Horses

What a judge might look for in horses:

- Good conformation which means the form or outline of an animal - the symmetrical arrangement of its parts. A proportionately well-built horse is symmetrical and smooth; each component part blends into other parts to give over-all balance, style, and beauty.

- The way the horse travels - how the horse performs while in motion.

- Depending on the breed, color may be of importance. Some breeds for which color is important are Paint, Pinto, Palomino and Appaloosa.

What a judge might look for in the show ring:

- Showmanship includes general appearance, how the rider sits in the saddle, how the rider controls its mount and how the horse responds to its rider's commands.

- In halter classes, the horse is judged on conformation depending on its breed's ideal characteristics.

- In performance classes, the horse and rider are judged. Some types of performance classes are based on different gaits the horse is put through. Some other performance classes are: jumping, driving (with carts or buggies), trail, and cattle classes (team penning, cutting, etc.).

- Timed or running events are some of the more exciting classes in horse shows. In these classes the fastest entry wins. Some timed events are barrels, cones and pole bending.

- Some horse shows include cattle classes. These classes test the horse and rider's ability to control cattle, whether it is to "cut" one calf from a herd of calves or to select a designated calf or group of calves from a herd and "pen" them.

- A good showman is polite and courteous to other exhibitors and pays attention to both the animal and to the judge.

You give it a try and see how your placings compare to the judge’s (fill in the exhibitor’s number):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Choice:</th>
<th>Judge’s Decision:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Place</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
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<td>5th Place</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Look for similar “Judge Along” sheets near the other livestock show rings, or at www.mostatefair.com
Test Your Knowledge . . .

Match the facts about horses on the right with the correct terms on the left.

1. Hunter Hack
2. Hunter Under Saddle
3. Halter Class
4. Western Riding
5. Pleasure Driving
6. Reining
7. Western Pleasure

A. horse is shown at a walk, jog and lope, both ways of the ring
B. horse is judged on quality of gaits, change of leads, response to the rider, manners, disposition and intelligence
C. horse is shown at a walk, trot and canter, both ways of the ring
D. horses are required to jump two fences, 2' to 2'6", and are shown at a walk, trot and canter
E. to guide and control every movement
F. horse is judged on balance, muscling, structural correctness and breed characteristics
G. horse is judged while pulling a cart

Parts of the Horse

Breed showing at the Missouri State Fair

Appaloosa: white over loin and hips, other color variable
Paint: white with any other color markings
Palomino: golden with light color mane and tail
Quarter Horse: chestnut, sorrel, bay, dun, black, roan or brown
Saddlebred: larger bay, brown, gray, chestnut or black
Walking Horse: larger sorrel, chestnut, black, roan, white or bay

TERMS

Stallion: an adult male horse
Mare: a female horse
Gelding: a castrated male horse