

HORSEMANSHIP CURRICULUM:

ORANGE LEVEL

The **Orange Horsemanship Level** is an intermediate riding Level, requiring students to ride with increased confidence, control, and influence over the horse's balance.

Students in the English curriculum develop their jumping skills in the arena and in the open, while Western riders test their position over ground poles and a single low jump in preparation for trail challenges.

WHO IS ORANGE LEVEL FOR?

- 🐾 **Students in regular group or private lessons** who have completed all previous **Horsemanship Levels**.
- 🐾 **Lessees or horse owners** who want to practice riding independently between lessons.
- 🐾 **Riders who aspire** to show, trail ride, and/or participate in activities such as cross-country schooling.
- 🐾 **Riders preparing** to learn how to ride at the gallop.
- 🐾 **Confident, ambitious students who are ready to learn more challenging riding skills** and are willing to Level Up their commitment to fitness both in and out of the saddle!

WHAT DOES ORANGE LEVEL TEACH?

- 🐾 **Elements of a successful warm-up** and the importance of listening to the horse.
- 🐾 **Riding with a steady light contact** and **correct bend** through turns and ring figures at all three gaits.
- 🐾 **Turn on the forehand** and, in the Western curriculum, **turn on the haunches**.
- 🐾 **Riding the hand gallop** with a secure, balanced galloping position.
- 🐾 **Riding cross-country** or **on the trail**.
- 🐾 **English riders** jump a variety of grids and coursework exercises, working up to a 2' course at the canter with correct leads.
- 🐾 **Western riders learn how to negotiate lope over poles** and jump a single 18" crossrail.

Orange Horsemanship opens doors to all kinds of equestrian activities.

Most students who commit to regular weekly lessons for a few years are able to achieve an Orange Horsemanship ribbon. They should emerge from this level with confidence and competence in basic multi-discipline riding skills, working toward the ability to ride with a soft contact achieved through an independent seat. This allows them to ride happily on a trained horse, and participate in lower-level shows and events.

This Level also represents a turning point: to move on to the advanced Levels, students may need to invest in a horse or otherwise increase their commitment.

