

PONY CLUB



Plaiting Mini Achievement Badge Workbook



Guidelines

- ⦿ Explain why you might plait horses' manes or tails
- ⦿ Know how to make sure you are safe when plaiting
- ⦿ Show how to plait using baling twine and a plaiting band
- ⦿ On a drawing of an outline of a horse, draw on plaits and colour in the picture

This workbook is an introduction to the subject that it covers. As it is addressed primarily to young children, it is important that the instructor must be prepared to demonstrate the subject practically, and allow the member to practice the skills as frequently as required. It is highly recommended that the parent or the instructor read or explain the contents of the workbook to the child as it cannot be assumed that the child is able to read the information or instructions sufficiently well to achieve understanding.

Name

Branch

Why might we want to plait a mane or tail?



Manes and tails are plaited:

- To make your pony look nice and neat especially if you are at a show or doing dressage
- To show off your pony's neck
- To train your pony's mane to fall to a preferred side (normally the right side)
- To prevent long manes getting caught up in riding equipment
- To make your pony look pretty

Safety when plaiting

- Wear your helmet and closed shoes
- Find a nice quiet place to plait so that you will not be annoyed by another horse coming to visit or by passers by
- Give your pony a haynet to keep him busy
- Have everything you need ready and close by. You don't want to be jumping up and down. You want to keep your pony as quiet as possible
- You may need to ask a grown up to help you, as you may not be able to reach the mane even when standing on a box
- You will have to be extra careful when plaiting the tail as you will need to move behind your pony to ensure straightness. It is best to get an adult to help with the tail!



How many plaits?





There are no set rules regarding the number of plaits, but traditionally there should be an odd number down the neck plus the forelock.



How to plait

Lets first learn how to plait.

You will need:

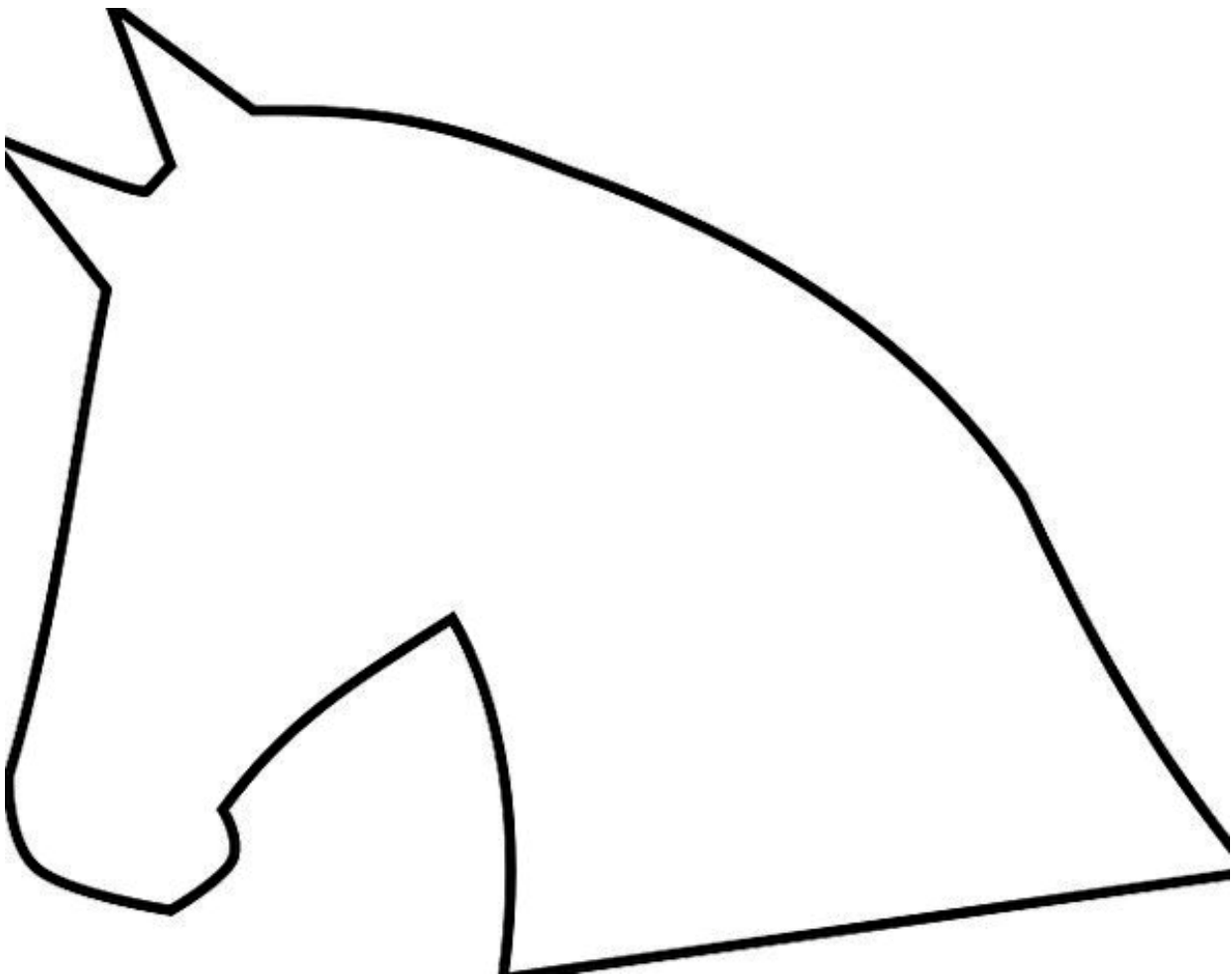
3 different types of coloured wool/string/rope

<p>Step 1</p>		<p>Lay all 3 pieces of string out as per the diagram. Tie them onto a pencil so they do not move about.</p> <p>Order from left to right: Green, blue, red</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When you plait you start with the outside string and pass it over the string in the middle • You must alternate sides • So if you start with the green on the left, then next would be the red on the right, then back to the blue on the left and so on • Let's do it step by step 		
<p>Step 2</p>		<p>Pass the green string (on the left) over the top of the blue string.</p> <p>The green string should now be in the middle.</p>
<p>Step 3</p>		<p>Pass the red string (on the right) over the top of the green string.</p> <p>The red string should now be in the middle.</p>
<p>Step 4</p>		<p>Pass the blue string (on the left) over the top of the red string.</p> <p>The blue string should now in the middle.</p>

<p>Step 5</p>		<p>Pass the green string (on the right) over the blue string. The green string is now in the middle.</p>
		<p>Keep repeating the pattern until you get to the end. <i>Pass outside strand over centre strand. Repeat from the other side.</i> <i>Repeat this pattern alternating sides.</i> Your plait should look like this. Tie at the end with an elastic band.</p>

Lets have some fun

1. On this picture of the horse's head, draw in some plaits then complete and colour in the picture.



2. Look at the different pictures of plaited manes and tails below. Discuss them with your instructor.

