

HorseSense Learning Levels
HORSESENSE CURRICULUM:

BLUE LEVEL

The **Blue HorseSense Level** challenges students to deepen their understanding of horse care, tack and anatomy, helping them become knowledgeable and responsible horsey caretakers.

This Level explores more **complex topics such as conformation, soundness, and biting** along with practical skills such as **trailer loading** and **longeing**.

WHO IS BLUE LEVEL FOR?

-  Students who have **completed the Red through Green HorseSense Levels**.
-  **Students and parents** interested in learning more about horsekeeping and the realities of horse ownership. (Whether they intend to keep the horse at home or not!)
-  **Students** who wish to be qualified to compete or travel off-property, with lesson horses or their own horses.
-  **Staff members, volunteers, working students**, or anyone who may be expected to handle and care for your horses independently.
-  **Backyard horse owners** interested in continuing their education or checking for gaps in their knowledge.

WHAT DOES BLUE LEVEL TEACH?

-  **The intended purpose and fit of different tack pieces** such as nosebands, martingales, breastplates, etc.
-  **How to apply a polo wrap** and awareness of potential dangers.
-  **Simple first aid skills** and methods of controlling **parasites**.
-  **Basic biomechanics of horse gaits** and how to detect faulty movement or lameness.
-  **How to evaluate conformation** and the relationship between a horse's structure, posture, and soundness.
-  **Equine travel safety** including loading techniques and routine trailer inspections.
-  **Guidelines for safe longeing** and how to handle longeing equipment.

Blue HorseSense Level should be a minimum goal for aspiring horse owners.

It takes knowledge and experience to make educated decisions about horses. **This Level encourages critical thinking skills** by exploring more nuanced topics - and by taking a hard look at the consequences of uninformed riding, training and horse care practices.

Blue Level students are no longer beginners and may need to Level Up their commitment in order to complete these more challenging objectives. While it is technically possible to work **Blue Level HorseSense** into mounted lessons, most students will need dedicated unmounted lesson time to feel confident in their knowledge and abilities.

