

Horse Trainer/Instructor

Description

A horse trainer or instructor works with horses to ready them for riders, races or shows. They typically are expected to analyze horses' dispositions to anticipate any possible behavioral problems such as kicking, tossing or biting. Then, they train accordingly to prevent future behavioral problems. Additionally, trainers/instructors assist horses in adapting to gear, acclimating to riding on various terrains and performing various exercises.

Education/Training Requirements

- Associate's degree in Equine Science or Equine Studies (typically required)
- Experience working with livestock (needed)

Recommended High School Coursework

- Agriculture Education
- Animal Science
- Biology
- Mathematics

Common Responsibilities

- Assist horses in adapting to saddles and bridles
- Reward and train horses to obey commands
- Analyze horses' dispositions for possible behavioral problems
- Train to prevent future behavioral problems
- Teach horses to perform various exercises
- Be strongly versed in various equestrian styles and train horses accordingly
- Acclimate horses to riding on various terrains and to boarding trailers
- Observe horses' nutrition and health; notify veterinarian if needed
- Assist in grooming and make grooming recommendations
- Maintain stables and waste management
- Feed and water horses

Typical Employers

A horse trainer may work for public or private stables or horse breeders, rodeo companies, large ranches, or they may be self-employed.

Additional Resources

[American Quarter Horse Association](#)

[Certified Horsemanship Association](#)

[Equine Science Society](#)

[National Barrel Horse Association](#)

[Walking Horse Trainers Association](#)