

Pony Ready Try-It
Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee



Girl must complete 4 out of the 6 requirements.

It is suggested troops/girls earn the Lovin' and Groom' Try-It prior to the Pony Ready Try-It.

- 1) Learn at least 3 safety rules for being around horses and ponies and then follow them as you complete the try-it.
- 2) Have someone who works with horses show you how to use a curry comb, hard brush, soft brush, and mane and tail comb to groom a horse or pony. Groom a horse or pony, being sure to use each tool properly.
- 3) Learn at least one way to braid a horse or pony's mane or tail and then practice what you learned.
- 4) Learn how to safely lead a horse or pony with a lead rope and halter. With assistance from an experienced horse handler, walk a horse or pony in a straight line, turn him, and then lead him back to where you started and have him stop.
- 5) Tell 3 facts about a horse or pony, such as name, breed, color, markings, age and height. Ask someone who knows about the horse to help you.
- 6) Share 3 things you learned with your group or a friend.

Where to find help:

1. Check out the local library for information about horses and how to care for them.
2. Sign up for Pony Ready at Camp Sycamore Hills (*refer to Leader Essentials and/or the website for information about this program*)
3. Use the internet to look up information on horses. Here is a great place to start <http://www.kidsdomain.com/kids/links/Horses.html>

Leader Resources:

Safety Rules

- 1) Always walk, not run, when around horses and ponies.
- 2) Approach your horse or pony at the shoulder and avoid walking right behind him.
- 3) Use calm voices; never scream or yell.
- 4) Be sure to talk to your horse or pony before touching him to avoid surprising him if he is sleeping.

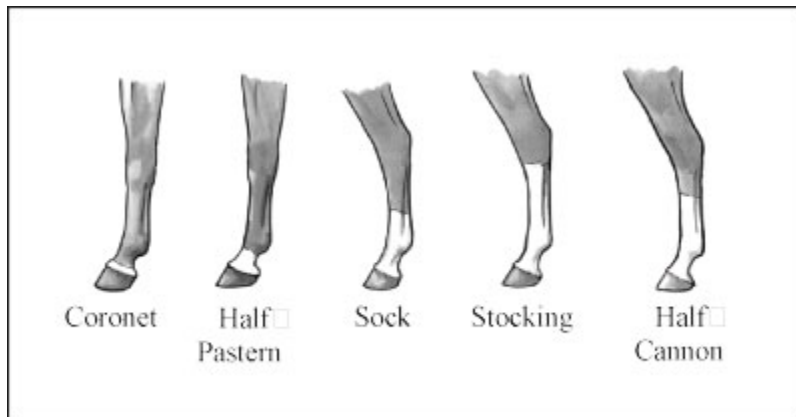
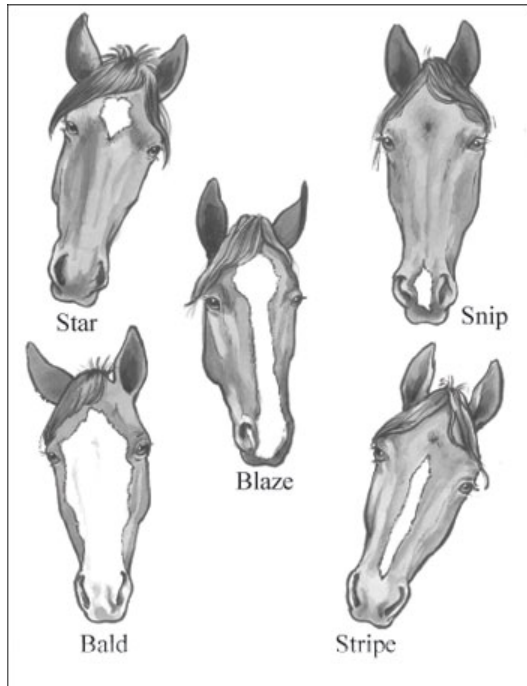
Grooming

- 1) Start with the curry comb, using in circular motions on the meaty parts of the horse. Avoid using on the bony parts of the horse. Keep your free hand on the horse so you can feel if he is about to move.
- 2) Use the hard brush with firm, short flicking strokes to remove the dirt and hair loosened by the curry comb.
- 3) Use the soft brush with long strokes to remove fine dust from the horse's coat.
- 4) When using the mane and tail comb, be sure to start at the bottom and work up so that the tangles can be removed. Hold your hand above where you are combing, especially on the tail. Instead of standing behind the horse, stand beside the horse and pull the tail over to you when combing the tail.

Leading

- 1) When holding the lead rope, be sure to **fold** the extra and never wrap it around your hand or arm in case the horse should pull away.
- 2) When possible, push the horse away from you when turning. If you must turn toward you, watch your feet because your horse cannot see them.

Horse Markings on the Face and Legs



Horse Colors

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equine_coat_color

Horse Breeds

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_horse_breeds