

HorseSense Learning Levels
HORSESENSE CURRICULUM:

ORANGE LEVEL

In **Orange HorseSense Level**, students begin to look at the big picture of equine management, learning to think like a horse and consider the long-term effects of feeding, training and health care practices.

This Level revisits some topics from previous Levels, expanding them to include greater detail, allowing students to make informed riding and horse care decisions.

WHO IS ORANGE LEVEL FOR?

-  Students who have **completed all previous HorseSense Levels**.
-  **Students and parents** interested in learning more about horsekeeping and the realities of horse ownership - especially if they plan to care for a horse on their own someday.
-  **Students** who regularly ride or care for horses independently.
-  **Students** who need to learn more about equine fitness for mounted activities.
-  **Assistant instructors, working students or volunteers** who may be asked to help set poles, jumps or obstacles in the arena.
-  **Barn staff** or anyone else who may be required to make decisions about your horses' care.

WHAT DOES ORANGE LEVEL TEACH?

-  **Equine behavior theory** and the importance of species-appropriate riding and stable management practices.
-  **Distances for ground poles** and other discipline-specific arena setups.
-  **How to longe a horse** for exercise safely.
-  **Preventative health care routines** including specific immunizations and dental care.
-  **Hoof wrapping** techniques.
-  **Conformation judging** and the influence of posture and breed type.
-  **Equine nutrition concepts** including the digestive process and how to calculate rations.
-  **How to create a conditioning plan** for a strenuous activity.

Orange HorseSense allows students to make educated decisions that keep horses happy and healthy.

Students who earn an Orange HorseSense ribbon begin to grasp how all aspects of horsemanship are connected, including equine psychology, anatomy, stable management, and training practices. While they should still ride and care for a horse with experienced mentorship, they will gain confidence in their own abilities through expanded knowledge and experience with a variety of horsemanship skills.

This is an intermediate Level and will require dedicated hours of study and supervised practice. Basic math skills are necessary for calculating striding and feed rations.

