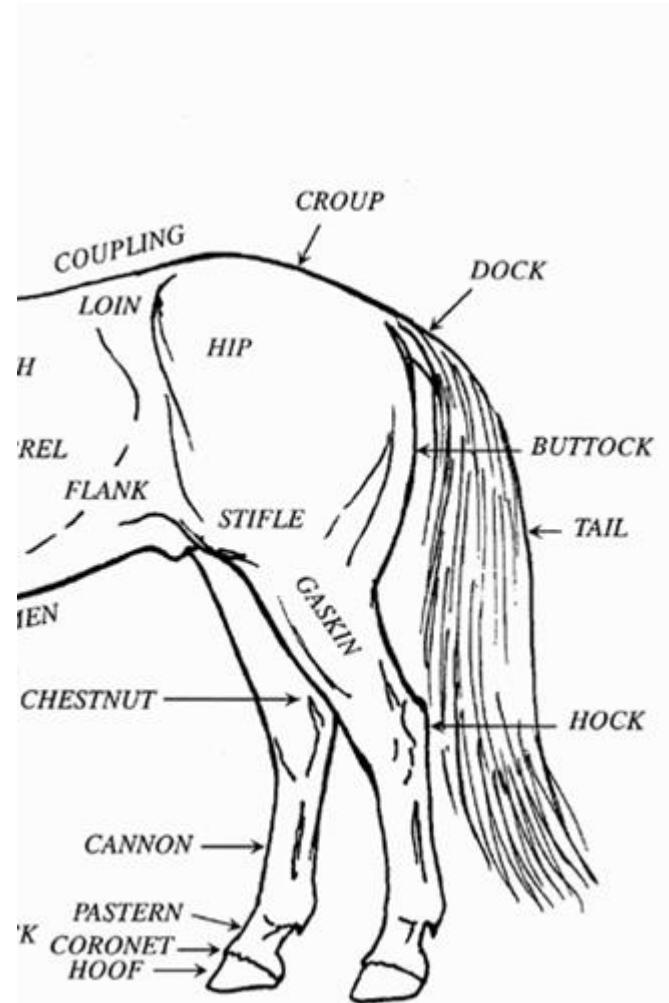


# Horse Judging Basics – focus on hindquarters

# Hindquarter parts



# Halter Classes

- Balance
- Muscling
- Structural correctness (conformation) – includes way of going (movement)
- Breed and sex characteristics

# Balance

Ideal balance in the horse. All solid white lines are roughly equal in length. The dashed white line (length of topline) is shorter than the dashed purple line (length of underline)



# The hindquarters are the “ENGINE” of the horse



Muscling in the stifle area (black areas) should be the widest when viewed from the rear



the muscling over the stifle and gaskin should be well defined but not bunched. The muscling around the stifle should be the widest part of the horse when viewed from behind. The muscling around the inner and outer gaskin should also be wide and well defined.

# Hindquarters and balance



The horse on the left has a desirable hip with a nice turn and good length. The horse on the right has a very short, steep hip.

# Problems with balance...

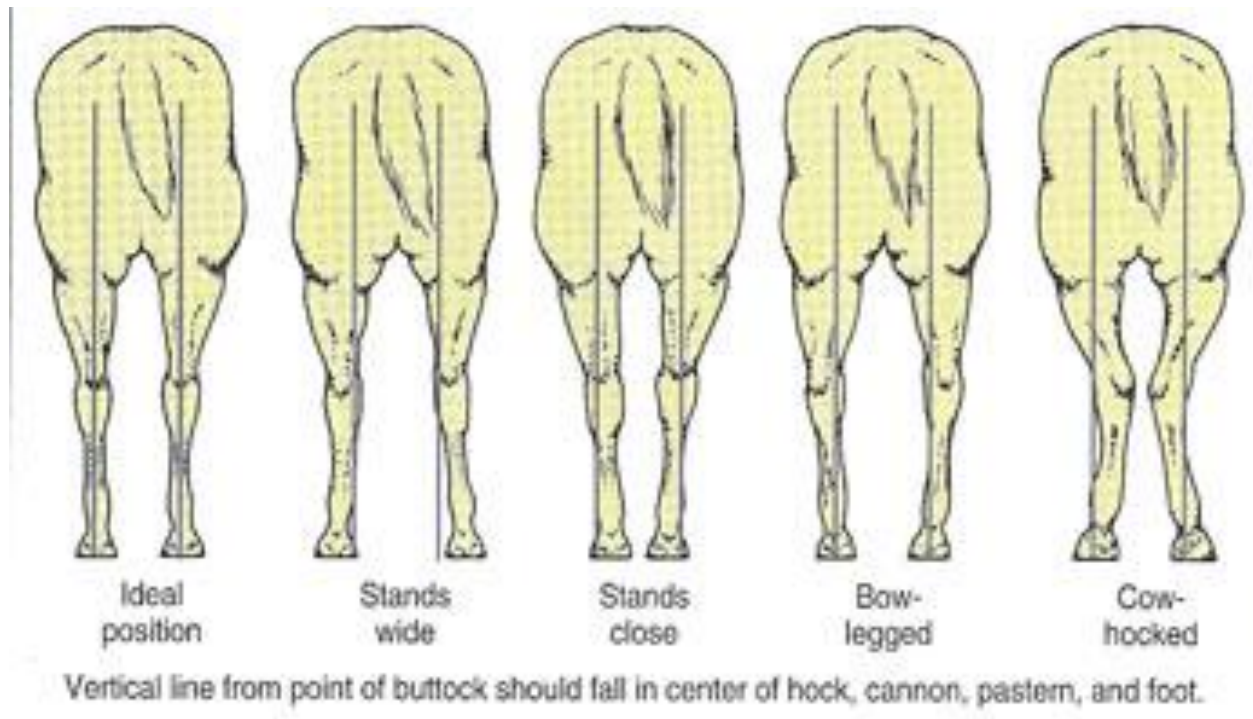


a horse with a long, weak back  
— the topline and underline are  
similar lengths.



a “downhill” horse with withers  
much lower than hips.

# Structural correctness when viewed from the rear





# Structural correctness when viewed from the side



Ideal



Sickle-hocked

Or Stands under



Camped out behind

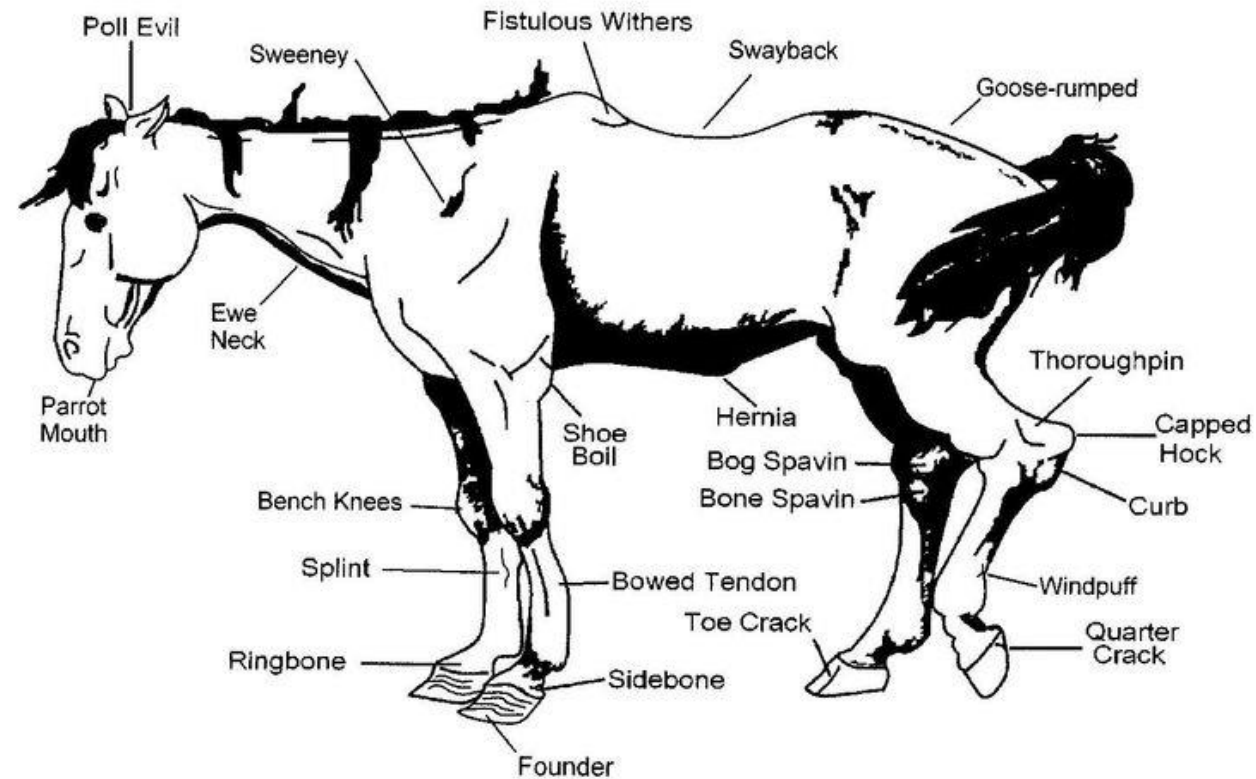


Leg too straight

or post legged

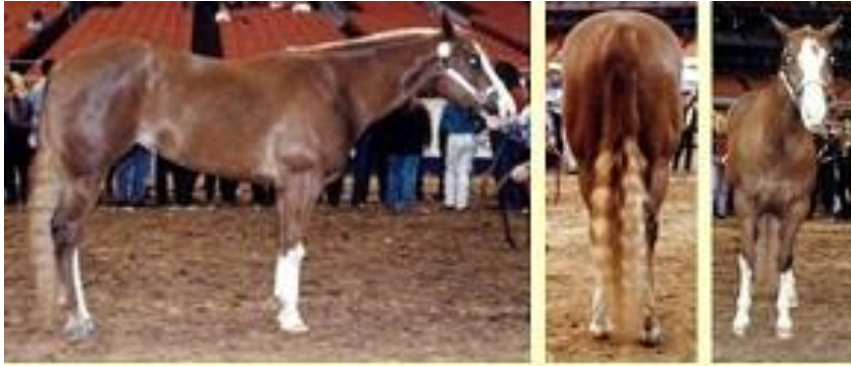
# Unsoundnesses and blemishes

## Common Unsoundnesses

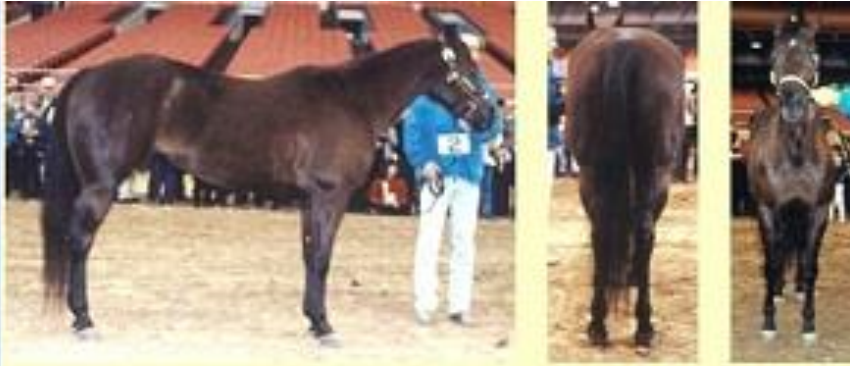


# Practice judging class – QH mares





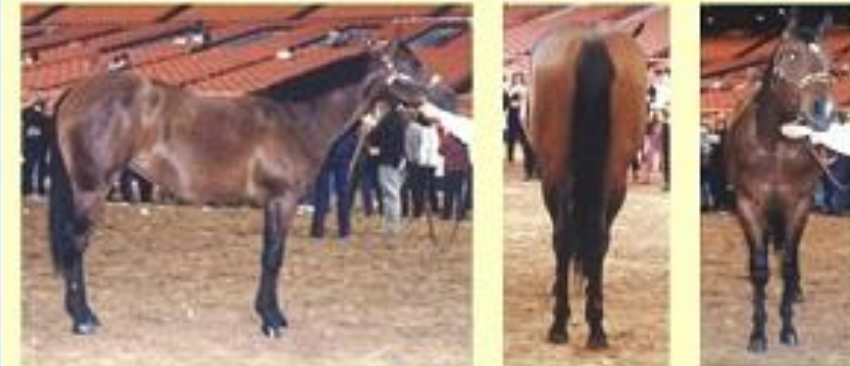
1



2



3



4



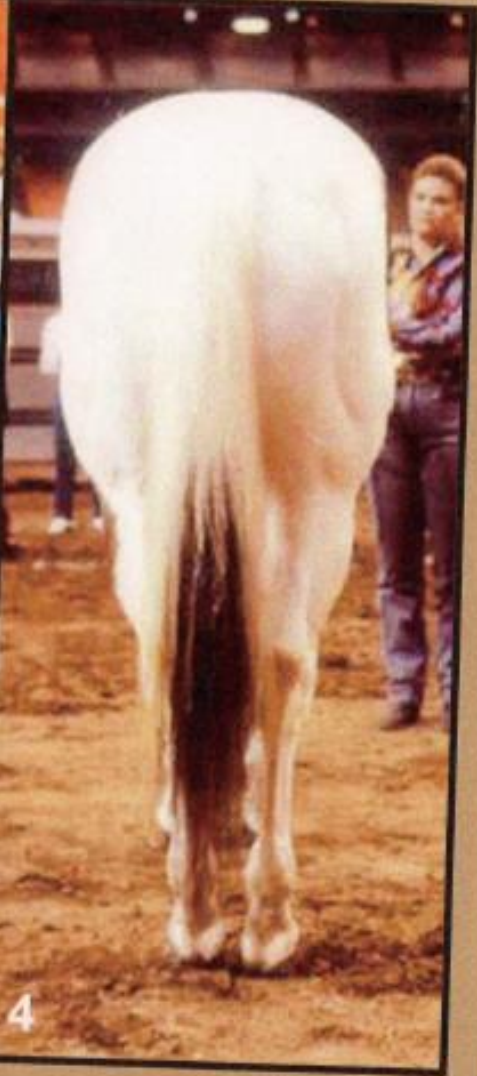
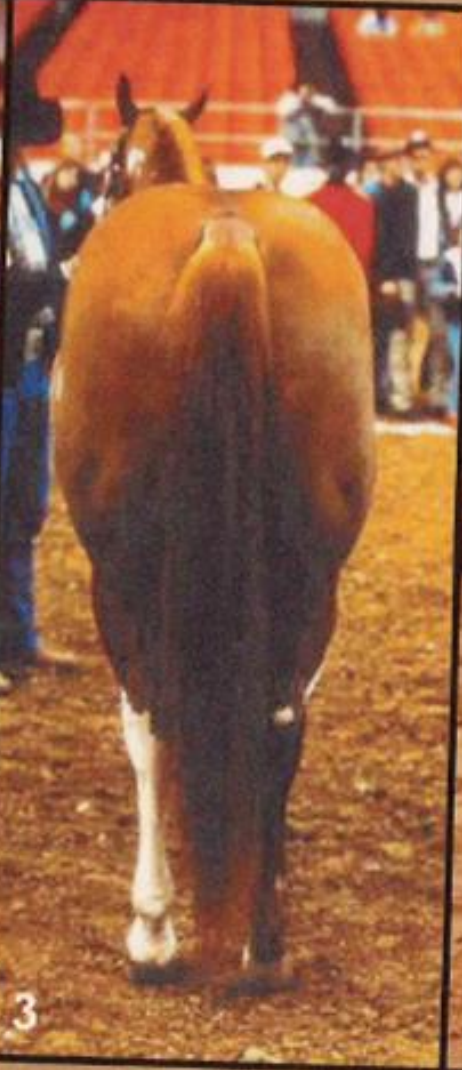
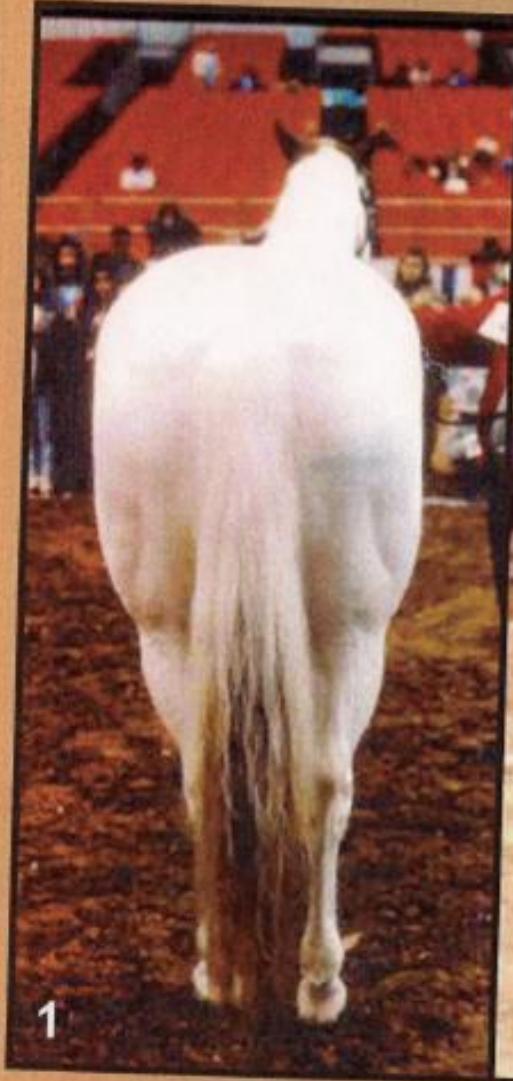
Official placing 1-3-2-4 cuts 3-2-5

Next class -- paints











Paint Official placing 1-4-3-2

Next class is Percherons



Official placing 3-2-4-1

Next class is hunter geldings





Official placing 1-3-2-4;  
cuts 2-1-5

Next class is saddlebreds





Official placing 4-3-2-1; cuts  
4-1-3