

The WORKING EQUITATION TRAINING MANUAL

— 101 Exercises for Schooling and Competing —



ALI KERMEEN



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Working Equitation is a competitive sport that showcases classical horsemanship applied for livestock management. The sport originated in Europe, with the first European Championship held in 1996. France, Italy, Spain, and Portugal were the participants in that first championship, and the sport of Working Equitation is based on the way horses are used on farms in those countries.

In the *Obstacle Trials (Ease of Handling and the Speed Trial*—see p. 6), the core obstacles are derived from the skills needed to manage livestock in those parts of Europe. The iconic Working Equitation pole present in several obstacles is based on the *garrocha* pole that Iberian cattlemen use to work cattle.

Working Equitation quickly spread to the rest of Europe, and in 2004, the World Association for Working Equitation (WAWE) was established. Many countries now have their own national organizations for governing Working Equitation competitions.



Riding my horse River in a Dressage Trial in Western tack (A), and at a different competition, in the Ease of Handling Trial (B). You cannot change tack in the middle of a single competition.

Participants and their horses compete in the saddlery and dress traditional to their country. Some countries, like the United States, don't have a traditional uniform style, so competitors may choose the type of tack and attire that best suits them. Competitions are open to all breeds (including mules and donkeys), and all styles of riding. It is just as common to see a competitor performing the Dressage Trial in a Western saddle, as it is to see someone circling a drum in an English saddle. Many countries only offer one level of competition: Masters. Other countries,



International and National Organization Websites

WHOLE WORLD

World Association
for Working Equitation
★ wawe-official.com

UNITED STATES

USA Working Equitation
★ usawe.org

CANADA

Working Equitation Canada
★ workingeq.ca

UNITED KINGDOM

Association
for British Working Equitation
★ workingequitation-gb.com

AUSTRALIA

Australian National
Working Equitation Ltd.
★ Anwe.org.au

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Working Equitation
★ wenz.nz

including the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, and Australia, offer many levels of competition suitable to horses and riders in different phases of training. Each level has its own dressage test and requirements for performing obstacles.

Some of the terminology and requirements discussed in this book are different outside the United States, however, the exercises that I offer will prepare you well regardless of where you ride.



Competition

Working Equitation competitions have up to four Trials, which can be held on one day or over multiple days. These are: *Dressage*; *Ease of Handling*; *Speed*; and *Cattle*. In order to score well in the Dressage and Ease of Handling trials, the horse must demonstrate dressage fundamentals. He should have a round frame, be in uphill balance, and light to the rider's aids. These attributes also make a more competitive horse in the Speed and Cattle Trials.

Dressage Trial

The *Dressage Trial* is similar to a standard dressage test but designed to prepare horses and riders for the obstacles that are to be performed in the Ease of Handling Trial. Each movement earns a score from 0 to 10.

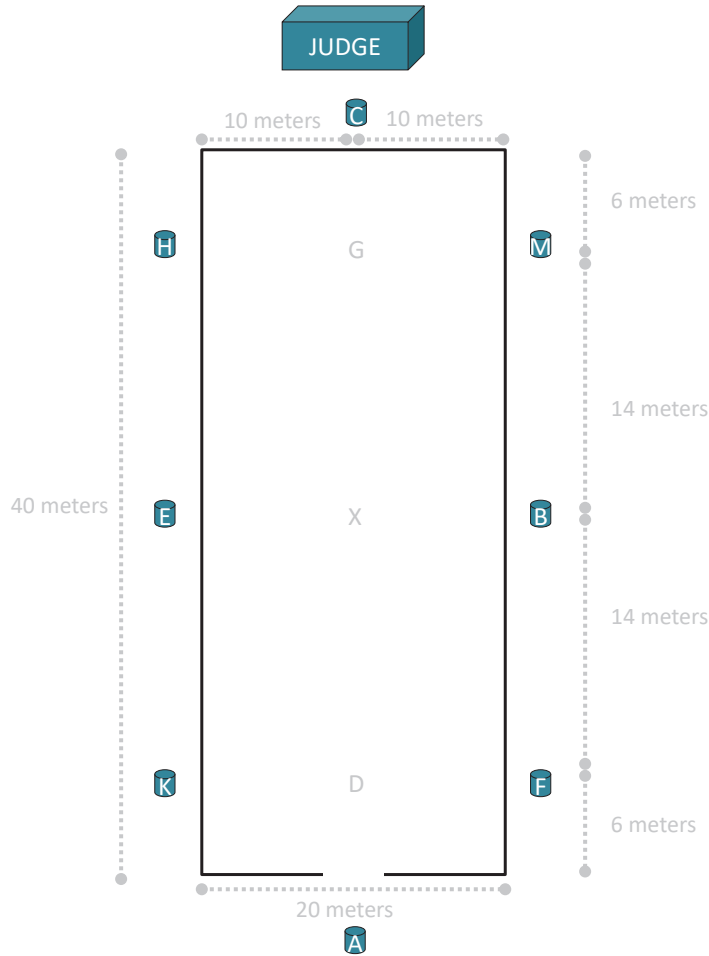
There are additional points given to the collective performance. When the rider makes an error, five points are deducted. A rider is allowed two errors in the dressage test; the third error is cause for disqualification from the Trial. Disqualification from the Dressage Trial does not eliminate the competitor from the remaining Trials of the competition.

To score well in the Dressage Trial, the horse should be balanced, straight, obedient, and relaxed. He should have a manageable level of energy sufficient to be useful while working livestock. The horse should be in a round frame, with bend appropriate to the line on which he is traveling, and he should move with pure rhythmical gaits. When a movement is called for at a specific letter marker, the horse should perform that movement exactly when his rider's leg is at the marker.

The dressage test is ridden in a standard short court (arena), 20 meters wide by 40 meters long. Eight markers demarcated with letters are positioned outside the dressage court to indicate where movements and transitions will occur. Typically, there is only one judge, and she sits outside the dressage court behind the letter C. There is only

Dressage Scoring

- 10 – Excellent**
- 9 – Very Good**
- 8 – Good**
- 7 – Reasonably Good**
- 6 – Satisfactory**
- 5 – Reasonable**
- 4 – Insufficient**
- 3 – Poor**
- 2 – Bad**
- 1 – Very Bad**
- 0 – Not Performed**



The short dressage court used in Working Equitation.

one dressage test per level. You can find the dressage test on your national governing body's website (see sidebar, p. 5).

★ In the United States and Canada, the Introductory Level dressage test (Level 1) includes medium walk on straight lines and 5-meter half-circles. Working trot can be shown rising or sitting. Trot is performed on straight lines and 20-meter circles. There is a rein-back of three to five steps and three halts performed

from a trot. Riders may use a caller to read the dressage test to them as they go.

- ★ Novice A (Level 2): adds working canter on 20-meter circles and straight lines. Working trot circles are now 15 meters, and the 5-meter half-circles in the walk from Level 1 have been replaced with a free-walk.
- ★ Novice B (Level 3): removes the free-walk and adds leg-yields and half-turn-on-the-haunches at the walk. Working

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trot is now shown on 10-meter half-circles. Working canter is shown on 15-meter circles and the centerline. Changes of canter lead are done through the trot.

- ★ Intermediate A (Level 4): Working trot is now replaced with collected trot. All trot work must now be done sitting. Medium trot is shown on a diagonal. Leg-yield is now performed at the trot. Working canter is replaced with collected canter, and medium canter is shown on straight lines and 20-meter circles. Lead changes are done through the walk. A canter-to-halt transition has been introduced. Rein-backs are now six to ten steps. The test must be ridden from memory, callers are no longer allowed.
- ★ Intermediate B (Level 5): Half-turns-on-the-haunches in the walk are now half-pirouettes at the walk. Leg-yield in the walk has been replaced by half-pass in the walk. Simple changes are now flying changes and all transitions to halt are done from canter.
- ★ Advanced (Level 6): Riders are now limited to using only one hand on the reins. Carrying a whip is only allowed at this point if it is in the tradition of the tack that the horse is being shown in. The whip is to be held upright in the free hand and not used to touch the horse or as an aid. Circles are 8 meters and performed at medium walk. Half-pirouettes in the walk are now full pirouettes. Extended walk has been added. Horses must now canter forward from the rein-back. Extended canter has been added on 20-meter circles and straight lines. The diameter of the medium canter circle has been reduced to 15 meters. Collected canter is shown on 10-meter circles. A working half-pirouette is shown at the canter. Halt transitions occur from the collected trot, collected canter, and extended canter.
- ★ Masters (Level 7) is the level of international competition. There are no significant differences in maneuvers from Advanced. There is a required sequence of maneuvers, but the rider may choose where to place them in the arena. The entire test must be completed within eight minutes and set to music of the rider's choosing.

Ease of Handling

Ease of Handling is an obstacle course that is judged in a similar manner to the Dressage Trial. The same principles of bend, balance, relaxation, energy, regularity, and obedience that were called for in

Dressage are also called for in Ease of Handling. Each obstacle earns a score on the same 0 to 10 scale as the Dressage Trial (see above), and additional marks are given to the overall performance.

Each competition has a unique Ease of Handling course, sometimes called “Maneability” internationally. Usually, riders are not shown the Ease of Handling course until they arrive at the competition. Each obstacle is numbered to help riders perform the obstacles in the correct order. Riders have an opportunity to walk the course on foot before they ride it.

There are 19 obstacles recognized by WAVE. Each country’s governing body generally recognizes a few more obstacles that are specific to livestock work in their country. Some obstacles have variations, and some are performed differently at each level. The competition obstacles covered in this book are as follows (note that obstacles marked with an * are not recognized internationally by WAVE):

1. The Jug (Exercise 5, p. 21)
2. Switch Cup (Exercise 6, p. 22)
3. Rope Gate (Exercise 30, p. 59), The Swinging Gate (Exercise 34, p. 65) and The Backward Gate (Exercise 35, p. 67)
4. The Bridge (Exercise 38, p. 71)
5. Varied Footing (Exercise 39, p. 73)*
6. Water (prepare with Exercise 40, p. 74)
7. Livestock Pen (Exercise 47, p. 83)
8. Remove Pole (Exercise 53, p. 93)
9. Skewer Ring (Exercise 54, p. 94)
10. Replace Pole (Exercise 55, p. 96)
11. Slalom (Exercise 59, p. 101)
12. Double Slalom (Exercise 66, p. 111)
13. Figure Eight (Exercise 69, p. 115); Figure Eight with Transitions (Exercise 70, p. 116); Canter Figure Eight with Lead Changes (Exercise 71, p. 117)

14. Drums (Exercise 74, p. 122)
15. Side-Pass Rail (Exercise 77, p. 127); Parallel Sidestep Rails (Exercise 79, p. 130); In-Line Side-Pass Rails (Exercise 80, p. 131); Side-Pass “L” (Exercise 81, p. 133)
16. Rounding Posts 1 (Exercise 82, p. 135) and Rounding Posts 2 (Exercise 85, p. 139)
17. Bell Corridor (Exercise 86, p. 140)
18. Rein Back “L” (Exercise 87, p. 142)
19. Ground Rail (Exercise 88; p. 144); Jump (Exercise 89, p. 145)
20. Up Bank (Exercise 92, p. 151); Down Bank (Exercise 94, p. 155)
21. Move a Sack (or Oilskin) (Exercise 96, p. 158)*
22. Dragging a Log (Exercise 99, p. 162)*
23. Experience Cattle (prepare with Exercise 100, p. 165)*

In Ease of Handling, each level has different expectations in line with what is asked for in the dressage test at that level.

- ★ Introductory (Level 1): Riders trot between the obstacles, and it is acceptable to have a reader call out the next obstacle while the rider is on course. All other levels canter between the obstacles, and no outside assistance is permitted. Lead changes are expected to be done as they are in the dressage test of the level.
- ★ Levels 2–3: Riders make their lead changes through the trot.
- ★ Level 4: Riders make lead changes through the walk.
- ★ Levels 5 and above: Riders perform flying lead changes.

The Speed Trial

The *Speed Trial* is an obstacle course that is objectively against the clock. The dressage principles used in the previous two trials are not

judged in this trial, but you need to hold on to them for your horse's emotional and physical well-being.

The Speed Trial is never performed at Introductory (Level 1). The Ease of Handling obstacles are used in the Speed Trial with a few exceptions: Herding Cattle and the Jug are not included on speed courses. The Swinging Gate is replaced with the Rope Gate (see Exercise 30, p. 59). The livestock pen is only executed in one direction.

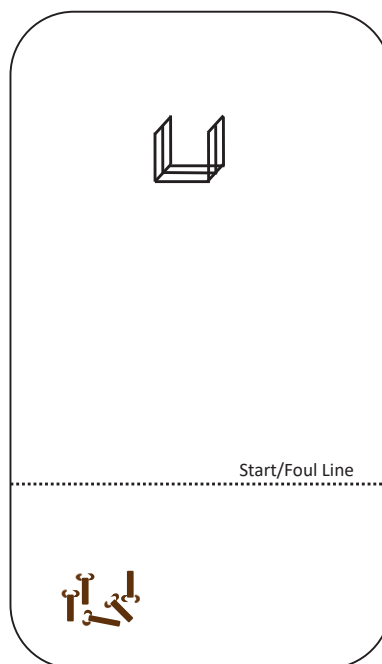
Time penalties are added for mistakes in the speed round. Five seconds are added for a leg stepping over the side-pass rail, skewering the ring with the butt-end of the pole, or putting the pole in the drum with the tip down. Ten seconds are added for knocking over an obstacle. Thirty seconds are added for not completing the rope gate properly.

Riders get a bonus of 10 seconds deducted from their time when they skewer the ring and the ring stays on the pole when it is replaced in the drum.

There may be additional time penalties, depending on your competition level. Consult your Rule Book for a complete list.

The Cattle Trial

The object of the *Cattle Trial* is to move a specific cow away from its herd into a small holding pen. The Cattle Trial is often a team competition, with three or four riders per team. Some competitions may run the cattle trial as an individual competition with the same turnback riders assisting each competitor. The fastest team (or individual) to pen the cow wins the Speed Trial. (Note: Most Working Equitation competitions in the United States do not include a Cattle Trial at this time.)



The basic setup for the Cattle Trial in a Working Equitation competition.

How to Use This Book

This book is designed to help those who are new to Working Equitation train their horses in a progressive system. It primarily focuses on developing confidence in the *obstacle phases* of Working Equitation, but *dressage principles* will be incorporated and developed as well.

All the elements of the obstacles are broken down, then brought back together in the exercises. The pages ahead include exercises I consider prerequisites to being able to perform an obstacle properly, plus ones to help improve the obstacle's execution. The goal is to introduce obstacles in a way to give both horse and rider confidence. Once obstacles are introduced, subsequent exercises and variations will help polish your performance.

Most of the exercises can be performed with materials you likely have already. Appendix A (p. 178) is a guide to the construction of obstacles. Since riders new to Working Equitation come from a variety of backgrounds, some of the terminology may be new to you. I have included a lengthy glossary of terms in Appendix B (p. 181). Reading the glossary before starting exercises will help your understanding of how the obstacles should be ridden. It is a good idea to review the glossary prior to beginning the exercises to make sure your understanding of the terms matches what is in this book. This guide can be used to prepare you and your horse for competition. However, you should always read the governing Rule Book prior to competing. I've standardized the terms in this book; they could be a little different in your country's Rule Book.

The 101 exercises that follow are all laid out in a similar manner. Here is an example so you know what to expect:

Exercise: **Sample**

0

Prerequisites

- ★ Before you start this Exercise, be sure you've successfully completed the other Exercises listed here.
- ★ Some of the prerequisite Exercises have their own prerequisites. Those Exercises should also be completed.

Setup

- ★ This is a description of the items you need for the Exercise.

How Do I Do This?

1. Step-by-step instructions for each Exercise.
2. If this exercise is a Competition Obstacle, the instructions will be for the lowest level at which the obstacle occurs. Higher levels may be included in the Variations (see below).

Keep in Mind...

- ★ Tips to help you get the most out of the Exercise are here.
- ★ Focus on a couple of these tips at a time.
- ★ Be sure to read this section before attempting the Exercise.
- ★ Refer to the glossary in Appendix B (p. 181) for definitions.

Variations

1. Variations are alternate ways of riding the obstacle.
2. Some Variations may be more difficult, while some may be less difficult.
3. You may want to do one of these Variations before attempting the main Exercise.

BENEFITS

Find out why this Exercise is important in this section.

Key to the diagrams in this book.

Dashed lines indicate forward motion

Walk is Blue 

Trot is Orange 

Canter is Green 

Solid red lines indicate backward motion




Parallel lines indicate lateral movement




Halt 


Transition 

Post 

Cone 

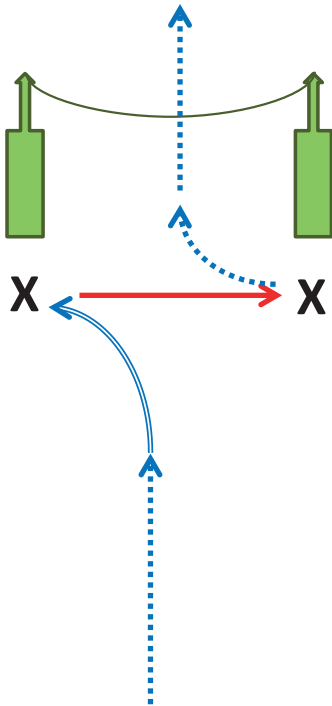
Rail 



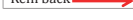
Drum 

Left Bend 

Right Bend 

Exercise: **Opening the Rope Gate**



KEY:
Halt **X**
Walk 
Leg yield 
Rein back 

Prerequisites

- ★ Exercise 2: Immobility (p. 17).
- ★ Exercise 26: Groundwork: Placing Feet Next to Obstacles (p. 53).

Setup

- ★ A 7- to 8-foot (2- to 2.4-meter) rope strung between posts (or jump standards) 6½ feet (2 meters) apart.

How Do I Do This?

1. Approach the gate facing the middle of the rope.
2. Turn so that your horse's body is parallel to the rope.
3. Halt with the end of the rope near your knee.
4. Pick up the end of the rope.
5. Back up until you can hang up the rope on the other post.
6. Ride through the open gate.

Keep in Mind...

- ★ Your horse may be nervous about the rope.

- ★ It's always better to drop the rope than pull over a post or let yourself get pulled off your horse.
- ★ If your horse is nervous, practice standing calmly next to the rope before attempting to touch it.

Variations

1. Approach the gate from the short end. Stop at the first gate post, pick up the rope, and walk forward. Hang up the rope on the second gate post.
2. Approach the gate from the short end. Stop at the second gate post, pick up the rope, and back up to open the gate. Hang up the rope, and ride forward through the gate.

BENEFITS

This will help your horse get comfortable with the *rope gate* obstacle.

Exercise: **Closing the Rope Gate**

29

Prerequisites

- ★ Exercise 23: One-handed Rein-Back (p. 49).
- ★ Exercise 28: Opening the Rope Gate (p. 56).

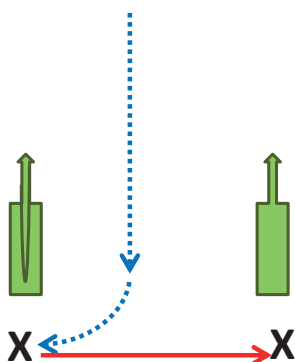
Setup

- ★ Same as Exercise 28, but with both ends of the rope on the same post.

How Do I Do This?

1. Ride through the gate posts.
2. Halt with your hand next to the rope.

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3. Your horse should be parallel to the opening of the gate.
4. Pick up one end of the rope.
5. Back up your horse in a straight line.
6. Halt when your hand is near the second gate post.
7. Hang the end of the rope on the post.

Keep in Mind...

- ★ Many horses get nervous when the rope follows them as they back away. Try the variations of this exercise first to help your horse understand what is expected.
- ★ Be sure you have successfully completed Exercise 26 (p. 53) and its variations so that your horse is less likely to move his hind feet away from the second gate post.

Variations

1. Approach the gate from its short side that has the rope. Close the gate by walking forward.
2. Approach the gate from the short side without the rope. Close the gate backing up.

BENEFITS

This is another step in the introduction of the gate obstacle. Breaking the steps into pieces to work on individually creates better understanding of the mechanics.

Exercise: **Rope Gate**

Prerequisites

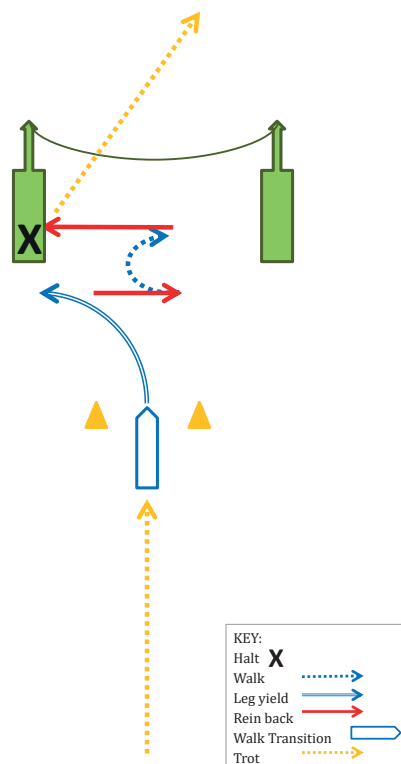
- ★ Exercise 14: Compass Control (p. 33).
- ★ Exercise 27: Leg-Yield Swoop (p. 55).
- ★ Exercise 29: Closing the Rope Gate (p. 57).

Setup

- ★ A 7- to 8-foot (2- to 2.4-meter) rope strung between gate posts (or jump standards) 6½ feet (2 meters) apart.
- ★ A cone gate 5 feet (1.5 meters) wide, approximately 10 feet (3 meters) from the center of the rope gate.

How Do I Do This?

1. Approach the cone gate at trot.
2. Transition to walk just before the cones.
3. Perform a leg-yield swoop that concludes in a square halt with your hand by the end of the rope and your horse parallel to the rope.
4. Lift the end of the rope.
5. Back up until your horse can pass through the opening.
6. Turn your horse through the opening.
7. Back up parallel to the rope, closing the gate.



Competition Obstacle

8. Conclude your rein-back with a square halt; your hand should be within reach of the gate post.
9. Hang up the rope.
10. Turn your horse and trot away.

Keep in Mind...

- ★ Be careful the rope doesn't get caught on your stirrup or reins.
- ★ It is better to drop the rope than to pull a standard over or get pulled off your horse.
- ★ If you do drop the rope, regather the rope from the end that is still on the gate post.

Variations

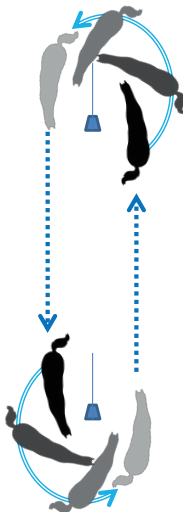
1. All levels above Introductory (Level 1), approach at canter, and canter away from the obstacle after completion.
2. Omit the halts as you might during a Speed round.

BENEFITS

This is a competition obstacle that demonstrates the horse's ability to start and stop moving in many directions within a small space.

Exercise: Turn-on-the-Forehand in Motion

31



KEY:
Walk→
TOF in motion, path of hind feet ———→

Prerequisites

- ★ Exercise 24: Turn-on-the-Forehand (p. 50).
- ★ Exercise 27: Leg-Yield Swoop (p. 55).

Setup

- ★ 2 posts or cones about 33 feet (10 meters) apart.

How Do I Do This?

1. Walk your horse from one post straight to the other.
2. As you approach the post, flex your horse's nose toward the post.

3. Bring your inside shoulder back.
4. Use your inside leg to encourage your horse to take larger steps with his hind feet than his front feet while you continue to face your horse toward the post.
5. After you've turned 180 degrees, ride forward toward the first post and repeat the turn there.

Keep in Mind...

- ★ There is no halting in this movement.
- ★ Your horse should get more active with his hind legs through the turn.
- ★ Use the increased activity from the hind leg to create a more uphill balance riding out of the turn.
- ★ Be sure your outside rein is not allowing the shoulders to fall to the outside in the turn.
- ★ Lighten your hand slightly coming out of the turns to develop self-carriage.

Variations

1. Can be done in trot.
2. Can be done in canter.
3. Add a third post to ride a triangle shape.
4. You can change direction by riding between the posts after your turns.

BENEFITS

This exercise is wonderful in developing more impulsion coming out of turns. It improves shoulder control and control of the haunches. At the same time, it gives the horse the idea of turning around an obstacle.

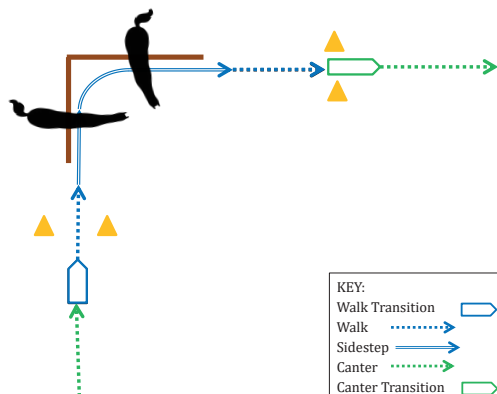
Exercise: **Side-Pass "L"**

Prerequisites

- ★ Exercise 31: Turn-on-the-Forehand in Motion (p. 60).
- ★ Exercise 45: Half-Turn-on-the-Haunches (p. 80).
- ★ Exercise 78: Full Pass Over Rail (p. 129).

Setup

- ★ Arrange 2 rails at a right angle so they form an "L" shape, elevated off the ground.
- ★ Place a cone gate at each short end of the "L."



Competition Obstacle

How Do I Do This?

1. Approach the cones at canter.
2. Transition to walk just before you pass through the cones.
3. Turn your horse so that he has his front feet on the inside of the "L."
4. Move your horse sideways over the rails.
5. At the intersection of the two rails, ask your horse to make smaller steps with his front feet, and larger steps with his hind feet until he is aligned to go sideways over the remainder of the "L."

6. Continue sideways until your horse has cleared the rails.
7. Turn and walk through the cones.
8. Resume the canter as you ride away from the obstacle.

Keep in Mind...

- ★ Your horse should stay in motion and not plant his feet.
- ★ Think of riding a turn-on-the-forehand as you ride over the intersection of the rails.
- ★ Your horse should not step over either of the rails or hit them with his feet.

Variations

1. Ride through the exercise starting at the cone gate that was previously the exit. Now you will be moving sideways in the opposite direction from the original exercise.
2. Have your horse's hind feet to the inside of the "L" and ride a turn-on-the-haunches where the rails intersect.
3. Form different letters with your rails. "Z" is also found in competition.

BENEFITS

This obstacle tests the rider's ability to vary the angle and trajectory of the lateral work while in motion.

Exercise: Rounding Posts 1

82

Prerequisites

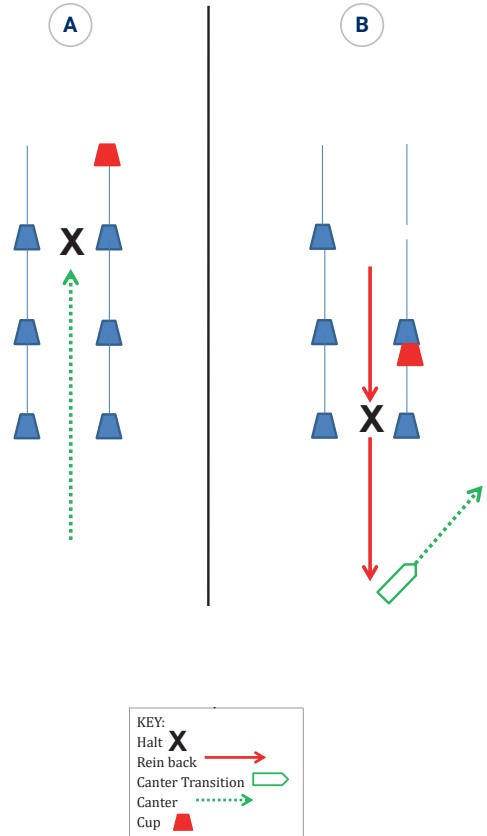
- ★ Exercise 2: Immobility (p. 17).
- ★ Exercise 3: Halting Precisely p. 19).
- ★ Exercise 4: Transitions on a Straight Line (p. 20).
- ★ Exercise 23: One-Handed Rein-Back (p. 49).

Setup

- ★ Set up 2 columns of posts, 5 feet (1.5 meters) apart.
- ★ Each column should have 3 rows of posts, 10 to 12 feet (3 to 3.7 meters) apart.
- ★ Place a plastic cup upside down on the upper right post.

How Do I Do This?

1. Canter through the column and make a square halt between the top 2 posts. Progressive transitions are acceptable.
2. Take your reins in one hand while your horse remains immobile.
3. Pick up the cup with your free hand while your horse maintains immobility (A).



Competition Obstacle

4. Rein-back in a straight line until you are between the bottom 2 posts.
5. Halt between the bottom 2 posts.
6. Place the cup upside down on the lower right post.
7. Retake your reins in two hands.
8. Rein-back until your horse's head has cleared the posts.
9. Turn, and canter away from the obstacle (B).

Keep in Mind...

- ★ Stay deep in your seat.
- ★ It is better to stay looking forward at a focal point and feel if your horse is straight, than to look back.

BENEFITS

This competition obstacle highlights the ability of the horse to rein-back willingly in a straight line.

Exercise: **Rein-Back Half-Circle**

83

Prerequisites

- ★ Exercise 14: Compass Control (p. 33).
- ★ Exercise 21: Pivot (p. 46).
- ★ Exercise 23: One-Handed Rein-Back (p. 49).

Setup:

- ★ Make 2 cone gates at 90 degrees from each other.

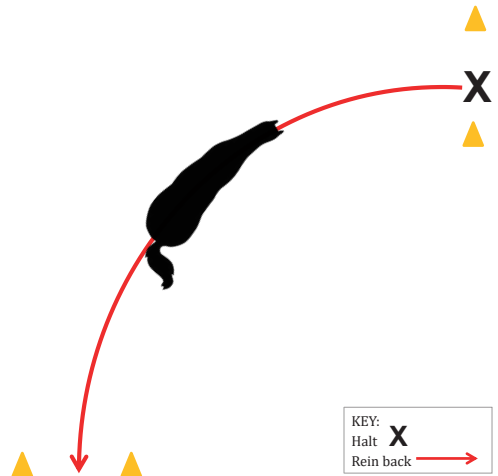
- ★ They should form the same curve as a 6- to 8-meter circle.

How Do I Do This?

1. Ride a balanced halt between one gate, facing away from the other gate.
2. Ask your horse to back up on a curve until you are between the second gate.

Keep in Mind...

- ★ Avoid pulling with your hands to initiate rein-back.
- ★ Maintain bend to the inside of the curve.
- ★ As the horse picks up his outside front foot, draw it to the outside of the curve with an opening outside rein, and inside leg aid.
- ★ Stay deep in your saddle and avoid leaning forward.
- ★ In first attempts, it is acceptable to go a step or two at a time.



BENEFITS

Backing on a curve becomes necessary as you advance in Working Equitation. It helps with the ability to maneuver the horse effectively in tight spaces.

Prerequisites

- ★ Exercise 18: Spiral and Hold (p. 38).

Setup

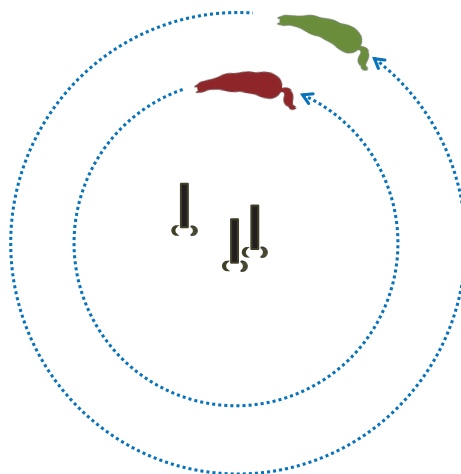
- ★ Find a horse and rider partnership with experience moving cattle.
- ★ Find a small group of small cattle, individuals less than 500 pounds (227 kilograms).

How Do I Do This?

1. Have your friend ride circles around the cattle.
2. Keep your friend's horse between you and the cattle.
3. Switch to following your friend's horse.
4. Switch to riding ahead of your friend's horse.
5. Repeat Steps 2 to 3 with smaller circles.
6. Make the circle small enough so the cattle move away from you.

Keep in Mind...

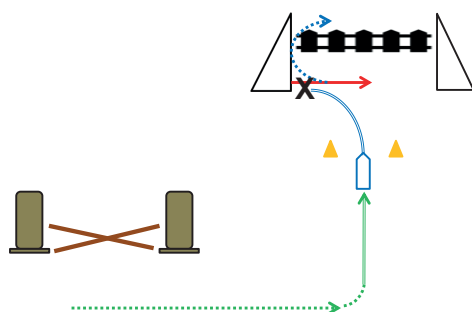
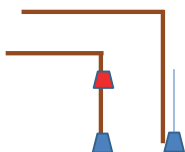
- ★ Approach the cattle with confidence.
- ★ Go slowly to help keep horses and cattle calm.



BENEFITS

This exercise builds confidence and bravery among other species of animals.

Exercise: **Combining Exercises**



KEY:	
Walk transition	
Walk	
Leg yield sloop	
Canter	
Canter shoulder in	
Rein back	
Halt	

Prerequisites

- ★ Prerequisites vary. Do each exercise by itself before combining with others.

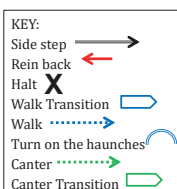
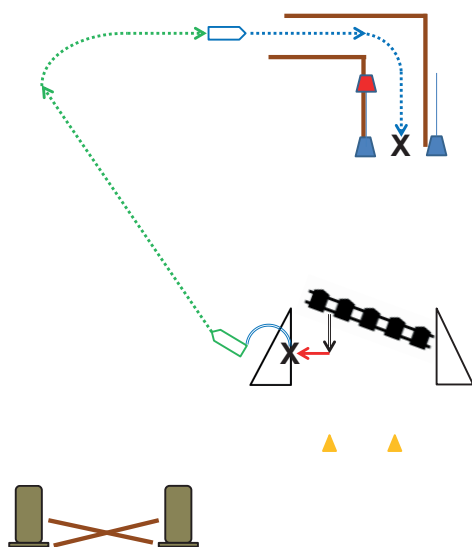
Setup

- ★ For this example, set up any gate obstacle, the Rein-Back “L” (p. 142), Switch Cup (p. 22), and Jump (p. 145).
- ★ Any combination from this book can work. Get creative!

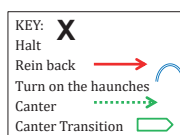
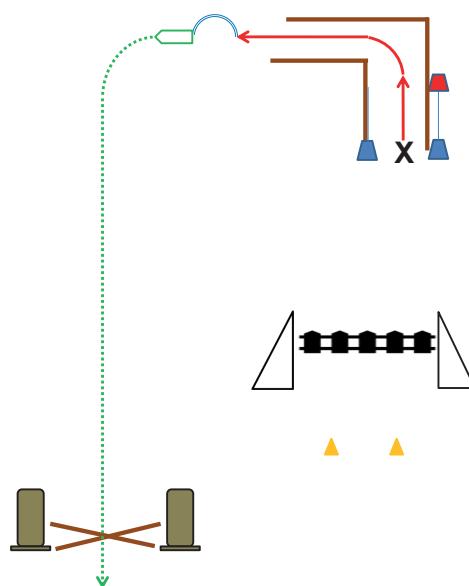
How Do I Do This?

1. Ride through the entire pattern in your mind. Try diagramming it on paper!
2. Approach the gate at canter.
3. Ride a shoulder-in.
4. Transition to walk in shoulder-in, just before the cones.
5. Ride the gate obstacle (A).
6. Turn-on-the-haunches and transition to collected canter.
7. Make a square turn and transition to walk just before entering the “L.”
8. Walk to the end of the “L.”
9. Make a square halt.

A



B



C

10. Switch the cup (B).

11. Back through the “L.”

12. Resume canter.

13. Jump the jump (C).

Keep in Mind...

- ★ The spaces between the obstacles are opportunities to improve your horse’s way of going.
- ★ Always think about how you can improve your horse in the moment. Make the improvement.

★ You can set up any combination and variation of exercises. This is just one example.

BENEFITS

Riding exercises in sequence gets you thinking fast. You will gain competence in managing your horse’s way of going while performing a task. Riding a full course is the natural extension of riding exercises in sequence. Give thought to your lines between obstacles and what can be done to improve your horse’s balance as you progress through your course.