

Horse Show Checklist

By Campbell Rodriguez

- Before the Horse Show
 - Make a list of everything you need to bring - grooming and tack - and check it off as you load the trailer.
 - Attend as a spectator to see what is expected of you and your horse.
 - Polish your boots, saddle and any other leather.
 - Clip your horse.
 - Give your horse a bath before the show to remove any dust and debris.
 - Apply a coat conditioner to help repel dust and to make it shine.
 - Take an extra shirt in case you get dirt on yours.
 - Wrap your horse legs to avoid them from getting stains overnight.
 - Put a light-weight sheet to keep your horse clean.
- The Day of the Show
 - Spend some time with your horse the day before, and that morning.
 - Leave earlier than you think you need to.
 - Have time to spare if your horse decides to give you grief about getting in the trailer.
 - If you are traveling a long distance to the show, 4+ hours, stop and offer your horse water or a carrot.
 - Do not let your horse out of the trailer during the stop.
 - Bring chairs and snacks.
 - Keep baby wipes on hand to clean your horse's nose, ears, around the eyes, and to wipe the dust off your horse's hooves.
 - If your horse has white socks use baby powder to help whiten them if needed.
 - Accustom your horse to required class maneuvers.
 - Don't compare yourself to the competition.
 - Establish your own goals and strive for them.
 - Look confident.
 - Have all tack cleaned.
 - Look well put together, and professional.
 - Warm up your horse and walk him around the grounds before you actually come into a class.

- Concentrate on your horse and your riding.
- Wear proper attire.
- Be polite to other riders.