

Tape-2

Handling Handout

- * When handling a horse you should always wear your helmet to avoid injury to your head in the event of a kick.

A. When getting a horse in and out of a stall, you should....

1. speak to your horse first to get his attention.
2. open the stall door 1/2 way so that you can get out but your horse can not.
3. approach the horse on his left side.
4. put the lead rope over his neck first.
5. hold the halter so that the "T" is next to your stomach, slip the halter over the horse's nose, bring the strap up around the neck, and then buckle the strap.
6. open the stall door all the way and fold back the handle.
7. never wrap the lead rope around your hand.
8. when you return your horse to his stall, turn him around so that his tail is facing the back of the stall. Then, close the door 1/2 way, remove the halter, and exit the stall.

B. When leading your horse, you want to.....

1. keep your eyes facing in the direction that you want to go.
2. keep your right arm as straight as possible.
3. always use a lead rope, but never wrap it around your hand.
4. turn the horse away from you whenever possible.

C. When getting or returning your horse from the pasture, you want to.....

1. always take a buddy with a crop. The buddy can keep the other horses away, as well as open and close the gate.
3. put the halter on the horse and lead him in or out. When returning the horse to the field, make sure to turn his tail away from the gate so that you do not get kicked if the horse gets excited and bolts away.
4. always double check the gate to be sure that is locked securely.

D. When dealing with the cross ties, you want to.....

1. always hook the cross ties to the halter before unhooking the lead rope.
2. adjust the cross ties so that your horse is standing with his head in a comfortable position.
3. be sure the cross ties have quick release snaps or are secured to the wall with a quick release knot.
4. hook the lead rope before unhooking the cross ties when leaving the cross ties.
5. never pull on the cross ties while the horse is in them.

- * When tying a quick release knot, remember to leave **no** more than 18 inches from the horse's nose to the knot! Why? Because the horse could get his foot over the rope and could possibly break his neck or leg.