

Bringing Horses Out

1. Before you the horses out you will want to see what the weather will be like that day to make sure that you put on gear appropriate for the weather.
2. In the morning, the mares will need to go out first. They will be led out through the side door that faces Roadshow's paddock.



3. Put on a helmet. You may use either the helmets hanging from pegs in the barn, or the pink helmets located on the desk in the grain room.
4. The horse should only go out if she is being good. Rearing, weaving, or other bad behavior should stop before you attempt to take the horse out. As soon as the horse is being good you may continue the process. Standing in front of the horses' stall, open the door wide enough to allow yourself room to get through, but do not open all the way. Do not go into the stall. Instead, wait for the horse to come to you. If the horse will not come to the door, wait. If the horse still won't come, go to another horse and come back to this one later. Never chase the horse around the stall.
5. Put on any appropriate gear. (Fly mask, rain sheet, blanket). Make sure that the halter is unbuckled and ready to put on before you approach the horse. Stand on the left side of the horse's head, facing the same direction he is. The horse should lower its head to allow you to put on the halter. If it does not, place your hand on the horse's poll (behind the ears) and gently ask the horse to lower its head. If it still won't you may place your hand gently over the bridge of the horse's nose and ask again. Hold the crown piece in your right hand and the buckle or the noseband in your left hand. Reach over the horse's head with your right hand, holding the crown piece

above and in front of the horse's head. Guide the noseband onto the horse's nose so that the noseband is on top and the chinstrap is underneath his nose. Gently (so you don't surprise or scare the horse) pass the crown piece over the horse's poll, just behind his ears. Fasten the buckle so that the smooth, back part of the buckle faces the horse so that it doesn't rub and become uncomfortable. If the horse does not have a chain, attach the lead rope to the bottom ring underneath the horse's chin. If it does have a chain, you will slide it through the side ring closest to the side you plan to lead from. Pass the chain through the ring - heading up toward the eye, then cross *over* the noseband and clip at the bottom of the opposite side ring with the protruding part of the buckle facing out. Open the stall door all the way with the handle facing all the way to the right so nobody gets caught on it. You are now ready to go out!



6. The horse should wait for you before coming out of the stall. If she doesn't, you will back her up into the stall and try again. The mares will all go out the side door as previously mentioned. While leading, you should stay at the horse's shoulder. She should not try to get in front of or lag behind you. If she does invade your space or tries to run ahead of you, you will back her up to the point where she started misbehaving. If she won't move forward you may swing the end of the lead without hitting her toward her rear to get her moving. Don't try to haul your horse along. The harder you pull, the more resistant she may become.



7. If you are taking out doubles, make sure to keep plenty of room between horses both when you are leading and when you get to the gate. At the gate, you will unlatch it and open it far enough so that the horse has plenty of room to get through without bumping into it. You will not just let go of the gate, but will keep one hand on the lead rope and one on the gate. The first horse will need to be out of the way to allow the second horse room to get in. As soon as both horses are in the paddock, close and latch the gate. Gently move the horse backwards as you release it. Horses must be facing the gate before being released. Then remove the chain from the halter.

8. Make sure that the gate is chained tightly and that the chain is not hanging loosely or allowing the gate to swing. Hang the lead rope from the gate so that it is folded in half and the horse is not in danger of getting a foot caught in it.



9. Roadshow will go out last. He will be led out the front door that leads to the parking area.