



#72652

Working Ranch Horse Optional Focus Area Skills Checklist

Member's name: _____

Mastering these Ranch Horse skills will provide a solid foundation upon which the member may build. Working cattle in ranch sports (cutting, team penning, roping, etc.), in a feedlot situation or on a working ranch requires specific knowledge and skills. The skills listed below will help 4-H leaders know what to teach and 4-H members to know what they need to learn. Have your leader initial and date each skill as completed. Each level may take more than one year to complete.

	Date Completed	Approved By
Level 1		
1. Demonstrate your horse's ability to ground tie and be hobbled.	_____	_____
2. Name branding method used for horse identification.	_____	_____
3. Roping:		
a. Name the parts of the rope.	_____	_____
b. Demonstrate the ability to coil and handle a rope.	_____	_____
c. Demonstrate roping a dummy (heading and heeling) from the ground.	_____	_____
d. Demonstrate roping a dummy (heading and heeling) from a horse.	_____	_____
e. Demonstrate a proper dally while roping a dummy from horseback.	_____	_____
4. Cattle working skills:		
a. Describe the term "read cattle."	_____	_____
b. Demonstrate your ability to read and handle one animal on foot.	_____	_____

	Date Completed	Approved By
Level 2 – Complete Level 1 before proceeding to level 2		
1. Demonstrate the following youth/horse skills while mounted.		
a. Ability to sort and pen cattle.	_____	_____
b. Open, go through, and close gates (wood, metal)	_____	_____
2. List the equipment and gear that may be necessary during a ranch working day.	_____	_____
3. Demonstrate the following roping skills from horseback:		
a. The purpose of each part of the rope.	_____	_____
b. A proper dally when heading a calf as if you were in an actual ranch situation (using a break-away hondo).	_____	_____
c. A proper dally when heeling a calf as if you were in an actual ranch situation (using a break-away hondo).	_____	_____

d. Demonstrate your ability to safely ride in different kinds of ranch terrain (up and down hills, cross creeks, brush, trees, etc.).

Level 3 – Complete Level 2 before proceeding to level 3

Date Completed **Approved By**

1. Demonstrate how to sort out a cow and hold it away from the herd.
2. Demonstrate your ability to open, go through, and close a wire gate while leading your horse.
3. Demonstrate the following roping skills:
 - a. In actual ranch situation rope, dally, and hold a cow (heading and heeling).
 - b. The ability of your horse to stand and keep the rope tight after animal is roped:
 - While mounted
 - After rider dismounts
4. Leadership:
 - a. Help teach a related 4-H project.
 - b. Demonstrate working ranch horse skills to younger members.

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