

HorseSense Learning Levels
HORSESENSE CURRICULUM:

PURPLE LEVEL

Purple HorseSense students begin to study different facets of equine management in depth, resulting in a foundation of knowledge that can be used to become a responsible rider, trainer or horse owner.

This Level includes practical skills common to horse ownership and emphasizes the importance of prevention as well as recognizing and addressing horsekeeping challenges.

WHO IS PURPLE LEVEL FOR?

-  Students who have **completed all previous HorseSense Levels.**
-  **Students and parents** who plan to own and care for horses independently, at home or in a self-care boarding facility.
-  **Anyone interested in working at a barn** or pursuing an equestrian career.
-  **Students who compete** and are interested in learning more about grooming and turnout.
-  **Staff members, volunteers, working students,** or anyone who may be expected to handle and care for your horses on a regular basis.
-  **Backyard horse owners** interested in continuing their education or checking for gaps in their knowledge.

WHAT DOES PURPLE LEVEL TEACH?

-  **More advanced grooming skills** such as braiding, sheath cleaning, and mane care.
-  **How to evaluate a horse's movement** on the longe line.
-  **Bandaging techniques** used for shipping bandages and tail wraps.
-  **Symptoms, causes, treatment options and prevention** of equine diseases and ailments.
-  **Identification of toxic plants, unsoundnesses and horseshoes.**
-  **Stable management routines** designed to maintain a horse's health and create a safe, species-appropriate environment.
-  **The economic realities of horse ownership** and how to construct a budget.

PurpleSense Level is for dedicated, responsible equestrians.

To earn a **Purple Level** ribbon, students must show **a depth of understanding that would allow them to teach a subject or put it into practice.** They should demonstrate a genuine desire to become informed in all aspects of horse management, putting the horse's welfare first and foremost.

Not all recreational students will achieve this Level. Mastering **Purple HorseSense** requirements can require hours of study, critical thinking, and hands-on practice. **Students should be prepared to supplement unmounted lesson time and demonstrate active learning** through repeated practice, discussion, and outside study from books, videos and credible online sources.

