

MIXED SIGNALS

How much do you know about riding aids?
Take our quiz to find out!

ANSWERS

1 How do you ask for halt?

A. Lean forward and pull the reins

B. Just pull on the reins

C. Sit tall, deep into the saddle and half-halt

3 How do you ask your pony to bend left on a circle?

A. Open your left hand as wide as you can

B. Keep an even rein contact and slide your right leg back slightly, keeping your inside leg on the girth

C. Squeeze on the left rein

2 If you're asking for a canter transition on the right rein, where should your legs be?

A. Right leg just behind the girth, left leg on the girth

B. Right leg on the girth, left leg just behind the girth

C. Both legs on the girth

4 What do you do to prepare your pony for a downwards transition?

A. Half-halt

B. You don't need to do anything

C. Just think about it – he'll know what you want



6 You're riding on the left rein and want to leg-yield back to the track – what leg aids do you need?

A. Your left leg asks your pony to move to the right while your right leg encourages him to keep moving forward

B. Squeeze with both legs and turn his head

C. Your right leg asks your pony to move to the left while your left leg encourages him to keep moving forward

7 Your pony's feeling a bit lazy – how do you encourage him to move more forward?

A. Keep kicking with your legs and tell him to go faster

B. Give your pony a squeeze with your legs but don't constantly nag him

C. Keep squeezing with your legs until he's faster

8 Your pony's super-speedy – how do you slow him down?

A. Push your weight down into your heels and say 'whoa'

B. Sit tall and pull on the reins

C. Half-halt, sit tall, use your voice and sit deep into the saddle

HOW DID YOU GET ON?

0-3 POINTS
Completely confused
Oh no! Your pony's probably feeling a bit confused as your aids are sometimes getting mixed up. Don't worry, though. There's still plenty of time to brush up on your riding skills.

4-6 POINTS
Close to conquering
So close! Your pony usually knows what you want, although you could do with some extra practice – why not ask your instructor for some help?

7-8 POINTS
Cracked it
Well done! You and your equine pal are dancing to the same tune and it's foot-perfect!

MY SCORE... /8