# 2027 USEF THIRD LEVEL TEST 3

**PURPOSE**

In addition to the Second Level requirements, the horse should be more consistently engaged and collected, with equal lateral suppleness (bend) and cadence in all lateral work. The medium gaits should be fully developed, and the extended gaits should show balance and ground cover without rushing. Well defined transitions between and within gaits should be balanced and harmonious. There should be confident acceptance of the flying change aids. Consistent uphill balance and self-carriage should be demonstrated while performing movements with ease and harmony.

All trot work must be ridden sitting.

*READER PLEASE NOTE: Anything in parentheses should not be read.*

**INTRODUCE**

Rein back to trot

**ENTRY NO:**

Conditions:

ARENA SIZE: Standard

AVERAGE RIDE TIME: 6:00

(from entry at A to final halt)

*Suggested to add at least 2 min. for scheduling purposes*

**MAXIMUM PTS: 400**

| | TEST | | DIRECTIVES | POINTS | COEF | TOTAL | REMARKS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | A<br>X | Enter collected trot<br>Halt, salute<br>Proceed collected trot | Engagement, self-carriage and quality of trot; well defined transitions; straightness; attentiveness; immobility (min. 3 seconds) | | | | |
| 2. | C<br>H-X-F<br>F | Track left<br>Change rein, medium trot<br>Collected trot | Moderate lengthening of frame and stride with engagement, elasticity, suspension, straightness and uphill balance; consistent tempo; well defined transitions | | | | |
| 3. | K-E | Shoulder-in right | Angle, bend and balance; engagement and self-carriage | | | | |
| 4. | E-X<br>X-B | Half circle right 10m<br>Half circle left 10m | Shape and size of half circles; supple change of bend on centerline; engagement and self-carriage | | | | |
| 5. | B-G<br>C | Half pass left<br>Track right | Alignment, bend, fluency and crossing of legs; engagement and self-carriage | | 2 | | |
| 6. | M-X-K<br>K | Change rein, extended trot<br>Collected trot | Utmost ground cover with lengthening of frame; elasticity; engagement; suspension; straightness and uphill balance | | | | |
| 7. | K-A | (Transitions M and K)<br>Collected trot | Well defined maintaining tempo and balance | | | | |
| 8. | A | Halt, rein back 4 steps<br>Proceed collected trot | Immobility, willing steps back with correct rhythm and count; straightness; well defined transitions | | 2 | | |
| 9. | F-B | Shoulder-in left | Angle, bend and balance; engagement and self-carriage | | | | |
| 10. | B-X<br>X-E | Half circle left 10m<br>Half circle right 10m | Shape and size of half circles; supple change of bend on centerline; engagement and self-carriage | | | | |
| 11. | E-G<br>C | Half pass right<br>Track left | Alignment, bend, fluency and crossing of legs; engagement and self-carriage | | 2 | | |
| 12. | Between C & H<br>H<br>Between G & M | Medium walk<br>Turn left<br>Shorten the step, half turn on haunches left<br>Proceed medium walk | Regularity, quality, overtrack<br>Activity and quality of the preparation and execution, bend, balance, tempo, regularity,and fluency | | | | |
| 13. | Between G & H<br>M | Shorten the step, half turn on haunches right<br>Proceed medium walk<br>Turn right | Activity and quality of the preparation and execution, bend, balance, tempo, regularity,and fluency | | | | |
| 14. | | (Medium walk)<br>[CHG(M)G(H)GMR] | Regularity, quality, overtrack | | 2 | | |
| 15. | R-V<br>V | Change rein, extended walk<br>Medium walk | Regularity; suppleness; activity; overtrack; freedom of shoulder; Extended walk shows utmost ground cover with horse stretching to the bit; clear transitions | | 2 | | |
| 16. | K | Collected canter left lead | Well defined transition; regularity and self-carriage; engagement and quality of canter | | | | |
| 17. | F-X<br>X-I | Half pass left<br>Collected canter | Alignment and bend while moving fluently forward and sideways; engagement and self-carriage; straightness on centerline | | 2 | | |
| 18. | I-S<br>S-F | Half circle left 10m<br>Change rein, flying change of lead near centerline | Shape and size of half circle; bend; clear, balanced, fluent, straight flying change; engagement and self-carriage | | 2 | | |
| 19. | K-X<br>X-I | Half pass right<br>Collected canter | Alignment and bend while moving fluently forward and sideways; engagement and self-carriage; straightness on centerline | | 2 | | |
| 20. | I-R<br>R-K | Half circle right 10m<br>Change rein, flying change of lead near centerline | Shape and size of half circle; bend; clear, balanced, fluent, straight flying change; engagement and self-carriage | | 2 | | |

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| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 21. | F-M<br>M | Extended canter<br>Collected canter | Utmost ground cover with lengthening of frame; elasticity; engagement; suspension; straightness and uphill balance | | | | |
| 22. | M-C-H | (Transitions F and M)<br>Collected canter | Well defined maintaining tempo and balance | | | | |
| 23. | H | Collected trot | Well defined, balanced transition; engagement and collection | | | | |
| 24. | E<br>X<br>G | Turn left<br>Turn left<br>Halt, salute | Bend and balance in turns; engagement, self-carriage and quality of trot; well defined transition; straightness; attentiveness; immobility (min. 3 seconds) | | | | |
| Leave arena at A in free walk. | | | | | | | |

| COLLECTIVE MARKS | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **GAITS** (Freedom and regularity) | | 1 | | |
| **IMPULSION** (Desire to move forward; elasticity of the steps; suppleness of the back; engagement of the hindquarters) | | 2 | | |
| **SUBMISSION** (Willing cooperation; harmony; attention and confidence; acceptance of bit and aids; straightness; lightness of forehand and ease of movements) | | 2 | | |
| **RIDER'S POSITION AND SEAT** (Alignment; posture; stability; weight placement; following mechanics of the gaits) | | 1 | | |
| **RIDER'S CORRECT AND EFFECTIVE USE OF AIDS** (Clarity; subtlety; independence; accuracy of test) | | 1 | | |
| **FURTHER REMARKS:** | | | | |

**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.

| | |
|---|---|
| **SUBTOTAL:** | |
| **ERRORS:** | (- ) |
| **FAULTS -.5%** | (- ) |
| **TOTAL POINTS:**<br>(Max Points: 400) | |

United States Equestrian Federation, Inc.
**2027 USEF THIRD LEVEL TEST 3**

Name of Competition

Date of Competition

Name and Number of Horse

Name of Rider

**Final Score**
**Maximum Pts: 400**

Points

Percent

Name of Judge

Signature of Judge

Dressage Riding Standards Guidelines

Score Sheet effective date: December 1, 2026 - November 30, 2030

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