

Glossary for Workbook

Abuse is the unintentional mistreatment of the horse due to uneducated riding.

Example: If your hands bounce up and down with your posting motion, the horse's mouth is abused by your uneducated hand. The rider is not intentionally hurting the horse.⁹

Advanced Control aims at the highest quality of a horse's performance in schooling, hunting, or showing that an able horse can produce. This would require a mentally relaxed and a physically alert and responsive athletic and educated horse.¹⁰

Advanced Level Jumping

Horse: contact is maintained throughout turns, approaches, and the jump itself (although there is some lessening of tension between bit and hands while on the approach).

Rider: may use two-point position and/or full seat to fit the needs of the course

Purpose: quality performance of horse and rider

Connection – horse moves in one piece / united

Contact is created through a definite coordination and cooperation between the rider's hands and legs and the horse's efforts and reactions. It is the feeling of the horse's reserve energy in the rider's hands. The urging leg creates this energy or impulse. The feeling in the rider's hand is elastic and alive. The horse's head and neck should be extended and he should be connected. Quality contact is created when the horse is muscled properly, strong enough to raise the withers and put his mouth in the rider's hands giving the rider minute control over details. This is very light and subtle. The rider must always follow the horse's head and neck gesture.

Elementary Control aims at establishing authority with your horse through definite and quick control. This level of control is especially useful starting young horses. It often takes an advanced rider to achieve a good performance with a young elementary horse on this level of schooling.¹¹

Elementary control techniques utilize the four natural aids with emphasis on voice, loose rein, check release, and tapping leg in the three leg aid positions.¹²

Elementary Level Jumping

Horse: approaches on loose rein and maintains a consistent pace to the obstacle

Rider: in two-point position, takes a hold of the mane before take-off

Purpose:

- 1) advanced rider schooling horse
- 2) beginning rider on made horse learning to jump
- 3) upper level rider correcting a position fault, etc.

Engagement is the movement of a hind leg well forward under the horse's belly and the hoof connects with the ground well forward.

Forward Riding is a modern system of riding for hunters, jumpers, and cross-country horses consisting of three major parts: Position, Control, and Schooling.¹³

Four fundamentals of a good position¹⁴

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Unity of horse and rider | c) Non-abuse |
| b) Security | d) Efficient use of aids |

Intermediate Control aims at soft and precise control with a soft but definite cooperation of rider's hands and legs with horse's efforts and reactions. Contact helps achieve better control (soft/precise) and better movement (connected) and efficient, long, low, ground covering strides.¹⁵

Intermediate Level Jumping

Horse: approaches on contact that is gradually and rhythmically lightened to loose rein, so that jump itself is on a looped rein

Rider: in two-point position, rests hands on sides of the horse's crest over top of fence (crest release)

Purpose: allows softness, precision, subtle rating of stride between jumps on contact and full use of the horse's balancing gesture over the jumps. Also, it is non-abusive.

Natural aids: 1) seat/weight; 2) voice; 3) hand; 4) leg

On the line refers to the horse's head and neck being bent in the direction of travel and the hind foot stepping into or beyond the track of the front foot.

Passive Contact is the beginning level of contact. The rider shortens her reins sufficiently so that she has a soft, consistent connection with the horse's mouth. The horse accepts this feeling without resistance keeping his mouth closed and head and neck extended. The rider follows the balancing gesture of the horse's head and neck with her arms.

Punishment is the intentional use of a strong aid to correct or discourage inappropriate behaviors.
Example: spanking with a crop and saying "no!" when a horse balks.

Sequence of Aids for Downward Transition using Elementary Controls are:

- 1) sink into the tack and sit
- 2) voice (say "the name of the gait you are asking for")
- 3) hand-check-release
- 4) urging leg to ask horse to continue forward in one piece.

Sequence of the Aids for Upward Transitions using Elementary Controls are:

- 1) Rider's body prepared for forward movement
- 2) Voice (say "the name of the gait you are asking for in a sharp tone of voice")
- 3) Urging/tapping leg aid
- 4) Reinforce leg with a stick or spur if you do not get the desired response

Stabilization is a concept in schooling. A stabilized horse will maintain the gait and speed asked, obeying elementary control techniques alone, in company, on the flat, uneven terrain, and over jumps.
To begin stabilization, you will normally not begin on loose reins.¹⁶

Stages of the jump include: approach, takeoff, flight, and landing.