime they will split the class and Large ponies will get their own class and Small/Medium get their own class. And you guess it, if it is Green Pony Hunter, it is for those rookie ponies.

There you have it!! That is prize list decoding 101. It wasn't that hard, was it?