

SOUTH AFRICAN PONY CLUB



Bandaging and Blanketing Achievement Badge

WORKBOOK



Objectives:

To be able to put on stables bandages, a tail bandage, a stable rug and roller and a New Zealand rug.

Key points:

- Correctly put on stables bandages
- Correctly put on a tail bandage
- Correctly put on a rug and roller
- Correctly put on a New Zealand rug

Additional reading:

Manual of Horsemanship – Chapter 18, pg 190
Pony Club Manual No 1 Pg
Pony Club Manual No 2 Pg 284-287

The additional reading contains more information than is required for the badge, but it provides good background knowledge.

NAME _____

BRANCH _____



LESSON 1: RUGS AND BLANKETS

Rugs are used to keep horses and ponies warm and dry, if their natural coats are not sufficiently thick or if they have been clipped. Rugs may be made of a variety of materials. Some are thicker than others depending on their uses. The choice of rug, if any, will depend on the time of year, weather conditions and whether the horse is clipped or not.

Rugs may be held in place either by a roller or a surcingle, which must have enough padding under them where they cross the spine to relieve pressure on the back. Alternatively, many rugs now have cross surcingles (or belly straps) which do not put pressure on the spine. However, they are not done up as tightly as rollers which means under blankets may slip back.

Types of Rugs and Blankets:

- 1. Stable or Night Blanket**
Provides warmth in the stable; may be jute, padded cotton, or quilted; may have cross surcingles or a roller; may have leg straps
- 2. Day Sheet (Summer Sheet)**
Keeps dust and flies off pony; made of cotton; may be used under any other rug to keep lining clean
- 3. Sweat Sheets (Anti-Sweat Sheet)**
Used on sweating pony, or one cooling off; put under a lightweight rug; cotton or synthetic mesh, close or wide weave; needs a second rug on the top, remains damp against the skin; tears easily if it gets caught up; easy to wash
- 4. Turn-out or New Zealand Rug**
Keeps pony clean, warm and dry in cold, wet weather; a lined canvas, cotton or synthetic material; often rip proof; held in place by chest straps, surcingle or belly straps and leg straps.

ASSIGNMENT 1: RUGGING UP

Practice rugging up a pony in a stable.

Safety tips and hints:

- ⇒ Tie cross surcingles into a knot before throwing the rug over the pony so they do not bang his legs
- ⇒ Adjust the cross surcingles so the flat of your hand fits comfortably between the straps and the pony's belly – if they are too loose he may catch a hind foot in them as he gets up from lying down
- ⇒ Stand to the side of the pony when doing up the leg straps, and do the leg straps last – this is because if the rug slips they may get caught around the legs and frighten the pony
- ⇒ Link leg straps through each other to hold them away from the pony's legs to prevent rubbing and to hold rug in place
- ⇒ Adjust legs straps correctly so the pony cannot get his leg caught in them when he lies down



ASSIGNMENT 2: TAKING RUGS OFF

Safety Hints and Tips

- ⇒ Undo leg straps first and clip them to blanket so they will not hit you or the pony
- ⇒ Undo the cross surcingles and tie them in a knot
- ⇒ Undo the chest strap last

ASSIGNMENT 3: IDENTIFY AND DESCRIBE VARIOUS RUGS

| Name of Rug | Use | Materials | Special Features |
|-------------|-----|-----------|------------------|
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LESSON 2: STABLE BANDAGES

Reasons for various types of leg bandages:

1. Protection and support when travelling
2. Protection when exercising
3. Warmth in the stable
4. Support in the event of injury
5. Prevent filling of legs
6. Hold veterinary dressings in place

Always put padding under leg bandages to even out the pressure and provide extra protection.

The padding you might use include:

- ⇒ Cotton wool
- ⇒ Gamgee (layer of cotton wool between layers of gauze on a roll)
- ⇒ Leg wraps (cotton or nylon padded with polyester and bound with braid)

ASSIGNMENT 1: See if you can work out the advantages and disadvantages of each type of padding. Write in the matching padding type in the table below.

| | |
|---|--|
| Expensive, re-usable, wrinkles and does not mould to shape of leg easily, needs to be cut to size, heavy if wet | |
| Expensive, washable, long life, heavy if wet, may make pony sweat unless cotton lined | |
| Cheap, moulds to shape of leg, falls apart easily, needs to be cut to size | |

Bandages may be made of crepe, wool or woollen-type materials, or a synthetic elastic material. At this stage, you need to know how to put on stable bandages. Stable bandages provide warmth and protection in the stable; prevent filled legs; reduce swelling from injury, and can be used to dry wet legs. Leave travelling bandages, exercise bandages and veterinary bandages to an experienced person.

ASSIGNMENT 2: Practice putting on and taking off a stable bandage

Safety hints and tips

- ⇒ Before use, bandages must be correctly rolled, with the tapes or Velcro in the centre
- ⇒ When applying or removing bandages, it is dangerous to kneel in the vicinity of the horse's legs – you should adopt a bending or crouching position at the side of the horse
- ⇒ Winding bandages too tightly damages the tendons
- ⇒ Fasten the bandage at the top outside of the leg
- ⇒ Bandages should be removed and replaced at least once a day if needed for a long period of time
- ⇒ On removing a bandage, unwind it quickly, passing it from hand to hand, without trying to roll it up while taking it off



LESSON 3: BOOTS

Reasons for various types of boots:

1. To prevent a horse injuring himself if he has a tendency to brush or over-reach
2. To prevent a horse being injured while travelling or jumping

Boots may be made of rubber, leather, neoprene, or synthetic fibre. They may be fastened with Velcro, or buckled straps.

ASSIGNMENT 1: Match the pictures to the descriptions

Brushing boots – shaped to fit contours of legs, come in pairs or sets, when fitted the fastenings should be on the outside of the leg with the strap ends pointing to the rear, when removing, unfasten the middle strap last to prevent the boot falling off if the horse moves

Over-reach boots – bell-shaped and made of rubber, fit around the lower pastern, encompassing the hoof, protect the heels and coronet

Travelling boots – used to prevent injury while on a journey, encase the legs from above or just below the knee or hock, down to the coronet which they overlap, usually fastened with Velcro, must be sized correctly for horse or pony, should only be used for short journeys as they have a tendency to slip down. What do you think you would use for a longer journey?



ASSIGNMENT 2: Practice putting on and taking off various types of boots



LESSON 4: POLL GUARDS

Reason for using a poll guard:

1. Protects the top of the horse's head while travelling
2. The poll guard may be made of felt, leather, or neoprene. They come in various designs, all of which fit onto the head collar or halter

ASSIGNMENT 1: Practice putting on a poll guard





LESSON 5: TAIL BANDAGES

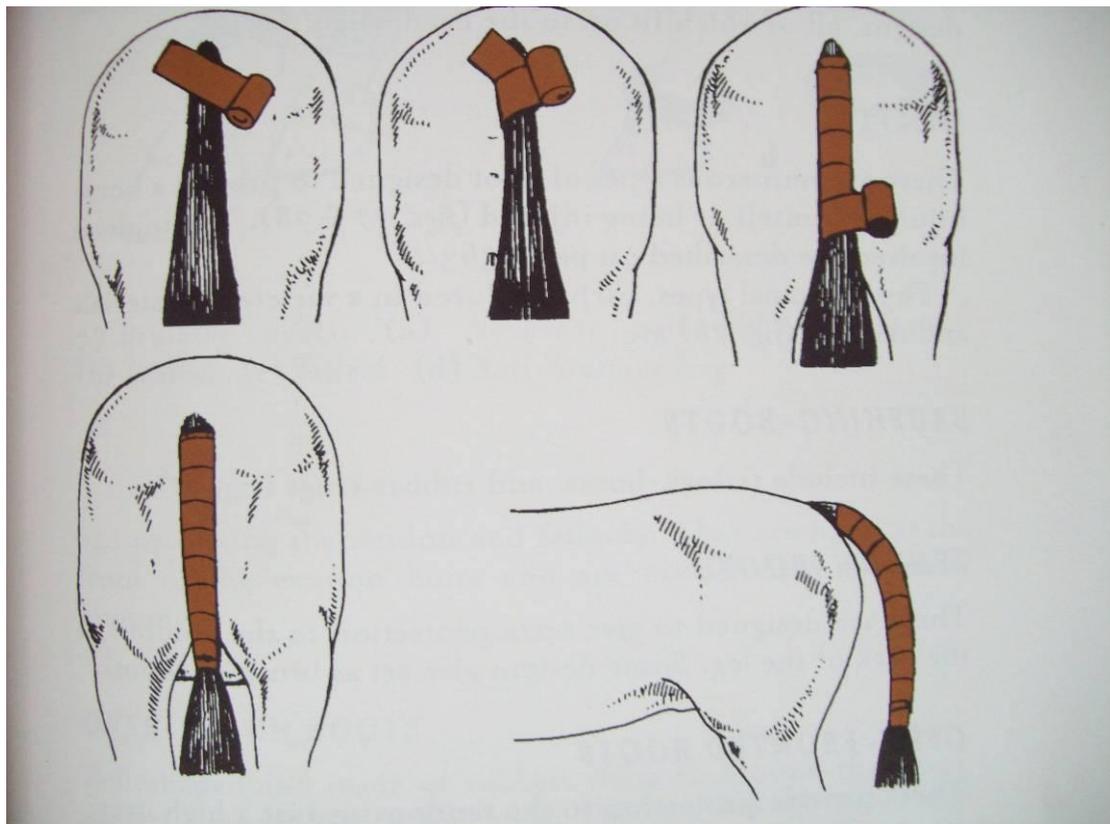
Reasons for a tail bandage:

1. Improves appearance of a tail, especially if pulled
2. Protects tail from being rubbed when travelling

ASSIGNMENT 1: PRACTICE PUTTING ON A TAIL BANDAGE

Safety hints and tips

- ⇒ Never leave on for more than two or three hours
- ⇒ Putting a tail bandage on too tightly will impair circulation and be uncomfortable for the horse
- ⇒ Dampen the tail and never the bandage – the bandage will shrink as it dries out and impair circulation
- ⇒ Lift the tail while bandaging
- ⇒ Secure the tapes or Velcro to the side of the tail so that they do not dig into the dock if the horse leans on the ramp or wall,
- ⇒ On completion of bandaging reset the tail to its normal position



ASSIGNMENT 2: Unravel the jumbled up words to find some of the things you have been learning about in this workbook.



DANBEGA

HEESTWASTE

CROVLE

GULLDROAP

KLETBAN

ELSIRUNC

OBOTS

DINGPAD

TONIOCREPT

CREEP

PORTSUP

MARTHW

SELF PRACTICE

1. Identify different types of rugs and the purposes of each
2. Practice putting on different types of rugs and blankets
3. Identify different bandage and padding materials
4. Identify different types of bandages, & understand the purposes of each
5. Practice putting on and taking off stable and tail bandages
6. Identify different types of boots and the purposes of each
7. Practice putting on and taking off various types of boots
8. Practice putting on a poll guard

SELF TEST

1. Name 2 different types of rugs or blankets and give a purpose for each one

2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of cross surcingles?

3. What is the purpose of padding under a roller?

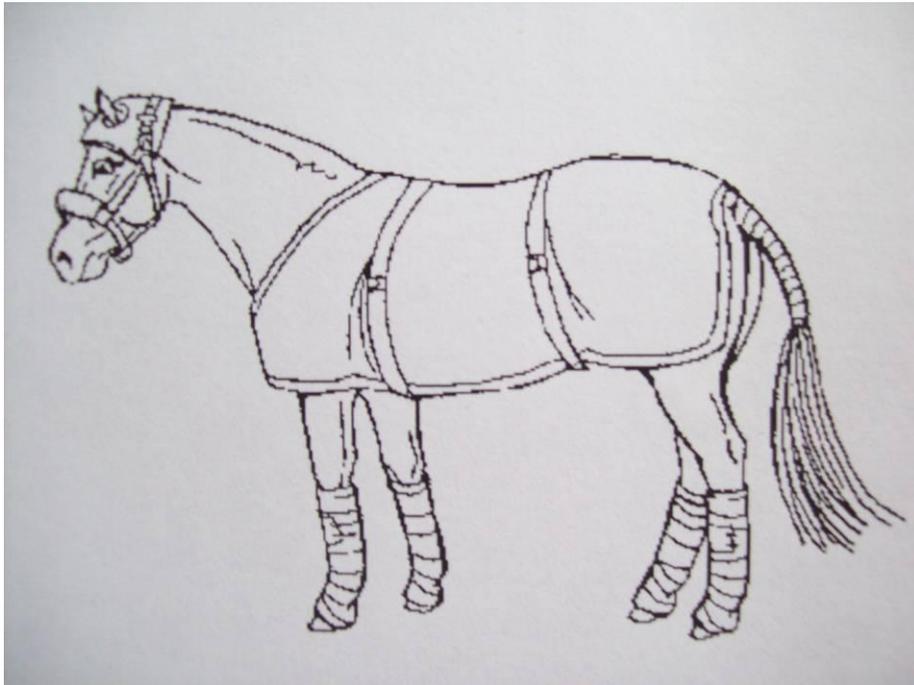


4. Give two reasons for putting on a tail bandage

5. Why should you never put a tail bandage on wet?

6. Name 3 qualities of a well applied bandage

Can you name the pieces of equipment this well-dressed horse is wearing for travelling?



Sources:

New Zealand Manual, Volume 1
Pony Club Manual of Horsemastership
C Care, Tish Adams
Canadian Pony Club, C2 Study Guide

Photographs taken by Leann Davies.
Prepared by Leann Davies, March 2009