

Middle California Region
Upper Level Horse Management Education

Conformation Analysis Worksheet
By Claudia Deffenbaugh

Horse: _____

Date: _____

Approximate Weight: _____

Approximate Height: _____

Body Score: _____

VIEW FROM THE FRONT:

**Point of shoulder
LEFT**

**Point of shoulder
RIGHT**

✦ Ideally this box would be square. In most horses
the bottom is narrower - the elbows are closer
together. This causes the horse to toe out and
will plait or "walk the line". Most horses with
this condition are green and on the forehand
until the pectoral muscles soften and get looser
(6 months to a year of good riding) - the box will
get squarer and the hoofs will be in alignment.
When the bottom of the box is wider the horse
will toe in. A box with a markedly sloping line = a
✦ horse with one leg shorter than the other. ✦

Left Elbow

Right Elbow

VIEW FROM THE FRONT:

Look at alignment of forearm to knee; knee to canon bone; canon bone to pastern and pastern to coronet and hoof tubules; look for any rotations, deviations or offsets. Circle represents Knee or Fetlock Joint.

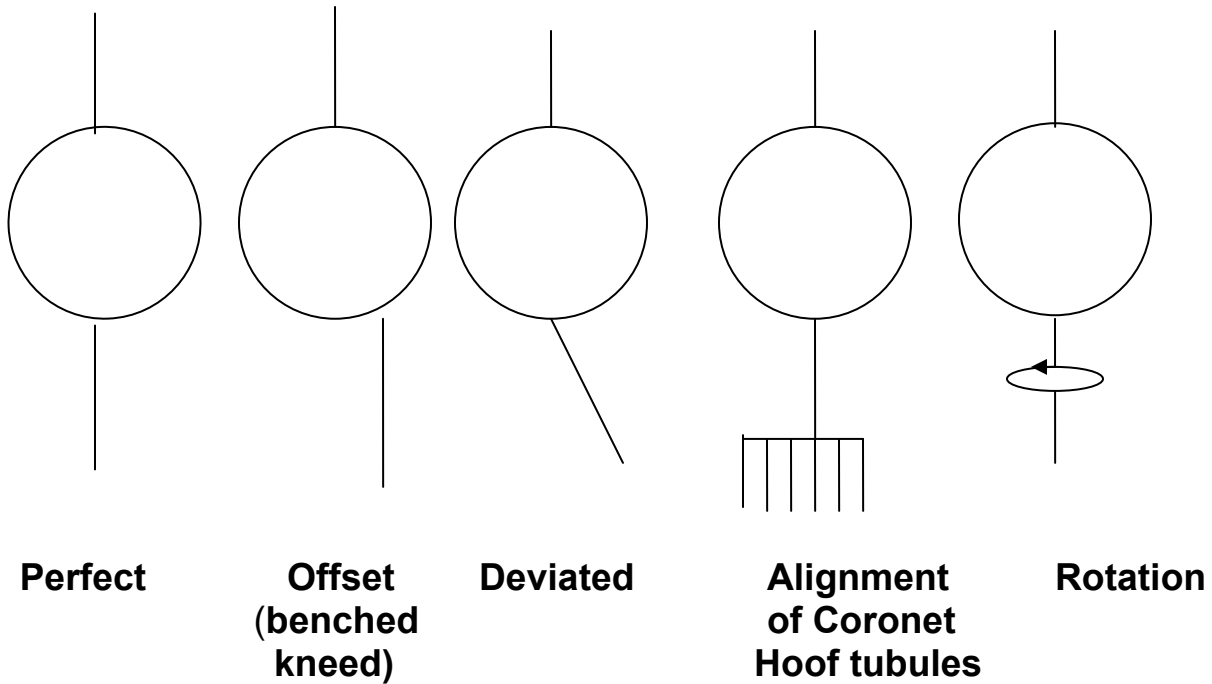


Chart the conformation of the horse's Forelimbs:

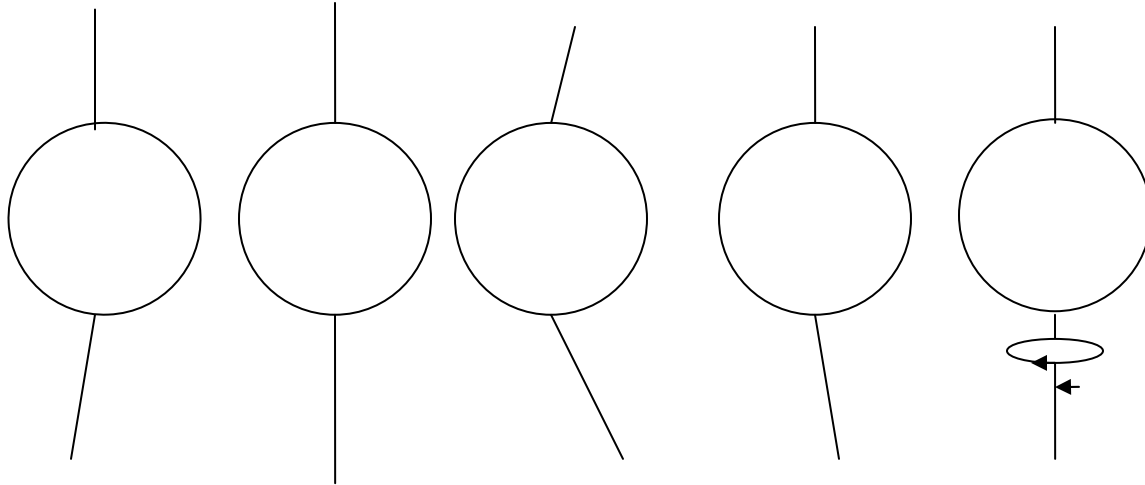
(May draw conformation if choose)

Feature/Joint	Left Forelimb	Right Forelimb
Knee Joint: High Rotations		
Attachment of Canon Bone to the Knee: Rotations Deviations Offsets		
Attachment of the pasterns to the canons at the fetlock joint: Rotations Deviations Offsets		
Relationship of hoof tubules and coronary band to pasterns: Deviations		

Circle all that apply:

Knocked Knee Bowed Knee Base Wide Base Narrow
Toed In Toed Out

VIEWED FROM THE SIDE:



Calf Kneed **Over Straight** **Over @ knee** **Ideal** **Tied in**
(Yes No) (Yes No) (Yes No) (Yes No) (Yes No)

Good Bone: (Measure below knee @ least 7 inches/1000 lbs body weight)
(Yes No)

Comment:

- Good Size (Yes No) Comment:
- Lumps/bumps (Yes No) Comment:
- Fetlocks puffy (Yes No) Comment:
- Splints (Yes No) Comment:
- Sidebone (Yes No) Comment:
- Bowed Tendons (Yes No) Comment:

Circle all that apply:

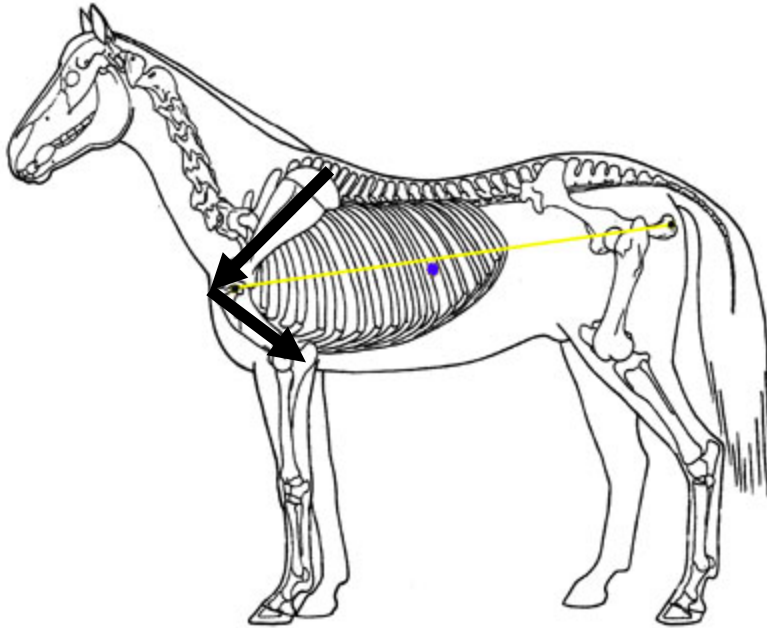
Front legs: Camped Out Camped Under Correct

Comment:

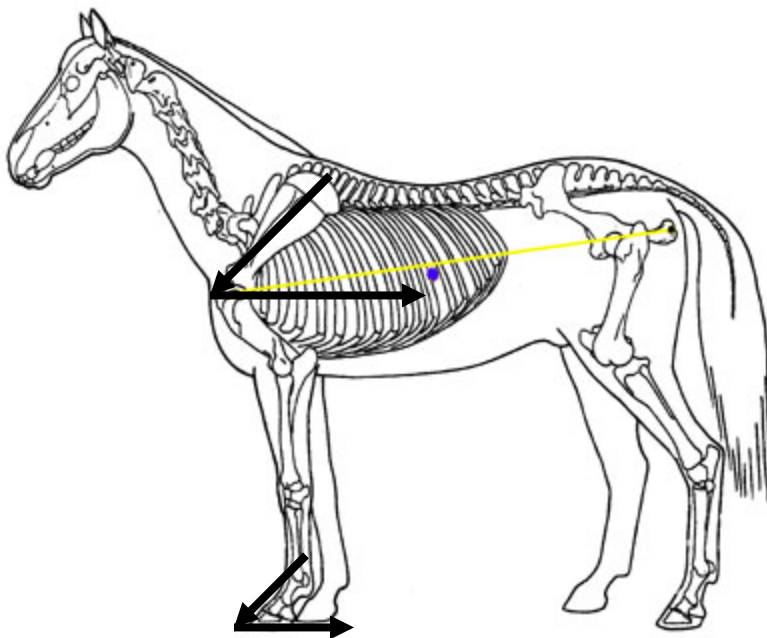
Pastern Length: Long Short Correct

Comment:

Shoulder Angle: Point of withers to Point of Shoulder to Point of elbow $\geq 90^\circ$ (Yes No)



Shoulder Angle to the ground equals pastern angle approximately 45° (Yes No)



Circle:

- **Angle of neck:** Highset Lowset Ewe Swan Long Short Small Bull Ideal
Comment:
- **Withers:** High Low Mutton Good
Comment:
- **Space between Jaw and Neck** (to allow for flexion): Bull necked Good
Comment:
- **Fist in gullet**(to allow for air movement): @ least 4 knuckles Narrow Wide
Comment:
- **Head:** Pleasing to the eye Dished Roman Nose
- **Nostrils:** Good Size Small
Comment:

Heart Girth:

Rope around girth = rope around loin (Yes No)

Herring Guttred (Yes No) Well Sprung ribs (Yes No)

Slab Sided (Yes No) Wide Barreled (Yes No) Pear Shaped (Yes No)

Comment:

Back:

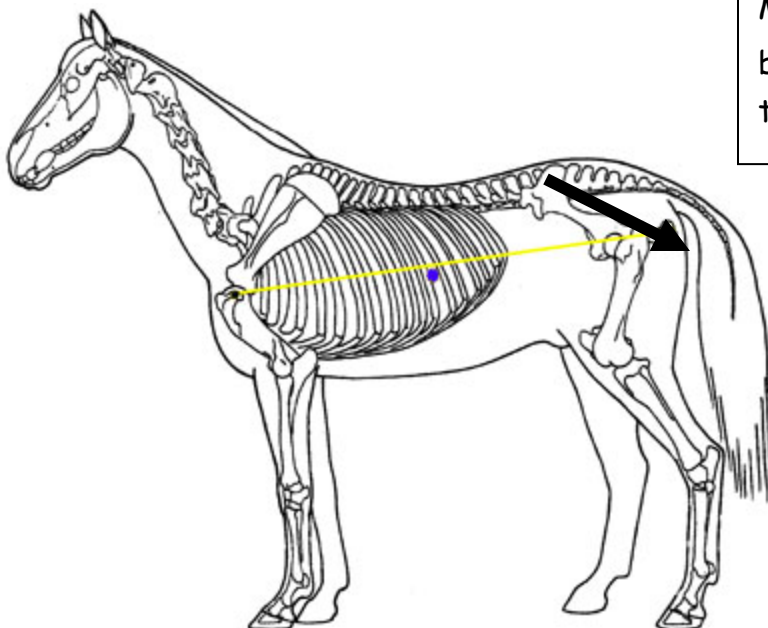
Circle:

Long Short Swayed Ideal

Comment:

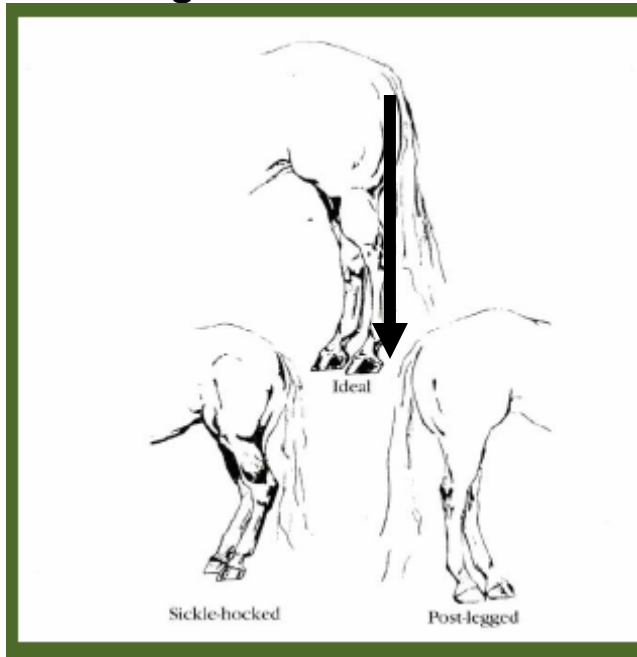
Weak Loin Strong loin Elastic feel Hunter's Bump

Hindquarters:



Measure point of hip to point of buttock. This should be ≤ 3 x's the body length of the horse

Back Legs:



Drop Plumb line from point of buttock down back of canon bone to the ground.

Circle:

Stands under
Sickle Hocked
Post Legged
Camped out behind
Ideal Hind leg

Comment:

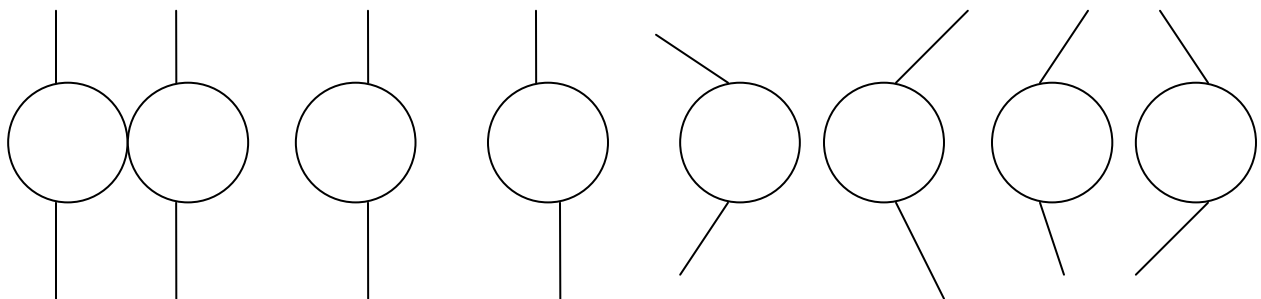
Hocks:

Circle:

Big Clean Puffy Thoroughpin Bone Spavin
Bog Spavin Blood Spavin Curb

BACK LEGS VIEWED FROM BEHIND

Circle:



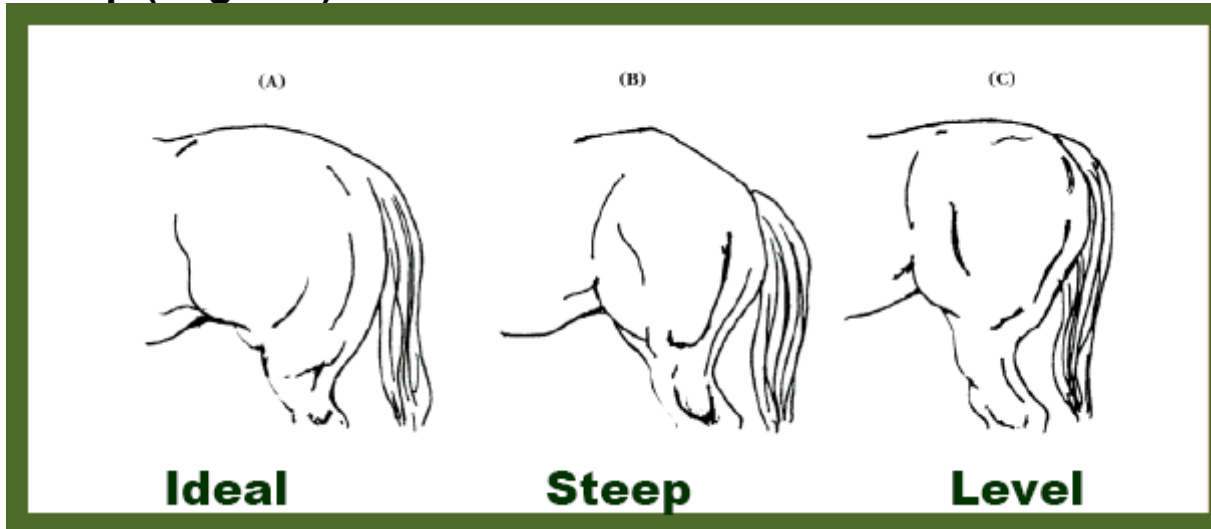
Hind leg too narrow Hind leg too wide

Cow Hocked

Bow Hocked

Good Straight hind leg = toes slightly turned out, Stifle, hock, toes in single plain

Croup (angle of):



Circle:

Slightly rounded (Ideal) Good Size Steep (goose rumped)
Level (flat)

FOOT AND SHOETING:

- Does Frog touch the ground? Yes No
- Under run Heels? Yes No
- Contracted Heels? Yes No
- Shelly Feet? Yes No
- Flat Soles? Yes No
- Good Healthy concave feet? Yes No
- Strong Wall? Yes No

Shoe Size: _____ Heel Caulks: Yes No
Drilled/tapped: Yes No
Fullered Groove Yes No Location: _____
Nails inside: _____ # Nails outside: _____
Pads: Yes No Type: front: ____ back: _____
Clips: Quarter toe front/back
Any other special shoeing requirement: _____

MOUTH AND TEETH:

Approximate Age: _____
Teeth: Incisors ____ (top) Incisors ____ (bottom)
• Molars ____ (top) Molars ____ (bottom)
• Wolf Teeth: _____ Tushes and location: _____

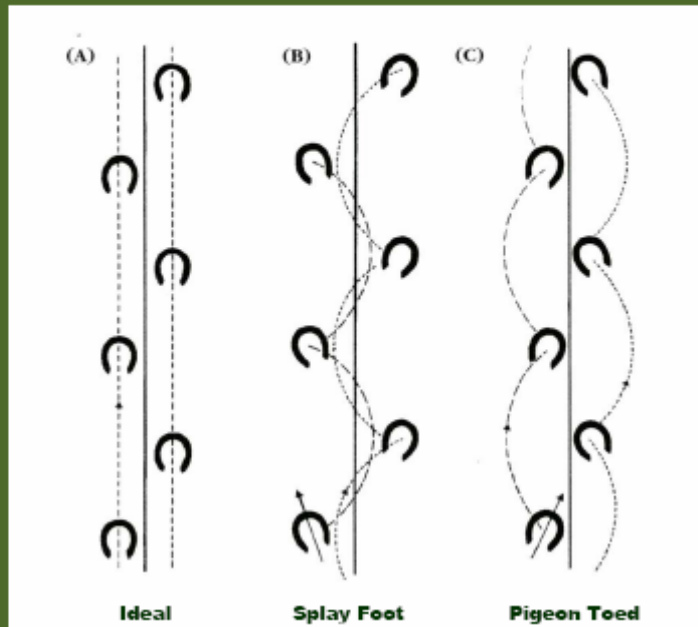
- Are all the permanent teeth in: If no which ones
 - Mouth in full wear: Yes No
 - Galvayne's Groove: Present yes no
If present where? _____
 - Hooks (corner incisor): 7 year: Yes No 11 year: Yes No
 - Shape of Incisors: Flattened (5 years) Oval (9 years)
Round (15 years) Triangular (20 years)
 - Tooth length: Long Short Medium
 - Cups on incisors: Location: _____
Disappear: lower center 6 yr; lateral 7 yr; corner 8 yr
upper center 9 yr; lateral 10 yr; corner 11 yr
- Does this horse's teeth need floating? Yes No

OBSERVE HORSE'S MOVEMENT:

(from the side, going away, coming toward at walk and trot, and if time, on lunge line as well -- all 3 gaits)

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| • Does the horse overstride at the walk? | Yes | No |
| • Does the horse have a ground covering stride? | Yes | No |
| • Is the horse short strided? | Yes | No |
| • Does the horse have choppy gait? | Yes | No |
| • Daisy Cutter? | Yes | No |
| • Show signs of Lameness? | Yes | No |
| • If yes, where? _____ | | |
| • Is the horse Stiff? | Yes | No |
| • Does the horse Wing? | Yes | No |
| • Does the horse Paddle? | Yes | No |
| • Does the horse Plait? | Yes | No |
| • Does the horse Brush | Yes | No |
| • If yes, where? _____ | | |
| • Does the horse Interfere? | Yes | No |
| • If yes, where? _____ | | |
| • Does the horse Overreach? | Yes | No |
| • Does the horse Forge? | Yes | No |

Foot Fall Patterns



(splay foot = wing = toed out)
(Pigeon toed = paddle)

WEIGHT ESTIMATE:

Estimating a Horse's Body Weight:
 $(\text{Heart girth}^2 \times \text{Length}) \div 330 = \text{Weight in lb}$

- Measure in inches the heart girth just behind the withers and elbows
- Measure in inches from point of shoulder to point of buttocks.