

How to Show Model Horses

By Lillian Shupe, 4-H Volunteer.



Model or show horse

How do you show model horses?

Getting Started

First you need a model horse.

There are a few different kinds of commercially available model horses.

Breyer, Peter Stone, Hartland, are the most common. There are also horses made of China, rubber or resin.



Leg tags

Each horse gets a leg tag so the judge knows who owns the model. One side gets an exhibitor number, the other will have the horse's name and breed.

Original Finish (OF)

- Original finish models are mass produced.
- They must be kept in their original factory condition to show as OF.
- They are readily available at toy, tack and online stores.



Customized models (CM)

- Original models can be altered by painting, repositioning and adding real hair.
- CM models are one-of-a-kind.
- Many are portraits of real horses.



Model Horse Show Classes

- Halter Classes
- Halters are not required but if used must be the right kind and fit well.
- Classes may be divided by breed, color, gender, age depicted, type, brand, finish and/or scale.
- Each horse may only be entered in one breed class.



Performance classes



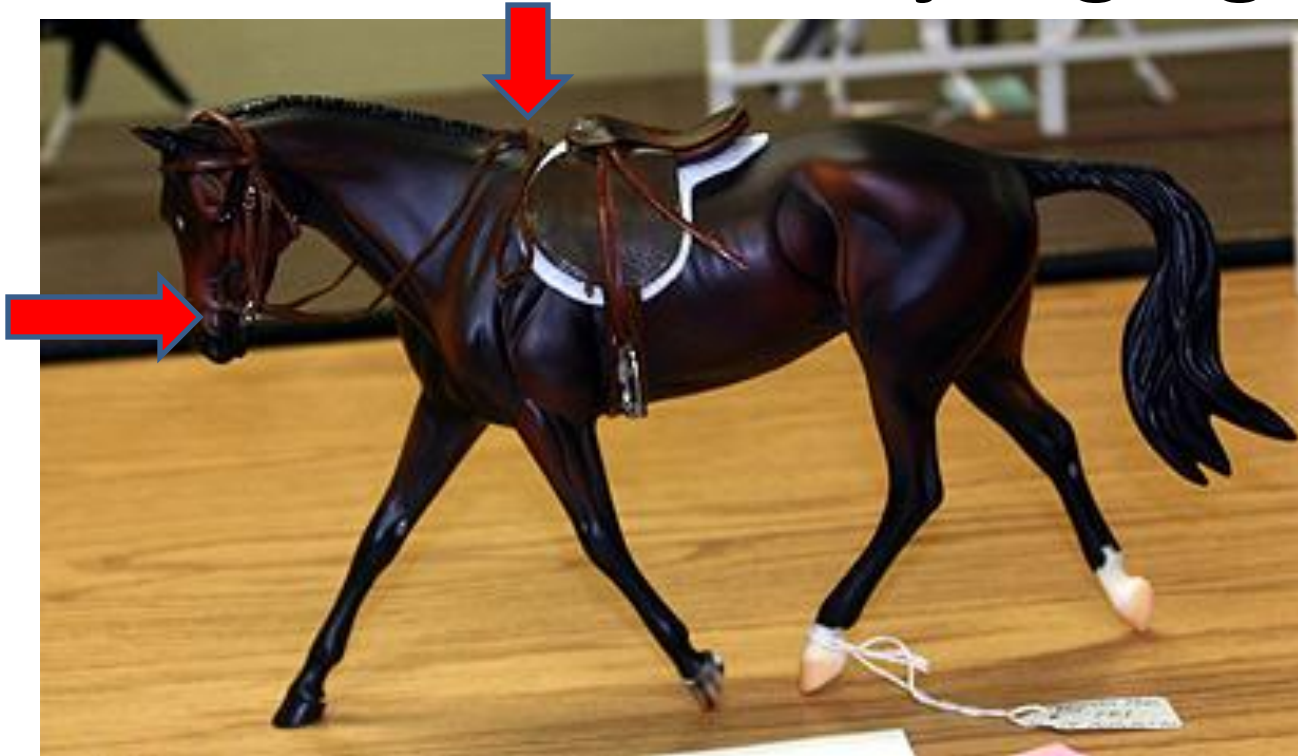
- Tack is required.
- Tack must fit properly and be appropriate for the event depicted.
- Backdrops and props may be added.
- Horses may enter several different performance classes.

What are models judged on?

- Original finish models are judged on quality and condition.
- Scratches, dirt, breaks will count against a model.
- Factory flaws will also count against a model.
- Old models in good condition will do well.



Performance class judging



- Tack must be proper for the event.
- Bits must be in the corners of the horses mouth.
- Rein placement , tack fit and placement is important.
- The idea is to make it look as real as possible.

Getting the show on the table

- When the judge calls the class, everyone places their horse on the table.
- Respect other showers, don't move their models or crowd them.
- When the judge says "class closed" move away and let them work.



Who wins?

- The judge will look at every entry.
- When they decide the winners they will place the ribbon by the horse.
- The judge will say, “the class is placed” and then everyone picks up their horses.



Halter Championships



- When all the halter classes are judged, the first and second placed models are then judged against each other for the championship.

Collectors Classes



- Collectors classes are judged as a group.
- The collections usually follow a theme such as color, mold, breed or how the models were acquired.



Collector Class

Stablemates

County Herd Class at the State Show



Creative Scene



- Some classes are judged on the scenes, realistic or imaginary.

Creative Scene



Showmanship



Explanation cards



- Write an explanation of what the horse is doing and place it by your entry.

Costume
Class:
Circus



Performance: Trail



Original Finish Quarter Horses



Costume
Class:
Native
American



Harness



Western Games



Western Riding



Collectibility



Collectible models may be unrealistic colors

Dressage



Western parade



Cross Country



Teeny Weeny Class



Arabian native costume



Show jumping



Customized



Dressage (customized model)



China



You may lay delicate models down to prevent them from getting broken.

Customized

This model
won champion.



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