COLLECTIVE MARKS:

Gaits (freedom and regularity).				
Impulsion (desire to move forward with suppleness of the back and steady tempo).				
Submission (acceptance of steady contact, attention, and confidence).		2		
Rider's position (keeping in balance with horse).				
Rider's effectiveness of aids (correct bend and preparation of transitions).				
Geometry and accuracy (correct size and shape of circles and turns).				

FURTHER REMARKS:

SUBTOTAL _____
ERRORS (- _____)
FAULTS -.5% (- _____)
TOTAL POINTS _____
TOTAL POSS POINTS: 160 _____

To be deducted
Errors of the course and omissions are penalized 1st Time = 2 points
2nd Time = 4 points
3rd Time = Elimination
Other Penalties - Technical faults: 0.5% (percentage points) to be deducted per fault.

SMALL ARENA (20 meters x 40 meters) movements 3, 5

LARGE ARENA (20 meters x 60 meters) movements 3, 5

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USDF INTRODUCTORY LEVEL TEST

A

UNITED STATES DRESSAGE FEDERATION™

2027 INTRODUCTORY LEVEL – TEST A

WALK—TROT

This unique series of tests provides an opportunity for the horse and/or rider new to dressage to demonstrate elementary skills. The tests have been designed to encourage correct performance and to prepare the horse for the transition to the USEF tests.

SUGGESTED SCHEDULING TIME
5:00 Standard Arena
4:00 Small Arena
(Possibly longer for schooling shows)

INSTRUCTION:

- All trot work to be ridden rising. Transitions from walk to trot and trot to walk may be performed through sitting trot with the objective of performing a smooth transition.
- Turns from centerline to long side and long side to center line should be ridden as a half circle, touching the track at a point midway between the center line and the corner, and vice versa.

COMMENT:

Horses should be ridden on a light but steady contact, with the exception of the free walk in which the horse is allowed complete freedom to stretch neck forward and downward.

Name of Competition _____

Class _____

Date _____

Number and Name of Horse _____

Name of Rider _____

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE POINTS: 160

FINAL SCORE

Points _____ Percent _____

Name of Judge/Position _____

Signature of Judge _____

Dressage Riding Standards Guidelines

United States Dressage Federation™
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Phone (859) 971-2277 • Fax (859) 971-7722
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Score Sheet effective date: December 1, 2026 - November 30, 2030

2027 USDF INTRODUCTORY LEVEL – TEST A

WALK—TROT

REQUIREMENTS:
Free walk
Medium walk
Working trot rising
20 meter circle
Halt through walk

PURPOSE: To introduce the rider and/or horse to the sport of dressage, confirming that they are beginning to understand the correct basics and concepts. The horse should be ridden freely forward in a correct rhythm and tempo, accepting contact with the bit. Movements should be accurate with correct geometry and show balance, bend, ease, and harmony.

NO.

	TEST	DIRECTIVE IDEAS	POINTS	COEF	TOTAL	REMARKS
1. A Between X & C	Enter, working trot rising Medium walk	Regularity, quality of trot; straightness, willing, calm transition. Regularity, quality of walk				
2. C M	Track right Working trot rising	Bend and balance; willing calm transition				
3. A	Circle right 20 meters, working trot rising	Regularity; shape and size of circle; bend; balance				
4. K-X-M	Change rein, working trot rising	Regularity of trot; straightness; bend and balance in corner				
5. C	Circle left 20 meters, working trot rising	Regularity; shape and size of circle; bend; balance				
6. Between C & H	Medium walk	Willing, calm transition; regularity, quality, overtrack				
7. H-X-F	Free walk	Regularity and quality of walk; reach and ground cover with overtrack; free walk allowing complete freedom to stretch the neck forward and downward; straightness.				
8. F-A A	Medium walk Down centerline	Regularity, quality, willing, overtrack, calm transition, bend and balance in turn; straightness on centerline.				
9. X	Halt and salute	Straightness; attentiveness; immobility (min. 3 seconds)				

Leave arena in free walk. Exit at A.

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