



Side Saddle Test 1

Rider to be fully practised and prepared for Test 1.

1. Discuss the history and features of varying side saddle designs.
2. Be able to recognise the three well known makes of side saddles.
3. Tack up with a side saddle.
4. Discuss the fitting and care of a side saddle, the girths used and the prevention of sore backs.
5. Tack up with a snaffle bridle and understand its use.
6. Understand the use of and fit cavesson, drop, grakle, flash and kinton nosebands.

Side Saddle Test 2

Rider to have passed Side Saddle Test 1 and be fully practised and prepared for Test 2.

1. Mount and dismount from the nearside by means of a leg-up and a mounting block.
2. Check and adjust girth and balance strap mounted and dismounted.
3. Check and adjust stirrup mounted and dismounted (when mounted rider needs assistance in adjusting stirrup).
4. Discuss and demonstrate the correct position of the rider when using a side saddle, including distribution of weight, primary and secondary grip position of hands, reins and stick.
5. Ride from halt to walk and walk to halt.
6. Ride a set course in walk.

Side Saddle Test 3

Rider to have passed Side Saddle Test 2 and be fully practised and prepared for Test 3.

1. Ride from walk to trot and trot to walk.
2. Ride a set course at a trot.
3. Trot over varying terrain.
4. Show how to remove a saddle after work.
5. Demonstrate the correct use of the stick.
6. Assist a rider to mount side saddle correctly.

Side Saddle Test 4

Rider to have passed Side Saddle Test 3 and be fully practised and prepared for Test 4.

1. Ride changes of direction and circles at trot.
2. Ride a figure of eight at trot, showing the use of DIAGONAL LINES and two 20 metre circles.
3. Demonstrate knowledge and application of the aids for the half halt and for transitions to and from halt, walk and trot.
4. Basic schooling over trotting poles.

NOTE: In equitation tests (SSA) a figure of eight is two matching, touching circles.

Side Saddle Test 5

Rider to have passed Side Saddle Test 4 and be fully practised and prepared for Test 5.

1. Know the correct aids from trot to canter and canter to trot.
2. Ride from trot to canter and canter to trot on the right rein.
3. Ride a set course at the walk, trot and canter (on the right rein) as directed.
4. Know the sequences of steps of the walk, trot and canter gaits.
5. Ride and maintain position at walk, trot and canter (on the right rein) without stirrups.

Side Saddle Test 6

Rider to have passed Side Saddle Test 5 and be fully practised and prepared for Test 6.

1. Ride from trot to canter and canter to trot on the left rein.
2. Canter on a named leg.
3. Discuss the position of the rider over varying terrain.
4. Ride a set course at the walk, trot and canter and include counter canter.
5. Demonstrate the correct use of the spur.