

MRC RIDER LEVELS

Everyone's definition of riding experience is different and we acknowledge that. To best serve and protect the MRC community we have developed the MRC Rider Levels. These levels differentiate MRC Experiences based on knowledge and skill required to join.

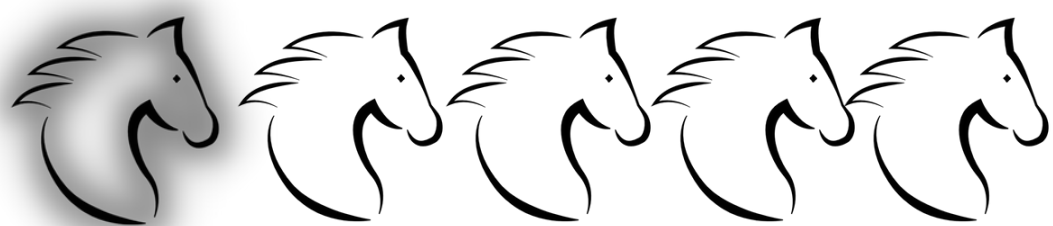
It is very possible that your MRC Rider Level may not correlate with your riding level outside of MRC, this is because MRC provides a multi-disciplinary riding platform that is unique.

MRC is also a community platform and therefore we offer group experiences. It is important that each rider accurately identifies their current level so everyone has an enjoyable and safe experience. It is important to note that, despite years of experience and knowledge, riders' confidence level can be independent of skill set but plays an important role in identifying your MRC Rider Level.

Identifying your level is also helpful in setting your goals and aspirations for riding. Our goal is to encourage each rider to learn, grow and aspire towards new and unique riding opportunities.

Please don't hesitate to let us know if you'd like to explore advancing in level, trying new rides or different disciplines. MRC is here to safely support equestrians on their riding journey and encourages participation in a variety of riding styles and trainings to produce well rounded, multi-disciplinary riders.

LEVEL 1



Riders who have minimal to basic riding and horsemanship experience. This includes riders who have not ridden since childhood.

Riders at this level are learning or re-learning how to groom, tack, basic riding abilities and the self awareness required to be around and ride horses. Riders should remain in this level until they can consistently post at the trot off the lead line around the arena. They also need to be comfortable with the foundations of ground horsemanship.

MRC rides offered at this level: Level 1 Lessons, Learn to Ride, The Clydesdale Hack (walking), Horsemanship Clinics

LEVEL 2



A starting Level 2 rider has full control at 2 gaits- walk and trot. They can mount and dismount independently. They have taken basic riding lessons within the last year and can lead, groom and tack their horse, including picking out hooves.

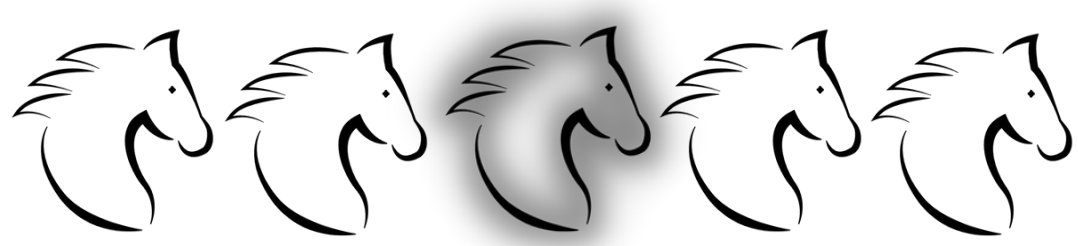
Riders at this level are learning to keep the horse on the rail, do a 20 meter circle, figure 8 and ground poles at the posting trot. You will also begin cantering at this level and should remain here until you are comfortable with trot and canter transitions. You will also learn how to adjust your tack in and out of the saddle.

MRC rides offered at this level: Back in the Saddle, Level 2 Lessons, RCF Hacks, Intro to Polo

Level required for jumping and for most open space rides

A starting Level 3 rider has full control at 3 gaits- walk, trot and canter. They can ride at the sitting, collected, working and extended trot for at least 10 minutes, change and control pace from a walk to a trot and comfortably canter over short distances. They should have taken lessons in the past 6 months and are proficient with all Level 2 horsemanship as well as understanding how to properly warm up and cool down their horse.

LEVEL 3



This is the level where confidence plays a big part in riding, a confident rider can handle an excited or spooked horse without becoming overwhelmed and can remain calm when unexpected things occur.

Riders at this level are confident and can begin to train in open space. Learning how to navigate different terrain, riding at safe distances from other riders and experience how horses behave differently outside of the arena.

Riders at this level can take jump classes and will learn the basics of jumping, forward seat and practice jumping at heights up to 2'3 on various types of horses.

MRC rides offered at this level: Level 3 Flat Lessons, Level 3 Jump Lessons, The Bedford Hack, The Brooklyn Hack, Level 3 XC Clinics, Hunt Clinics, The Clydesdale Hack (trot/canter)

LEVEL 4



*Riders must be approved through a Level 3 experience ahead of joining any Level 4 ride

A starting Level 4 rider is a confident and seasoned rider in regular lessons and has mastered walk, trot and canter in forward seat over substantial distance. They can confidently control a horse at speed from standstill to canter. They are seasoned with open space riding and cross country jumping up to 2'6. Riders should have experience with all types of horse personalities including high spirited, green and athletic. They can gauge their horses heart rate and breathing and adjust their riding according to the atmosphere (hot, cold, muddy, hard ground).

At this level riders train in the cross country field over various obstacles (banks, ditches, coops, roll tops) and at heights up to 3'6.

MRC rides offered at this level: Hunter Paces, Foxhunting, Level 4 XC Clinics, Level 4 Jumping Lessons, Horse Lease

PROFESSIONAL

LEVEL 5



Level 5 riders are at the peak of riding experience and ability and sometimes paid professionals. They are able to ride horses that are very spirited or difficult to handle at times. They ride regularly, have good physical fitness, soft hands and the ability to gallop for long stretches without getting tired.

This rider understands how to read their horse and adjust their riding accordingly. Advanced riders are comfortable leading other riders, assisting other riders, going after loose horses in the event of a fall and are hyper vigilant to their surroundings.

MRC rides offered at this level: Horse training opportunities, professional clinics at high levels
