

## Horse Judging Terminology

### Favorable Comparisons:

#### General

Typier (more breed type)  
Smoother  
Higher quality  
More nicely balanced  
More stylish  
Heavier muscled  
Longer, cleaner muscling

#### Head and Neck

Shorter, broader head  
More alert eye  
Neater muzzle  
More massive jaw  
Shorter ear  
Cleaner at the throatlatch  
Smoother-necked  
Neck blends smoothly at the shoulder  
More breed character  
Longer neck  
More desirable set neck

#### Shoulder

More prominent withers  
Cleaner withers  
More angle in the shoulder  
Deeper shoulder (longer)  
  
More sloping shoulder  
Smoother shoulder

#### Chest and Forelegs

Deeper chest  
Broader chest  
Wider set forelegs  
Heavier forearm  
Longer, tapering forearm muscle  
Smoother knee joint  
Deeper jointed  
Shorter cannon  
More medium-length pastern  
More correct set of pastern

#### Barrel and Topline

Deeper in the heart  
More spring in forerib  
Shorter back  
Shorter, stronger coupling  
Closer-coupled  
Stronger back  
Smoother hip  
Longer underline

### Criticisms:

Off type  
Rough  
Coarse; low quality  
Poorly balanced  
Plain  
Light-muscled  
Short, bunchy muscling

Long, narrow head  
Sleepy-eyed  
Coarse muzzle  
Small jaw  
Long, mule ear  
Coarse throated  
  
Coarse, thick neck  
Rough at shoulder  
  
Plain head  
Short neck  
Low headed, high headed

Low, flat withers  
Muttony (flat) withers  
Steep shoulder  
  
Shallow shoulder (shorter)  
Steep shoulder  
Rough shoulder

Shallow chest  
Narrow chest  
Narrow-set forelegs  
Light forearm  
Short, bunchy forearm muscle  
Coarse jointed  
Shallow jointed  
Long cannon  
Long, weak/short, stiff pastern  
Weak pastern; steep pastern

Shallow in the heart  
Flat-ribbed; flat-sided  
Long back  
Long, weak coupling  
Slack-coupled  
Weak back  
Rough hips; boxy hips  
Short underline

### Favorable Comparisons:

#### Quarter and Rear Legs

Heavy-quartered  
Longer croup  
Nicer turned croup  
  
*From the side:*  
Wider stifle  
Wider gaskin  
Deeper hock

#### From the rear:

Thicker, fuller quarter  
Thicker through stifle  
More gaskin inside and out  
Smoother hocked

#### Bone, Feet and Legs, Stance

Heavier stronger bone  
Flatter, cleaner cannons  
Shorter cannons  
More correct pasterns  
Cleaner joints  
Roomier, well-rounded feet  
Deeper, more open heel  
Smoother, harder hooves  
Straighter legs

#### Front Legs

Straighter on front legs, stands more correctly on the forelegs  
Straighter on feet

#### Hind Legs

More correct on hind legs  
  
Straighter feet  
More correct set at the hock

#### Action

Truer action  
Moves straighter in front  
  
Moves straighter behind  
More correct hock action

Freer moving

Snappier stride  
Longer stride  
More forceful stride  
More correct flexion (hocks, knees, ankles)

### Criticisms:

Light-quartered  
Short croup  
Steep croup; flat croup

Narrow stifle  
Light gaskin  
Shallow hock

Narrow quarter  
Light in the stifle  
Thin gaskin

Coarse, rough hocks

Light bone  
Round cannons  
Long cannons  
Weak/steep pasterns  
Fleshy/puffy joints  
Mule-footed  
  
Shallow/narrow heel  
Thin, cracked hooves  
Crooked legs

Knock-kneed; bow-legged; buck-kneed; calf-kneed  
Pigeon-toed; splay-footed

Cow-hocked; bow-legged; bandy-legged  
Toes out; toes in  
Sickle-hocked (too much angle); post-legged (not enough angle)

Faulty action  
Paddles (wings out); moves close (rope walks)  
Wings out; wings in  
Rolls the hocks (lateral movement); jerks at the hocks  
Stumbles; interferes; forges (hitting front foot with back)  
Sluggish  
Short stride  
Halting stride  
Stiff (hock, knee, ankle); too much flexion (lifts knees too high)