



Showmanship Guidelines for the Canadian Horse

A judge will be looking for:

1) CONDITION

- well muscled
- well fed, but not over fat or too thin
- good bloom to coat indicating good feeding, worming schedule, and good grooming

2) GROOMING

- coat should be clean, no stains, good shine, no rough spots
- mane and tail should be washed and brushed out
- white legs should be washed
- make sure legs, nostrils, and docks are clean
- hooves should be well trimmed, or shod, clean and in good condition

3) TRIMMING

The Canadian should be shown naturally, therefore:

- mane and tail are naturally long and tidy
- feathering on fetlocks should not be trimmed
- whiskers on face should not be shaved
- long hairs on jowls and in ears should be tidied

4) EXHIBITOR'S APPEARANCE

- all clothing must be neat and clean
- boots must be polished
- appropriate hats may be worn (no ball caps)
- long hair must be tidy (in net or under hat)
- ties or ascots for men, scarves permissible for women
- no spurs worn during line classes
- whips or crops allowed but must be used with discretion
- no talking between exhibitors in the ring

SHOWING HORSE IN THE RING

1) Leading:

- Enter ring at the walk. Walk in the direction indicated by the judge
- Stand ½ way between horse's shoulder and head, and stay on horse's left side
- Keep 1 horse length between you and the horse in front at all times
- Lead horse at a brisk walk (do not pull and do not look back)
- Follow judges instructions
- When turning your horse always turn your horse away from you (keeping your horse between you and the judge)

2) Standing Your Horse:

- always line up in a straight line facing the judge
- stand horse with feet placed squarely underneath him (do not stretch the horse)
- do not use your feet on horse's legs
- let horse relax while judge is inspecting other horses

Pay attention to the judge at all times. Exhibitor should be able to see the judge at all times while he inspects your horse. Never obstruct the judge's view of your horse with your body. Keep your horse as still as possible.

J. Cameron
Aug 2005