The Bad Horse List

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--- Introduction ---

This is a list of things horse ownees would have their pets write on the blackboard, like Bart Simpson, if they could get them to write. This list was begun May 29, 1999 and is copyrighted by Harold Reynolds (the creator and maintainer), though animal shelters may use it for fundraising purposes. Latest update: October 16, 2012.

The original Bad Horse List was maintained by Dr Anne Wright, but it went off-line with no explanation several years ago, so I started this copy with a (probably quite old) copy sent courtesy of Kathy Schriber. It is missing all the original contributors, unfortunately. The Contributors List contains only the people who have sent me contributions since I started the list.

--- Appearance ---

- 1. After my grey coat is sparkling white, I promise not to get green stains up under my blanket or lay my head in poop.
- 2. I will not cake myself with mud, and then kick and squeal when trying to be groomed.
- 3. I can stop scratching my butt long enough for my tail to grow.
- **4.** I promise not to look at my vain self in the mirror while my human is riding me.
- 5. I will forgive my human for the very bad haircut she gave me even though I look like a freak.
- **6.** I will learn to get dirty sometimes, as all horses do, and will not insist on fresh green grass to roll in. This means I will also learn to walk through mud. My feet will not fall off if I do.
- I will not ALWAYS find the MUDDIEST spot in the pasture to roll in. I can roll in the nice grass like everyone else, I REALLY can.
- 8. I will not attempt to pull my human's mane while she is pulling mine. (I had one that would pull on my hair while I thinned his mane.)
- 9. I will not cover all but the very front of my face in thick mud when my humans have a van scheduled to transport me in their absence.
- 10. I will not get mud dreadlocks in my mane which takes my human an hour to get out.
- 11. I will not make my own mud in the middle of a drought by peeing in the dirt and then rolling in it.
- 12. I will not roll in the mud every single day (when mud is available and trust me, this spring will be a mud bath) and then rub my caked body along the sides of my stall and feed box.
- 13. I will not rub my face in the mud even though I like my human pulling all the little bits of mud off with his fingers.
- 14. I will not rub my half of my mane out so that I look ridiculous.
- 15. I will not rub my head on my human when he is standing on a bucket trying to get the mud out of my mane thus unbalancing him.
- **16.** I will not rub my tail the day before a show.
- 17. I will not rub my tail.
- 18. I will not spend to much time being groomed or washed. (For those horses who LOVE to be groomed and washed.)
- 19. I will not stare into space like an air-head.
- **20.** I will not turn my head round and lean on my human's shoulders with my head totally blocking his vision when he brushes my neck.
- **21.** I will put my ears forward and cooperate when it comes to photos.
- 22. I won't eat the grass on the other side of the fence, rubbing all of my mane off.
- 23. I won't show everybody how hard my workout was by "hanging out" while being cooled off.

- **24.** If I look like a lady I should act like a lady.
- 25. When freshly groomed I must not be magnetically pulled towards every pile of manure in a 2 mile radius.
- 26. When my human tries to clip my ears, I will not put my head so high she has to get a ladder.
- 27. When my people are shooting pictures/video to show to the doctors & insurance companies (for Therapeutic Riding through a rehab hospital), I won't "let it all hang out" and stand there flexing it up and down.

--- Annoying/Embarrassing Habits ---

- 1. Although I'm not hurting anything when I tug on my human's shirt when I want her attention, this is rude, and makes people think I'm biting her.
- 2. Balking out of sheer stubbornness is not okay when first starting the parade. Balking because I am spooked is even less sensible, especially when the scary stuff is BEHIND me!
- 3. I am not a race horse and will therefore not try to bolt ahead of all the other horses when riding in a group.
- **4.** I can stand still for more than 5 seconds.
- 5. I cannot dig a hole deep enough to get out of my stall, so I will stop digging one right in front of my stall door. The humans keep stepping in it, and will get hurt.
- 6. I cannot do a two legged dance on ice. I will slip. I shouldn't do the two legged dance anyway when I am not that scared.
- 7. I do not need to run frantically up and down the fence line looking for my human.
- **8.** I promise to stop biting my human's sports drink bottle. Even if it is partly her fault for always bringing orange Gatorade which is the same color as a carrot. I have to be sure it's not a carrot, don't I?
- 9. I will discontinue my newly formed game of breaking lead ropes, as it is an expensive one, and is making my human say bad words, like DOG FOOD, GLUE, and (shuddering) TRAINERS!
- 10. I will not act like I'm going to kick when my human cleans the wire cut on the inside of my hock. It's my own fault that I wasn't watching where I was going and crashed through the fence! (That is one bad place for a five inch cut-sooooo easy to get kicked!)
- 11. I will not allow Gizmo to teach me how to remove my halter. It is bad enough that I let him teach me how to get out of the pasture...
- 12. I will not buck across the entire length of the back side of the race track when my human refuses to let me chase the horses when they break from the gate. (We are the horse and rider who stand on the outskirts of the track to catch run-away racehorses. This causes the patrons to bet on my staying on instead of the winning race horse!)
- 13. I will not die if I can't get a peppermint immediately upon seeing my human.
- **14.** I will not do the two legged dance because I don't want to stand still. I will also not do the two legged dance because I just feel good and don't want to walk.
- 15. I will not get jealous of my sister, niece and herdmates because they get their feet picked and I don't. If I do get jealous, I will not put my feet in the water.
- 16. I will not go insane when my human will not let me follow the mare of my dreams when she bolts.
- 17. I will not jump the fence and go frantically searching for my human.
- 18. I will not knock my human down by eating her boots, even though they are thoroughly battered.
- 19. I will not learn bad manners from the new horse like running away when my human tries to catch me.
- 20. I will not lick the pepper flavored Chew Stop off my human's fingers. (So much for that way to stop cribbing!)
- 21. I will not loosen my own tiedown.
- 22. I will not make myself stiff and sore while being boarded out, making my human and the boarding humans think I'm getting arthritis, when in fact I'm pulling down their rail fences instead of just jumping over them.
- 23. I will not pickpocket the hammer out of my human's pocket when s/he is up on the ladder fixing the gutters. I will not knock down the ladder when s/he has to get off of it to pick up the hammer I just filched out of her/his pocket.
- 24. I will not plant all four feet and refuge to budge, just because someone other than my human is trying to ride me.
- 25. I will not play with my most private, personal part in public. Nor will I give seminars in exposing said private part to my herd members
- **26.** I will not pull my bridle and halter off the side of my stall and shake it to get attention or a carrot.
- 27. I will not push the human over into the mud, jump over her, step on her hat, and gleefully go flying up into the furthest corner of the pasture, dragging my lead rope. She will only get up spit the mud out, chase me down, and make me walk all the way back to the barn, and insist that I wait while she hoses herself off. She will then INSIST that I walk nicely and politely back to the pasture, wait patiently while she opens the gate, take four nice steps in, and turn to have my lead rope removed.
- 28. I will not rub my braids out the night before a big "A" rated horse show when I know it took my human 4 hours to make them look attractive.
- **29.** I will not rush at a fence only to refuse it.
- **30.** I will not scream into the long hours of the night when my girlfriend is on a supper ride.
- 31. I will not stand in the part of the horse pasture most deeply covered by water when the humans are looking for me.
- **32.** I will not steal a sandal from my human and then run all around the 9 acre pasture tossing it back and forth to my friends in a game of keep away.
- 33. I will not try to remove my bridle with my tongue while we are waiting in line at a show to hear the results.
- **34.** I will quit attempting to remove the shirts of the female humans. I am a girl horse, and I do not need to expose their wares for the entire stable to see. If I want to take someone's shirt off, it will be the one the male human is wearing.

- 35. I will restrict blowing bubbles in my water barrels to daylight hours except when the turkeys gobble!
- **36.** I will stop flapping my lips every time my human says a word to me.
- **37.** I will stop giving my human friends wedgies! (She will follow you around, then reach down, grab the back of your pants and yank!)
- **38.** If I am becoming slightly dehydrated, I WILL drink more than 3 gallons of water when the human offers me ten gallons! Those five-gallon buckets are heavy!
- **39.** If I can act like a nice horse and let someone who doesn't know what she's doing ride me in the spring and summer, I do not need to act like I am not saddle broken now that it is cold and windy.
- **40.** If I can get into the trailer in daylight, I can load up at night too.
- **41.** If I can load easily into one small trailer, I can load easily into another one. My human didn't like wasting 20 minutes convincing me to get in.
- **42.** If I can roll in mud puddles, I do not need to jump over them when being led across them.
- **43.** If there are flies, I will not rear continuously.
- 44. It is not in my best interest not to remove my human's police badge while standing in front of judges for inspection!
- **45.** Just because one of the other psychotic Arabians calmed down does not mean I have to freak out even more to compensate for his loss
- **46.** Leading all three other horses over the fence and down the road was not a good idea. I and my companion mare may have the jumping ability of a deer, but the other two don't and so got tangled up in the fence. Then, since they needed their feet trimmed badly, they chipped out, making it impossible for my human to move us until they got trimmed. If I ever pull such a stunt again, I will find myself confined to a stall, which I hate.
- **47.** My first birthday is no excuse for forgetting what manners are and what my human taught me when I was a little baby. (He was pushing me around, being really piggy, wouldn't stay out of my "space", shoving me with his head, and I asked him where his manners were. He gave a blank look that said "Manners? What are those?")
- **48.** My human may sometimes produce apples in the pasture, but she is not a large apple, and I do not need to protect her from all of the other horses. She does not need protection and may in fact get hurt as I run around like an idiot.
- **49.** On the trail, I will not act lame making my human walk me back home and fret all night long about me being lame, then appear perfectly sound the next day.
- **50.** Once I am well on my way in the parade, I will not become so spooked out that I attempt to run up the butt of the fake moose in front of me. (Ever wonder what a 1300 pound suppository feels like?) When my human refuses to allow me to bolt right over the top of the fake moose in front of me, I will not attempt to run over the crowd backwards because I can't hold still.
- **51.** Revel and I will find a way to make ourselves look different from one another, or will learn to respond to our names because the girls working at the stables keep returning from the field with the wrong pony. (They're both identical size, built the same, bay with a fairly non-descript star so when the girls are sent for one pony, half the time they come back with the wrong one.)
- **52.** The 50+ gallon water trough is not easy (for a human) to lift out of the mud and be returned to the bricks it was on; therefore I will not kick it over.
- **53.** The presence of mud does not mean that I need to plaster myself from head to toe with it. I am a white horse, and I'm supposed to at least resemble that color in the winter when my human can't hose me down...
- **54.** When working in open order in the riding school, I will stop rushing forwards to catch up to the next horse, then pinning my ears back when I do catch up.
- 55. When tied, I will not bolt backward, breaking my halter for absolutely no good reason at all.

--- Attitude ---

- 1. Biting my human will get me scolded. Squealing and pinning my ears when she scolds me will get me smacked. Attempting to kick when I get smacked will cause her to get eyeball to eyeball with me, ask me if I REALLY want to kick (I don't) and then make me run in circles. I should know this by now. (You'd think she'd figure out that her attitude only makes it worse?)
- 2. Biting is unacceptable. When the arm I'm reaching for can fit in my mouth, a bite can be extremely dangerous.
- 3. Even though I'm just a baby, I won't act any more childish than necessary when human tries to teach me something.
- 4. I am not a B1 bomber, and should not do fly-bys and bombing exercise when my human is on Ellie.
- 5. I am not a Shin'a'in Battlesteed.
- **6.** I have not been possessed by the devil, no matter what it seems like.
- 7. I will never again decide to buck my human off rodeo style, just because she went to Ohio for a few weeks for the holidays.
- **8.** I will not act like an idiot every time we arrive at the show grounds.
- **9.** I will not cross-canter all the way home just because I'm mad at my human.
- 10. I will not get cranky just because we don't go home when I'm ready.
- 11. I will not grind my teeth when my slave is annoying me.
- 12. I will not have an attitude problem. I won't I won't I won't.
- **13.** I will not ignore my human when she tells me to pay attention to her.
- 14. I will not make horrible faces at my human when he doesn't pay me the attention I deserve 100% of the time.
- 15. I will not run full speed to the edge of a cliff and stop abruptly, hoping to toss off the new kid on my back who has never, ever, been on a horse before. I will never again run through the low part of the barn trying to scrape the new kid off my back who has only once time, ever, been on a horse before. I promise not to find pleasure in trotting home through the corn field trying to get the

new kid on my back in trouble when she has only twice, ever, been on a horse before. (The horses were 3 different horses, and the child of course was myself. And after the third one got through laughing I vowed I would never ride another one. And I haven't.)

- **16.** I will not sulk after being given that horrid tasting wormer.
- 17. I will not toss my head and shake it when asked to trot.
- **18.** I will not totally freak out at the very mention of the trailer.
- 19. I will not turn and make faces at my human when he asks me to trot.
- **20.** I will stop playing the 'if I don't stand still next to mounting block I can go back to bed' game. I'm normally better behaved than that and I am, in fact, an absolute sweetheart.
- 21. Just because my human didn't say hello to me first, doesn't mean I should sulk for the rest of the day.
- 22. Kicking the gate to pieces and then being so obnoxious that it takes no less than ten people to corner me and drive me back into the pasture, just because my human hasn't been around for a while is not good. (She did this while I was out of the state, and wouldn't even come for a bucket of grain!)

--- Barn Manners: Grooming/Tacking Up ---

- 1. Even though my human taught me this nifty trick so I will keep my head down while on cross-ties, I am not allowed to touch the ground with my nose and paw, getting my leg over my head.
- 2. I don't have to pull the fence down to escape being tacked up.
- 3. I must not decide to pretend to nip my human while she is cinching me just because the instructor is watching. I know darn well that she won't cinch me too tight and that I am not a "cinchy" horse. It is not nice to make the instructor think that she has my cinch too tight. This wastes the instructors time as she then must come and check my girth.
- **4.** I promise I will not flip out and rear when my human tries to make me more comfortable by pulling burrs out of my forelock after I've been such a good girl and stood still for a needle
- **5.** I promise I will put up with fly spray, mane & tail conditioners, hoof oil, coat conditioners, show polish, etc. even though I think it should smell like mud & feces rather than perfume.
- 6. I promise to hold my head still & not roll my eye when my human is clipping around my eye (I just like to hear my tell me "you're going to go blind if these clippers hit you in the eye it just shows me she REALLY cares).
- 7. I will behave when my teats are being cleaned.
- **8.** I will cooperate when my human must clean my sheath.
- 9. I will let my human clip my face and ears which should really only take 5 minutes, but if I feel like it, I can stretch it into an hourbut my human gets upset easily and she will not hesitate to twitch me, all the while telling me what a lop eared jug headed sorry son of a bitch I am. (I know she really loves me though, because she always gives me a bath right after and I smell SOOO good!)
- 10. I will no longer crib on cross ties.
- 11. I will no longer rip the boards off the fence with my lead line when I am tied to it and something spooks me.
- 12. I will no longer try to lip the clippers when my human tries to clip my nose.
- 13. I will not break my lead rope every time I am tied to something too solid to break.
- **14.** I will not dance around at the end of my lead rope whilst fly spray is being applied for my own good, even though it tickles like mad.
- 15. I will not dance in the cross-ties while my human's got her new dressage saddle resting on my back (not yet girthed up), causing it to slip back, which causes me to spook and dump the saddle upside down in the gravel:)
- **16.** I will not dance when my blanket is being put on.
- 17. I will not drop to my knees, when my human tries to pick my hooves clean, especially, since I am nearly 1500 lbs. and my human is almost under me.
- 18. I will not go into the tack room anymore and get stuck there because I am 16.2 and the tack room is only 12 x 12' and full of stuff.
- 19. I will not jerk my head up while being clipped and knock the \$50.00 pair of clippers out of my human's hand.
- 20. I will not jerk my leg back and forth making impossible to get my feet picked.
- 21. I will not lift my head to the roof of the barn when my slave is attempting to bridle me. Then when she tries to put the bit in my mouth I jerk up and smash her fingers on the ceiling & fences.
- 22. I will not paw after I have already been yelled at, smacked, whacked with a towel, and threatened to become glue by my human.
- 23. I will not paw on the cross ties while being ignored for more than two seconds.
- **24.** I will not play the "You can't get me wet!" game, just because someone other than my human is trying to hold onto me while she tries to give me a bath.
- 25. I will not pull solid steel window bars embedded into concrete buildings out of the building, when tied to them, just because there is better grass just beyond the end of my rope. If by accident I do happen to rip another one of these bars out, I promise not to spook, crash through the fence, (with the bar and frame following behind), rip open my leg, release a dozen other horses, and nearly run my human over.
- **26.** I will not put my head up every time humans attempt to put a bridle or halter on my face, no matter how bad my PMS (Pissy Mare Syndrome) is kicking in.
- 27. I will not rear and break the cross tie when my human tightens the girth.
- 28. I will not stand on the cross ties with my head straight up in the air, unwilling to be bridled.
- 29. I will not stomp my grooming box to shreds when my human takes the other horses out and leaves me in the barn.
- 30. I will not throw my head into the air, scream and balk when anyone tries to clean my ears. I know that if they just cleaned all the

- stuff out, it wouldn't be so tickly.
- **31.** I will not try to kill three slaves at once when they are tacking me up.
- **32.** I will not try to lie down on the cross ties.
- **33.** I will not turn around and threaten to bite anyone this summer when they cinch me up, especially my favorite person or the other workers.
- **34.** I won't step in dog poop on the way to the barn to be groomed.
- **35.** If I must remove my blanket, I will not rip, tear, or somehow disfigure it. I shall undo all the clips with my teeth, fold it and leave it on the stall door with a note saying politely that I need a larger size so it will not squeeze my withers.
- **36.** If I shake my head vigorously trying to get rid of the nice copper snaffle that the human put in my mouth, I must not, seconds after it was removed, take my brass stud chain in my mouth and chew happily for twenty minutes. It doesn't taste half as nice as the bit does, and furthermore, this tips my human off that I'm just being stubborn about that bit.
- 37. Just because I am having a bad day does not mean that I can flip out while being tacked up and break my lead rope.
- **38.** My having new tack does not give me an excuse to pretend I've forgotten how to act nice.
- 39. The water my human is washing me with is not going to eat me. I no longer try to pull the barn down around my head.
- **40.** Water/mud/fly spray will not dissolve me.
- **41.** When I am on cross ties, I cannot follow my human around the barn.
- **42.** When I see a saddle appear, backing into the corner of my stall and holding my breath does not make me invisible.
- **43.** When my human is trying to clean my hoof I will not put all my weight behind it and throw her forward into the fence. I must remember I weigh more than she does and I have strong legs.

--- Barn Manners: Stall Etiquette ---

- 1. Horses cannot go through bars. I do not need to protect my food from the horse next door to me.
- 2. Horses in the stall next to mine cannot get to my food through a wooden wall.
- 3. Humans should not have to get out of the way when I swish my tail.
- 4. I am neither a beaver nor a carpenter. I promise I won't eat or remodel the barn or the fences.
- **5.** I am not permitted to dump my water bucket every time the head slave (my human calls him the barn worker) fills my bucket to the tip top.
- **6.** I am not required to mouth everything I can find.
- 7. I cannot throw my head when I have a tie down on so I might as well quit trying.
- 8. I promise not to chew on everything that comes within 12 inches of my nose to see if it's dead so that my human won't get hurt if it attacks.
- 9. I promise not to go into my brother's stall when my human lets me in from the paddock just because I like to see him get all worked up. I know which stall is mine and will *always* go into my stall from now on.
- 10. I promise not to make banging noises in the middle of the night loud enough to be heard in the house so my human thinks I may be cast in the stall.
- 11. I promise to stop giving swing lessons to my stablemates from my stall.
- 12. I promise to stop taking my water buckets out of the stacking crates they are kept in (to prevent me from dumping my buckets all over my dry, clean shavings) and dumping the water all over my clean dry shavings.
- 13. I realize that I am a horse and have no opposable thumb. Therefore, I should not, and will not, ever open the feed room door again.
- 14. I will learn to appreciate my stall, it is warm and clean and soft.
- 15. I will never ever again squeal and pace circles in my stall when my human brings me in and leaves Lady outside so that my human has to come in with the whip and move me around until I pay attention to her instead of trying to look out the window at Lady.
- **16.** I will no longer get overexcited every time the foal or the miniature horse is led by my stall.
- 17. I will no longer suck my tongue and make disgusting noises with it (it sounds like somebody running their fingers along a wet inner tube) or run my teeth down the wires on my stall because my human is playing with one of my brothers or sisters.
- 18. I will not "hold it in" until I'm in the grooming stall just to irritate my rider.
- 19. I will not accost anyone carrying a bucket, bowl, pan, sack etc. to determine if there is anything for me in it.
- 20. I will not attempt to crib on my human's new crosby saddle.
- 21. I will not back up until I reach the back of the round pen, then buck like I have nothing else better to do when my rider is riding me bareback. When I decide to go forwards, I will not give her my nose and then bite her on the leg. (My App loves to act like a truck in reverse then bite me for making him go back so far.)
- 22. I will not be the first one in the barn, at dinner time, so I can steal a pinch of grain from all twelve horse stalls, as I run down the aisle.
- **23.** I will not bite or kick everything within range.
- 24. I will not bite the horses rear end that goes by when I'm in a stall.
- 25. I will not blow bubbles in the water tank and scare the other horses away.
- **26.** I will not chew on any wooden objects.
- 27. I will not chew on my human's company.
- 28. I will not chew on things that don't belong to me.
- 29. I will not continue to add ventilation holes to my stall just because another horse can watch me eat.
- **30.** I will not crib the instant my cribbing collar is taken off.

- **31.** I will not crib when my human comes in the stall and quit the second she leaves.
- **32.** I will not decide that the bottle of fly spray is going to chemically alter my beautiful body, but the automatic system in the barn is heaven on earth.
- 33. I will not dig a huge hole by the tack room door. The humans do not like filling it in. nor do they enjoy stepping in it while carrying a heavy saddle, and ending up sprawled on their backs with the saddle on top of them. Although I find this amusing, they don't, and I get in trouble for it.
- **34.** I will not dig my way to Australia before I roll. 8 inches of shavings should be enough for anyone.
- **35.** I will not drag my halter, lead and any other accessible item into my stall just so I can play with them, and when I get bored, bury them in my poop pile.
- **36.** I will not eat strips of corner beading from my stall, making my human worry about the possibility of lead poisoning.
- 37. I will not fill my water tub with hay and make my human fish it out in the middle of the winter.
- **38.** I will not fling buckets filled with water in the freshly bedded stall.
- **39.** I will not flip my hay out of any and all feeders, then pee on it.
- **40.** I will not go up to the newly soaped wooden ledge (favorite cribbing spot), crib on it despite the half inch of Orvus, and then blow soap bubbles in my clean water bucket.
- **41.** I will not immediately crib on the anti-cribbing surface that my human just spent 4 hours installing.
- 42. I will not jump out of my stall like there was an ax murderer in there when my human leads me from stall to stall.
- **43.** I will not jump over the door and out of my stall from a standing start, giving everybody in the barn a heart attack.
- **44.** I will not jump over the paddock fence, run into the barn, and let myself into my stall. My human is coming soon, and she will put me in for the night. I can be patient.
- **45.** I will not kick at the gelding in the next stall so hard that I crack the boards. The nice man that owns the barn keeps threatening to evict me.
- **46.** I will not kick down brand new stall walls.
- **47.** I will not kick holes in my stall in order to keep anyone from picking my hind feet.
- **48.** I will not knock my human over when she brings me to my room at night.
- **49.** I will not leave "surprises" under the shavings of my stall so that, just when my humans think that they are finished picking my stall, they are forced to work longer when they find my "present".
- **50.** I will not let myself out of my stall and go dump everyone's halter and lead shank on the floor.
- **51.** I will not make a shot for the pasture when my human opens my stall door.
- **52.** I will not mutilate my water buckets.
- **53.** I will not nip, shove, kick, or otherwise bodily harm my slave as she pushes a *heavy* grain-laden wheelbarrow from the silo to the barn, NO MATTER how hungry I think I am.
- **54.** I will not open my stall door and let myself into the barn when I need more hay to eat.
- **55.** I will not piaffe in my stall just because I am the last one to be turned out.
- 56. I will not practice my Fred Astaire/Ginger Rogers/Gene Kelly routines in my stall when I have piles of poop in it.
- **57.** I will not pull the Hydrant Pump out of the ground.
- **58.** I will not put my foot in the muck bucket even if I am really bored.
- **59.** I will not put my mouth on the fencing around the door of his stall (top teeth on one rung of the fence and the bottom teeth on a few rungs lower) so that my tongue can be petted. (As soon as you call his name, he runs to the front of his stall and opens his mouth. Weird.)
- **60.** I will not rasp my teeth on the metal grille between my stall and Belle's. I will remember that although I enjoy the incredible reverberant noise, no one else does.
- **61.** I will not remove, rip, tear, or otherwise vandalize any halters, fly masks, lead ropes, blankets, towels, or jackets that just happen to be within my reach.
- **62.** I will not rub a freshly-set fence post (barn pole...) down with my fanny just because I itch there.
- **63.** I will not shake my head uncontrollably for no reason.
- 64. I will not snap the stall door after it had just been fixed so I could go see my friend across the way or the mare across the way.
- **65.** I will not snore so loudly that I rattle the barn doors.
- **66.** I will not soak all the shaving in my stall by rinsing my mouth and then dropping the water everywhere.
- **67.** I will not somehow pick up my salt block and put it in my water bucket.
- 68. I will not splash human guests in my barn aisle with water and spit. Further, I will not splash fellow horses; they don't like it either.
- 69. I will not swat at imaginary flies.
- **70.** I will not throw hay all over the newly swept aisle.
- 71. I will not throw my hay net over the stable wall, then complain because I can't get it back. (I've got a small holed haylage net; I'd rather have hay on the floor)
- 72. I will not throw my rubber feed tub at my person. She says it hurts.
- 73. I will not tip over the manure cart again.
- 74. I will not try to destroy everything in my stall. Water buckets and grain tubs were meant to last longer than a month.
- **75.** I will not try to dig a hole to China in the aisle when I get restless.
- 76. I will not try to kick my human every time that she tries to clean my sheath. I really do not want any diseases.
- 77. I will not untie my water bucket, dump out the water and use it as a stall toy. (and when I get thirsty bang it against the stall door

- continuously until I wake up my humans so they can refill it at 2 in the morning.)
- **78.** I will not use my hay for a pillow.
- 79. I will not use my web stall guard as a hammock for my afternoon nap. My big butt stretches it out of shape, allowing me to creep under it later and steal hay.
- 80. I won't pull all of the hay out of the feeder and dump it on the ground before eating it.
- 81. If I have to soak my foot in warm Epsom salts, I will not snort, roll my eyes, twitch my ears, rear back up on my haunches, or otherwise try to escape from putting my foot into the tub. I will not take my foot out of the tub and put it on the stall mat as soon as my human leaves to muck my stall (10 feet away). I promise not to rest my foot on the rim of the soaking tub (although I do like to watch the water run out of it ever so slowly all over the grooming mats and all over the clean barn floor).
- 82. I'll try really hard to refrain from whinnying in the middle of the night so my human thinks one of the other horses has escaped.
- **83.** Just because I am now a "grown-up" girl and not a little filly, I do not have to advertise my new status by completely churning my stall into a major mess.
- 84. Just because nobody's paying attention to me, that doesn't mean that I have to weave and paw like a maniac.
- 85. My human doesn't want to model my big green goobers, especially when she's trying to find me a male human.
- **86.** When feeding time is near I promise not to step on my human's foot and causing her to spill my grain in the sawdust. I hate to eat sawdust.
- 87. When my human comes in to the stall I will not whip around and take a chunk out of her arm.
- 88. When my human puts a water heater in my water tub, I will not pull it out and try to burn the barn down.
- **89.** When my human puts me in the stall because of a storm, I won't freak because the other horses at the other stable across the pasture and the slough are still out, furthermore, I will not rear in my stall and gash my eye, then rub my face on my leg making it look like I also tore open my leg.
- **90.** When my human tries to kiss my ears while I am eating, it is not nice to give her a wet and slobbery grain filled kiss on her mouth. People do not eat grain.
- **91.** While my human is cleaning everyone's stalls, and I'm out playing, I will not follow her, pooping in every clean stall when she has her back turned.

--- Barn Manners: Turnout ---

- 1. Although I have worked hard all day, and should be very tired, when my human finally returns me to the pasture, I should not show how much energy I still have by chasing all the other horses around for an hour and firmly whopping all their butts, establishing myself as the new herd Boss.
- 2. Chili powder does not make the fence rail even tastier.
- 3. I do not need to stand and scream my head off just because my girlfriend is out being ridden and I was left in my stall.
- **4.** I promise that when it is snowing and I am running around in the paddock, I will be careful not to rear up and flip over the 4' fence and land outside the paddock.
- 5. I will let Merlot into the run-in shed in bad weather.
- **6.** I will never again put my dirty foot into the freshly cleaned horse trough.
- 7. I will no longer kick 15' in the air when a horsefly lands on my back (even if it is a Giant Mutant horsefly). I understand it will not carry me off to feed to its young.
- 8. I will not abuse the fact that my human is letting me get turned out in the daytime. I am a BLACK horse and my human likes me to stay that way. I promise to at least stand in the large amount of shade offered to me.
- 9. I will not assume that because my person fits between the rails on the post and rail fencing, I will. (This was very humiliating, I couldn't get my head and leg back and had to wait for her to do it.)
- **10.** I will not destroy two so-called "indestructible" toy balls in 24 hours.
- 11. I will not dump the water trough daily, especially when it is really hot out.
- 12. I will not give the other slave a hard time when its time for dinner... I will go directly to my stall and not run through the barn at warp speed screaming my head off.
- 13. I will not jump over the automatic waterer in my field and run the fence line because I can't figure out how to get back to my pasture.
- **14.** I will not jump the fence when I go out to play and my human doesn't stay even though she tells me she will be ok (I worry about her).
- 15. I will not just stop for no reason when my slave is leading my baby and myself out to the paddock so that my slave does the splits with his arms.
- **16.** I will not knock down the top rail of the fence to nibble the grass on the other side.
- 17. I will not lie in the mud when I have a perfectly nice shed with clean shavings.
- 18. I will not make my slave come and get me in the mud, I will come when called.
- 19. I will not open the hay room door when slave has forgotten to chain and lock it shut.
- 20. I will not put my hooves on the fence and get my leg stuck on it.
- 21. I will not roll *right* next to the fence so I get cast. Especially at the far side of a muddy field when my She doesn't have her rubber boots with her.
- 22. I will not roll 10 minutes before my human gets home from school and wants to ride out with friends.
- 23. I will not roll in the mud when it is thirty degrees out and come in cold.

- **24.** I will not run over my owner when that person tries to open my stall door and let me out. Further, I will then only go through the gate leading to the pasture, not the one opening into the road. I do not want my owner to resort to putting my halter on just to turn me out, as if I were a silly foal.
- 25. I will not stand outside and watch it rain and/or snow.
- **26.** I will not start pushing my human towards the barn with my head as soon as she dismounts.
- 27. I will not throw fits and run around and kick my heels up past the top fence rail when my human turns me out in the dry lot without the other horse.
- 28. I will not try to climb 5' pole fences and get my hoof caught in the hinge.
- 29. I will not try to kick to smithereens the beautiful new trailer that my humans saved up a long time to buy just for me.
- **30.** I will not try to open the windows to other horse's stalls when my human turns me out in the dry lot behind the barn while she cleans my stall.
- **31.** I will not use the jump as a back scratcher.
- 32. I will stand still as my slave takes the shank off and will not keep backing up and continue to back up further into the pasture in the excitement of being turned out. (A shank is a chain that goes over a horse's nose for more control, mainly used on studs/colts/stallions, sometimes fillies and mares too. It's just a lead rope with a chain. I have to use it on this one colt at the farm when we walk past fillies. Every time I go to unclip it, he starts backing away and won't stop till his butt runs into the fence, lol.
- 33. If I have to roll I will try to do it in a nice grassy area, not in the dustbowl bit.
- **34.** It confuses my riders when I display more energy in canter and when jumping than walk or trot (He canters nicely but his walk feels very laboured, as though he's exhausted. It's maddening because he CAN move really well in all of his paces. He just doesn't unless you ride him JUST right).
- **35.** Just because my human gave me a small fenced off section of the pasture, I don't have to run it in circles until a mud hole 3" deep is present all around the perimeter.
- **36.** Just because some other horses are in the pasture next to my paddock and I want to be out there with them, doesn't mean that I can bump up against the fence continuously until I develop a large hematoma on my chest. This upsets my human and causes the vet to come out and lance the hematoma, resulting in a disgusting gash on my chest that makes other humans think my human is neglecting me.
- **37.** Just because the herd in the pasture goes to the other end, I don't have to scream and run about, tearing up my pen and throwing a fit. I am not being abandoned, and I don't really want to be out with them anyhow. The big filly wants to kill me.
- 38. My best pasture buddy and I will not attempt our Beavis & Butthead impersonation and proceed to beat each other up.
- **39.** Now that I have come within a few kicks of knocking out the dividing wall of my stall and have been moved to the corral, I must not show my skill in opening horse-proof gate latches.
- 40. Once I get in the other field, I will not rip off all the plywood on the back of their shed in a raging blizzard.
- **41.** We, the entire pasture gang, will not steal anything from the bed of the contractor's truck, even though that pail of shiny new nails caught our attention. We now know that we should not run with a bucket of nails while the contractors chase us because they say many words we have never heard.
- **42.** We will not pretend it's just the wind when I hear dear Auntie calling our names.
- **43.** When it has been raining and the pen is very muddy I will not come running up to my human when she has her hands full of hay and skid to a stop slinging mud all over her.

--- Bath Time ---

- 1. I can stand still while the water is running
- 2. I will not attempt to dig to China when left tied to the trailer to dry after my bath spraying mud all over my clean white hair.
- 3. I will not decide to freak because my human washed my face for the millionth time today.
- **4.** I will not pretend I am a two year old baby when my human tries to wash my face.
- 5. I will not roll right after my human gives me a bath with shampoo and everything.
- **6.** I will not take a bath when being turned loose in a muddy corral.
- 7. I won't dance when my human cleans my sheath.
- 8. I won't roll right after my bath, even though it feels so good
- **9.** While bathing I promise not to sit on my human ever again.

--- Bodily Functions ---

- 1. Even though getting my tail braided feels nice, I will not fart repeatedly until my groom runs from the stall gasping for air, later coming back to try again (and never succeeding...)
- 2. I am no longer a stallion. Ellie is my friend, not my woman. I will stop terrorizing everyone when she is in heat.
- 3. I can walk and poop at the same time. I can, I can, I can.
- **4.** I do not have to poop in the cross ties every time that my human pulls up the girth.
- 5. I promise not to fart while my human picks my back feet out.
- **6.** I promise not to pass gas as my humans' friends are passing me in the rear.
- 7. I promise not to poop on my human's head as she is picking my back feet.
- 8. I promise not to spook at my own sneezes, coughs, or farts. I also will try to avoid farting and doing the hacking cough thing at the same time, as it makes my rider have to look away to make sure the other older riders don't see her cracking up.

- 9. I understand the fact that I'm a gelding and will no longer act as if I'm a stallion.
- 10. I will not begin to pee as soon as my human starts to groom me, splattering urine and urine-soaked dirt all over her.
- 11. I will not expel a large amount of gas when my human is cleaning my rear hooves.
- 12. I will not fart EVERY time my human combs my tail.
- 13. I will not fart in my human's face while she braids my tail.
- 14. I will not fart while doing the piaffe.
- **15.** I will not go poop in my stall after my human has just spent 2 and a half hours cleaning it out. I understand that there is a perfectly accessible paddock outside.
- **16.** I will not have to pee each and every time I enter a horse arena.
- 17. I will not let it "all hang out" during showmanship class.
- **18.** I will not mysteriously take off my new blanket, leave it in a heap in the corner of my stall, and then proceed to poop on in all night long.
- 19. I will not pass gas so loudly in the show ring that I scare myself, freak out, and embarrass my rider.
- **20.** I will not pee for 5 minutes straight in the middle of the show ring while awaiting the results.
- 21. I will not pee in the dip in my stall floor (where I am supposed to, so it doesn't spread) and then make sure I lie "way over there". The rest of my stall is clean and dry, and I am white.
- 22. I will not pee into the exact center of the brand new fresh imported shavings human puts in my stall every night.
- 23. I will not poop every time I'm in the cross-ties.
- 24. I will not poop in my feeder.
- 25. I will not poop in my food bucket just because I am last in the feeding order, making my human clean out my bucket before she feeds me.
- **26.** I will not poop in my water bucket.
- 27. I will not poop in my water tub.
- **28.** I will not poop in the 100 gallon community water tank that I share with 2 other horses, especially after I just watched my slave scrub and refill it with clean fresh water only minutes before.
- 29. I will not poop just before a fence in a major show causing my rider to be very embarrassed.
- **30.** I will not poop on my groom.
- 31. I will not poop on the patio while munching grass in the back yard, with or without guests present.
- 32. I will not poop on the way into the bath stall and again once I'm in there and the water is running.
- 33. I will not poop outside the barn after jogging and when I'm still hitched to the jog cart.
- **34.** I will not poop over the tailgate of my horse trailer on the freeway, embarrassing my human no end. (How do you use a pooper-scooper on the freeway? Sheesh.)
- **35.** I will not slobber all over the truck's windshield.
- **36.** I will not spook at the sound of my own flatulence.
- **37.** I will not spook when the horse in front of me in line farts in my face; it is my fault for getting my nose too close to his butt. I will pay attention, and move away when I see the tail begin to levitate so I can avoid the smell that follows.
- **38.** I will not stop and poop or urinate every time I pass the same spot in the arena.
- **39.** I will not wait for my human to comb my tail to pass lots of gas.
- **40.** I will not wait 'till my human's friend is behind me to poop.
- **41.** I will not wait until I get in the trailer to poop.
- **42.** I will not, I repeat, will not pee in my nice clean stall with fresh sawdust as soon as my human puts me in it, with her still standing there. If I do, I can expect to be yelled at.
- 43. I will refuse to pay attention to the mare in heat in front of me (even though she's very blunt about saying she's interested in me)
- 44. I will stop getting aroused by my reflection in the mirror in the schooling arena. I know it's not a big pretty mare. It's only me.
- **45.** I will understand that a) I am a gelding now and no longer a stallion and b) that the round bales just aren't interested.
- **46.** I won't poop during the free walk in a dressage test.
- 47. I won't poop in the grooming tools bucket every single time I see it.
- **48.** I won't poop on my human's head while she's putting ointment on my hocks.
- **49.** If I really have to pee while under saddle, I will indicate by some method other than dumping my rider.
- **50.** My stall is not a litter box. When I have free access, I do not have to go back inside to pee. There's a perfectly good paddock outside.
- 51. Though it makes all of the audience laugh, it does not please either the judge or my human when I fart after each jump in my hunter class.

--- Clothes ---

- 1. I am wearing my heavy blanket and rain coat because the wind is cold and the rain is half frozen. If I want to stay warm and keep my weight up I should quit wriggling out of it. Besides, the human can't figure out for the life of her how I keep wriggling out of it! (All of the straps, buckles, fasteners, etc. are still buckled, tied, and fastened and nothing is ever torn. He doesn't seem to have enough extra room to just slip out of it, but still...)
- 2. I CAN go for more than 6 days without stepping on my lead rope and breaking my halter.
- 3. I will not become hysterical if one of my blanket straps becomes undone.

- **4.** I will not chew on my slave's helmet cover.
- 5. I will not destroy every blanket I wear. I look like a hobo with my blanket/sheet hanging in shreds on my back.
- 6. I will not eat carrots out of my human's shirt pocket and bite "something else" instead of the carrot.
- 7. I will not eat my blanket.
- 8. I will not lose my brand new leather halter that took my human an entire day to make, the day after he proudly gave it to me, and lose it in a place where it can never be found again. Next time I lose a halter, I will only lose the cheap store bought kind, or at least put it where my human can find it, (like in my human's grain feeder).
- **9.** I will not lose my tail bag in the muddy paddock.
- 10. I will not make faces when I have my rugs put on or taken off.
- 11. I will not move or wiggle while leg wraps are being applied.
- 12. I will not pee on or shred my new, expensive blanket.
- 13. I will not pick up visitors by their shoe laces.
- **14.** I will not pull my fly sheet off over my head and grind it into the dirt.
- 15. I will not pull my new shoes off the next day just to prove I can still do it.
- 16. I will not remove my brand new tail bag so that my She has to go slog through the mud again to rescue it
- 17. I will not rip my brand-new blankets because I am clipped and will be very cold without them.
- **18.** I will not roll with my saddle on.
- 19. I will not rub my head up and down my human's shirt and get green goop all over her after I ride.
- 20. I will not run away with my blanket half on when my slave ties to blanket me.
- 21. I will not slip my hood in the night and let it trail along in the dewy grass.
- 22. I will not sneeze on my human when he's wearing a nice white shirt.
- 23. I will not take my human's fly mask off and stomp on it and shake it till I've killed it and then carry it to the other end of the pasture and drop it in the farthest, farthest corner where my human has to really hike to get it back.
- 24. I will not take my stable bandages off in the night so they serve no purpose but for pillows.
- 25. I will not try to get out of my hood.
- **26.** I will not try to snap my running martingale, my side reins or my breast plate.
- 27. I will not untie my human's boot laces and I will not play in puddles.
- 28. I will not wilfully rip the tail flap of anyone else's blanket.
- 29. I will not wipe green slime down the back of Jo's clean white shirt
- **30.** I will not wipe my mouth on my human's white riding breeches after eating grass
- 31. I will not wipe my snotty nose on my human's shirt, pants, or any other piece of clothing or body.
- **32.** We will not tear off each other's halter fuzzies in play and then pass them down the shed row to our neighbours several stalls away. Further, we will not tear off chunks of each others' noses.
- 33. When wet and muddy I will not roll before my person has removed my rug.
- **34.** When wet and muddy I will not roll when my human has undone only the front part of my rug. (The rest slides back, very uncomfortable.)

--- Eating and Drinking ---

- 1. A thumb is not a carrot.
- 2. Apples and carrots are treats, not payment for services rendered.
- **3.** Cat Chow is not horse food.
- **4.** I (a police horse) promise not to chew on my human's gun, bullets, badge, nametag, or pepper spray. I understand that pepper spray is not for my consumption and would not be nice to eat.
- 5. I accept that not every carrot is for me.
- **6.** I am not a goat, I am an horse, I will eat only horse things.
- 7. I am not allowed to carefully select the most tasty doughnut out of the entire box. I must wait until I am finished showing for my human to give me some pieces.
- **8.** I am not allowed to eat the fence. I am a horse, not a beaver. I have a mineral block and plenty of grass. (He doesn't chew it or crib, he actually takes bites out of the wood, chews and swallows it!)
- 9. I am not part elephant. I can eat all of my grain and not just pick out what I like.
- 10. I am not starving. The other horses can have some food too.
- 11. I don't have to wallow in my hay, driving it into the duck soup they call mud, just so I can come back up and slurp it out of the liquid mud later. I realize that while it isn't really hurting me, it grosses the human out.
- 12. I have been on grass now for several months. Escaping and eating the top quality alfalfa that Grandpa keeps for his pregnant and lactating sows could really make me sick!
- 13. I shall not bite a person's finger when being fed a treat. (Even if it looks like one of the best carrots ever.)
- 14. I will eat my oranges before the flies do.
- 15. I will have good manners while treats are being fed. I will have good manners while treats are being fed. I will have good manners...
- 16. I will learn to drink cool (and even cold) water again, once winter is over.
- 17. I will let my human get to the Rhode Island Red's egg before I do or learn how to clean my muzzle to remove the evidence!

- **18.** I will not bang my hoof incessantly against the water trough if the water is below what I think is an appropriate level. Further, I will not protest once the water arrives by squirting out a whole gallon of the water down my human's neck in sub-zero temperatures.
- 19. I will not bang the stall door at breakfast/supper just because I get fed last and get the least amount of grain.
- 20. I will not be crabby when I am fed my human doesn't like horses who pin their ears, and may choose not to feed them until the ears are forward
- 21. I will not beg for an orange just because Nitro likes them, then make funny faces because I can't spit it out when I don't like it.
- 22. I will not bolt toward the barn while a rider is on my back just because I want to EAT.
- 23. I will not chew and suck the apple THROUGH my human's coat pocket.
- **24.** I will not chew on the brand new truck, chipping off the paint.
- **25.** I will not chew the paint off my human's new truck.
- **26.** I will not chew the seat out of the boat.
- 27. I will not drag my wooden board that I am fed on twenty feet away from the fence, causing my human to drag it all the back, allowing me to sneak mouthfuls of hay while she's not watching.
- **28.** I will not drink the at the water jump.
- 29. I will not eat all my "hairdressers" yarn while being braided. I understand yarn is not spaghetti.
- **30.** I will not eat clover right before a showmanship class and drool all over my human while she is attempting to show the judge what a refined gentlemen I am.
- 31. I will not eat grass with my show bit on and slobber green goo.
- 32. I will not eat hair.
- **33.** I will not eat hay or grass while my rider is on my back.
- 34. I will not eat my human's poop when my human is watching and just about ready for dinner.
- 35. I will not EAT my owner's hair scrunchie from her hair.
- **36.** I will not eat my saddle, even if it DOES make my teeth shinier.
- **37.** I will not eat sand, ever, ever, ever again! (2 surgeries in one year. This mare has to be supervised 24/7 She eats anything and everything!)
- **38.** I will not eat the brush jump, even if I AM trying to help my human friend by lowering it.
- **39.** I will not eat the goldfish my human puts in the water trough, even though they are crunchy and full of protein. (One of my horses can catch and eat fish out of the 150 gallon tank. I have watched her.)
- **40.** I will not eat the intercom in the truck, crunch 200 snaps just because I am bored.
- **41.** I will not eat the plastic bag on my tack trunk just because I think there must be a carrot in there somewhere that she hasn't given me.
- **42.** I will not eat the plastic bag that carrots come in.
- 43. I will not eat the safety harness off my human's hard hat, causing her to worry that I'll get an intestinal blockage.
- 44. I will not grab inanimate objects with my front teeth and suck in air in order to make rude noises in front of people.
- **45.** I will not inhale half a bale of hay in under an hour people see me trying to hoover bits of hay out of the snow and think I'm neglected.
- **46.** I will not insist on stopping to eat every acorn and persimmon between my stall and the riding arena.
- **47.** I will not leave my grain bin with leftovers, ever.
- **48.** I will not open everybody's feed bins so my friend and I can taste everything.
- 49. I will not open the ice chest and help myself to my human's Coke. Ponies are way too clever.
- **50.** I will not pee on my hay when it is delivered in the pasture so that the other horses don't eat it even though I don't want to eat it now.
- **51.** I will not pick up my human's beer bottle and drain it causing my human's husband to think she is too drunk to get another. Had to catch the sneaky thief; I thought I was losing it.
- 52. I will not play rodeo horse around my morning grain bucket, stepping in it and sending my grain flying in all directions.
- **53.** I will not poke my nose under the woven wire of the to get the little grass bits, rubbing the hair off my face and making people think I am neglected.
- 54. I will not pull corner strips out of my stall and eat them, making my human worry about the possibility of lead poisoning.
- **55.** I will not put my head down to eat grass while a rider (human) is combing my mane.
- **56.** I will not reach through the bars (one is missing) in my stall into the pony's stall and eat his grain.
- **57.** I will not relentlessly beg at the picnic table while my human is eating lunch.
- 58. I will not remove the ladder when my human is on the roof of the barn attempting to keep me safe and dry.
- **59.** I will not see fingers as little, pale carrots to snack on.
- **60.** I will not steal my human's chewing tobacco out of his back pocket. I will then not eat it or make him chase me all over the pasture for it. (my father's Belgian draft horse did this constantly, as he loved chewing tobacco.)
- **61.** I will not steal my human's earrings from her ears and eat them.
- **62.** I will not steal the bag of fruit-loops and eat them all.
- **63.** I will not steal the humans: Beef Jerky, Cheese, Hamburgers, chewing tobacco, Pepsi, bananas, M&Ms or peanuts. These food items are not good for me, although the last four are not too bad either.
- **64.** I will not stop in the middle of a class to munch on the fence.

- 65. I will not swallow my grain whole and then rattle my grain bucket around in anger because everyone else still has feed left.
- **66.** I will not take the cookie treat my human gives to me, work it into a lather, then slobber it into her professionally done hair just an hour before she has to go to Homecoming.
- **67.** I will not take the pizza from my human's hand and eat it unless it is offered to me.
- **68.** I will not take the stick too when my owner brings me a popsicle in the hot summer afternoon.
- 69. I will not to chew my food over my water buckets and then refuse to drink out of them because they're not clean.
- 70. I will not try to sit in the watering trough in the middle of a heat wave. I will go wade in the pond instead.
- 71. I will quit chasing the colt away from his hay. I'm not going to starve, since I get fed plenty, and am hog fat already, and he is getting skinny.
- 72. I will quit dribbling all my food out of my mouth so I can start gaining weight
- 73. I will realize that I won't get my breakfast if I don't come in the first time I'm called.
- 74. I will realize that there are two piles of hay--one for me and one for my "buddy"--I don't have to hog them both.
- 75. I will share my water trough with my pasture mates. They will not drink with me when I stand at the trough and swirl the water around and around, splashing in on anyone close. I also will not blow bubbles in the water when someone else is drinking at the same time as I am. (I had a mare who loved to get the water swirling around before she'd drink. She also would stick her face up to her eyes in the trough and blow bubbles rather thank drink I'm surprised she didn't drown!)
- **76.** I will stop being a vacuum and actually taste my grain.
- 77. I will take down my worming paste without spitting it back in her face.
- 78. If I must eat sand/dirt, I promise to walk quietly to the nearest hose with my human and wait quietly while she rams a hose into my mouth to wash out the offending substance. I promise to open my mouth for the hose and not back away while doing it. I will keep my mouth open but not let the black yucky stuff spill out onto my human's hair, arms, glasses, white t-shirt, clothing, socks, shoes, legs, etc. I will not eat sand/dirt again as soon as she finishes washing out my mouth from the previous offence.
- **79.** If my human plants morning glories by the fence to look pretty, I will not eat them or my human will put up a hot wire. (She did and I did).
- **80.** Just because my human is not on a horse is no excuse to place my head in her face and demand sugar cubes.
- 81. Just because they put the grain away in the back of the truck is not an invitation to climb in there.
- **82.** Leather, show clothes, grooming tools, etc., are not put in the aisle for my munching pleasure.
- **83.** My human's brand new red car does not taste good nor does it resemble any form of horse food therefore I will stopping trying to eat it.
- **84.** My human's hair is not for eating.
- **85.** My human's nice black leather show gloves are not food.
- **86.** People hair is not horse food.
- 87. Plastic bags are not edible.
- **88.** Riding Time DOES not mean Snack Time.
- **89.** The bag of candy being prepared for the Halloween horse show is none of my business. I will not be allowed to eat it, so I do not need to breathe down the necks of the poor girls sorting it!
- **90.** The camera is not food.
- 91. The forest is not a lunchbox. I do not have to try to snatch every single piece of greenery that I pass.
- **92.** The gate is not food.
- 93. The stuff hanging off the saddle on the horse tied next to me is not there for me to eat.
- **94.** We will not jump out of the pasture any more to go eat grass on the lawn.
- 95. We will stop getting the human to give us too many carrots. We will get to be pudgy horses.
- 96. We, as a herd, will not chew the seat or handgrips on my human's 4X6 when she's in the pasture trying to run new fence for us.
- **97.** When drinking water, I promise to swallow it all. My human does not appreciate it when I hold a mouthful of cold water and dribble it down her neck (especially on an 80+ degree day). [My gelding loves to do this I watch him now. If the tip of his tongue is showing through the front of his teeth, look out!]
- **98.** When I run out of water at 3 a.m., I will *not* attempt to dig a hole and try to find water in a hole 2 ft across and 2 inches deep. After I dig that hole, I will *not* manage to drag the water trough over to the hole in an attempt to fill it with the nonexistent water.
- 99. When my human gives me feed in a tub on the ground I will not immediately stick my foot in it and tumble it over.
- **100.** When my human has been good enough to sneak me some treacle/honey/chocolate spread for a treat, I will not show my gratitude by slobbering half of it down her just-washed coat.
- **101.** When my human tries to give me medicine in my grain, I will not spend an hour moving the pellets around and leave all the medicine-covered pellets in the bucket.
- **102.** When offered a PIECE of an orange, I will NOT instead take the entire remaining orange, leaving the human to eat the piece she offered me.

--- Escaping ---

- 1. Breaking through the gate, and running rampant through the property, might get me evicted. The sight of a huge black horse tearing around in the front yard almost scared the terminally ill property owner into her grave!
- 2. Even though my buddy left for three days for a show, I am not allowed to jump out of the pasture and start galloping around the

- 120 acre farm out of control and screaming for her to come back.
- 3. I am a pony. I cannot jump out of the arena, therefore I do not need to run and buck going toward the barn when the gate is closed.
- **4.** I am in a stall near the road, so I must not let myself out to graze.
- 5. I am no longer going to jump out of my field, even if it is to visit my neighbours.
- **6.** I am not Houdini. I do not need to escape from any and all attempts to confine me.
- 7. I promise I will also show my human how in the heck I manage to get under that fence, and never get shocked.
- **8.** I promise not to jump out any more.
- **9.** I promise not to jump out of my paddock (my old one used to be surrounded by a 6' chain link fence and now it's just surrounded by a wood fence) and run around on 36 acres playing tag with everyone who tries to catch me.
- 10. I promise not to jump out of my paddock.
- 11. I promise not to jump over the 3.5 foot board out of the barn when there is only about 5 feet clearance, with my winter blanket half off and I am a big 17 hand horse.
- 12. I will accept the fact that fly spray benefits me and quit trying to run off when my human sprays me with it.
- 13. I will desist exiting my pasture in some unknown way, simply because I want in with the lead stallion so badly. My human doesn't like having to frantically search for me in near darkness, and then play "You can't catch me". Furthermore, she does not appreciate my being so worked up and obstinate that I land us both in the brambles. Finally, since I was dumb enough to get my front legs all cut up and bloody in the middle of January, I will not complain about the water temperature she uses to clean my legs. Nor will I jerk my leg back and forth to prevent her from assessing the damage and bandaging my legs.
- 14. I will no longer get down on my knees and go under the stall guard when my human doesn't want me to.
- 15. I will not "blow through" my human's electric tape cross-fence with all four hooves off the ground so I don't get shocked.
- 16. I will not attempt to let the geldings into my arena from their paddock or to let myself out into the driveway.
- 17. I will not attempt to sneak out with the other horses when they are being taken for a ride, furthermore, I will not freak out every time the other horses get to go somewhere to ride.
- **18.** I will not break my stall latch and pull my neighbouring mare's stall gate out of the wall and proceed to mate with her (all night long)
- 19. I will not break out of my hot wire paddock during the night, letting my friend out too.
- 20. I will not break the top fence board into pieces with long jagged shards by kicking at Andy.
- 21. I will not crawl under my stall guard when I am done eating grain and consume every one else's, just because I am a midget Hanoverian and can do this.
- 22. I will not escape from my stall at night, destroy all feed containers and pig out, and afterwards walk up and down the freshly cleaned barn aisle relieving myself.
- 23. I will not escape from my stall at shows just because I can.
- 24. I will not escape from my stall in the middle of the night and accidentally let the other stallion out, especially on Christmas Eve.
- 25. I will not escape from the pasture and run away to the neighbours, free all their horses and going on an unscheduled field trip.
- **26.** I will not escape from the pasture by doing the coon jump just because I can. The ear-deficient, non-coon-jumping horses just stand there wondering how I got out.
- 27. I will not flee every time my human picks up the whip from the arena-floor, especially not when there is not even a whip there.
- 28. I will not get out of my stall at midnight, go into the shavings shed, and dig and poop in the shavings until they are a real mess. I will not run along the fence and tease the mares until they tear boards out of the fence trying to get at me. And when Brian comes in the morning and finds me asleep in the middle of the driveway, I will not jump up, run in to my stall, and look innocent.
- **29.** I will not jump out of my pasture at 2 in the morning, breaking the top board on the fence and then end up sleeping on my human's porch.
- **30.** I will not jump out of the dressage ring.
- **31.** I will not jump over the remaining boards and go running past my human's window at 8:30 at night just as she is climbing into the bathtub and my human is out of town. I am black and hard to see at night and my human is crabby when she has to jump out of the tub and grab clothes in a hurry.
- **32.** I will not let myself out of my stall and then lock my human in the tack room.
- 33. I will not let myself out of my stall then go around letting out my friends: one stallion and two mares.
- **34.** I will not pretend the arena rail is a jump.
- **35.** I will not pretend the neighbour's fence is a jump.
- **36.** I will not pretend the pasture rail is a jump.
- **37.** I will not pull the cross ties out of the wall and spook and make my human chase me for three hours and view the damage with a look on my face like did I do that?
- **38.** I will not push my way under the electric fencing. I'm too big and it snaps.
- **39.** I will not run down the gravel road the day after having my feet trimmed (just because my human caught me going to see my friends), and when I know that she has worked all night long. I will stay at home and wait for her to feed me, not meet her half way.
- **40.** I will not run out AGAIN and make my human catch me for the second time while she is scrounging around in the dark looking for a board to fit the fence I broke and make her say really bad words.
- 41. I will not smash my human's foot when I realize that there is power in the electric fence I just walked through.
- 42. I will not sneak under the electric fence during a heavy, and cold, rain storm, and make my human have to chase me around for one

- and one half hours, in tall wet grass, until the human is soaking wet, and then sneak back into the paddock.
- 43. I will not spring my stable mates, leading them up the dry creek to see what's in the subdivision in the next county.
- 44. I will not take off and run through the fields that belong to the man with the Dobermans, which he is not afraid to turn on me.
- **45.** I will not try to pull or push down any fence to prove my strength.
- **46.** I will not unlatch my stall door and wander the hallway all night.
- **47.** I will not untie myself and quietly follow my person to the tack shed, do a good imitation of a total eclipse of the door and frighten her to death.
- **48.** I will not use my teeth to open the top latch of my stall door, then bang incessantly on said door with my hoof thereby causing the lower latch to vibrate and slide open, thus releasing my naughty self into the barn aisle where I may freely harass the others and otherwise wreak havoc. I am not capable of being so clever.
- **49.** I will not visit disreputable bars or nightclubs after my Mum has tucked me into bed for the night.
- **50.** I will not walk through my door any more. There are no more places for screw holes.
- 51. I will not, when my human is leading me up to the barn from the *muddy* pasture, wheel around, yank the leadrope out of her hands, give a little buck, gallop back to the very end of the pasture in the muddiest spot, look at my human, and stick my tongue out.
- **52.** I will stay inside the fence, even when all the others leave, avoiding causing my human to chase me for 3 miles, with a bucket of grain while I prance about like a grand jumper.
- **53.** I will stop escaping from everything.
- **54.** I won't untie myself in the trailer so I can bug the others.
- 55. If I behave myself the entire time that my human is teaching that obnoxious two year old colt to pony off of me, I have no right to try to bolt when she puts him away. Furthermore, when she foils that attempt at bolting, I will not buck.
- **56.** Just because I am easy to catch, I must not assume that my corral mate is. If I must escape I will leave her in there where she belongs.
- **57.** Just because I'm a jumper does not mean I must jump out of my pasture.
- **58.** Splitting the fence post and visiting the neighbours at 4:00 a.m. on a Sunday morning, and then playing you can't catch me" only annoys the humans.
- **59.** We, as a herd, will not let ourselves out of the pasture and run down the middle of the road, through traffic, to visit our friends at the dog kennel down the street. And if that does happen again, we promise not to force our humans to chase us for 2 hours, corner and catch a few of us, and then the rest of us bolt back to the farm and into our pasture.
- **60.** We, as a herd, will not take advantage of deer tearing our fence down so that my human has to spend an hour in 87 degree heat on foot chasing us back to the pasture and another 4 hours in the heat running new fence for us. And we promise not to get out again in another spot while my human has the fencer off and is repairing fence across the pasture.
- 61. We, as a herd, will not, when we escape from the pasture, run to the neighbour's freshly plowed field to roll in the dirt.
- **62.** When it is pouring rain and my humans take me into the small corral where I will be dry, I will not run out the gate when my human takes off my halter, forcing him to try to stop my by pulling on my tail. I will be nice and stop.
- 63. When my human's talented mule opens the big steel pasture gate in the middle of the night in the middle of January when the temp is -20 and the snow is thigh deep, we, as a herd, will not take advantage of the situation to go running through the neighbourhood, causing my human to get out of her nice warm bed to track us for 2 hours to find out that we won't allow her to catch even one of us, only to have her end up walking back to the barn to bang on an empty feed bucket so we'll come home on our own. When this happens, my human gets very angry and threatens to put us all in the freezer.

--- Hampering ---

- 1. I (a police horse) will not remove my human's very expensive portable radio from its pocket or holder by the antenna and drop it on the concrete.
- 2. I promise never to dump the wheelbarrow of manure over while my master is mucking my stall (my friend's horse does this all the time)
- 3. I will never try to pick up an idling chainsaw and carry it away. I am not a lumberjack.
- **4.** I will not act like a dumb brood mare, when in fact I am smart enough to know the day my hormone shot is due. I will not pick up my rubber feed tub and pull it away from my human and the needle I know is hidden somewhere. (Even if it makes her laugh so hard that someone else must give me the shot.)
- 5. I will not attempt to untie, de-halter, &/or chew on another horse while they are being tacked up.
- **6.** I will not dump the full manure cart all over my nice clean stall.
- 7. I will not follow my human into the tack room.
- 8. I will not freak when Neosporin is being rubbed on my cut teats and jerk my head, ripping down two 2x4s off the fence.
- **9.** I will not grab my lead rope in my mouth and attempt to lead myself.
- 10. I will not grab the curry comb from my human and begin to brush her.
- 11. I will not hold in my tail as hard as I can while my human is trying to braid it. Even though it hurts!
- 12. I will not ignore my human when she tries to drive me away so she can nail up a new board and instead bite her head and pull her hair every time she looks down to hammer.
- 13. I will not pick the one spot in my stall that I have designated my "bathroom" to lie down and take a nap in. If I do, I will not be mad when my human uses an entire bottle of Green Spot Remover and half a bottle of Show Sheen to get rid of the smell and the

stains.

- 14. I will not pick up my human's 3-pound fencing sledge and carry it across the pasture.
- 15. I will not pick up my human's fencing bucket and carry it across the pasture.
- 16. I will not play the "Buck n Bolt" game around the pasture for an hour when my human really needs to get me to class. She really got chewed out for being half an hour late. Besides, I normally put my head into the halter for her and I still couldn't wait to get going when she DID catch me!
- 17. I will not prove how quick that "quick release" knot really is.
- 18. I will not pull on the back of my human's expensive custom chaps while she picks my feet.
- 19. I will not remove all the tools from the cart.
- 20. I will not stick my head and neck in to a vehicle (just being friendly) when my rider is engaged in conversation with the driver.
- **21.** I will not upset the manure cart.
- 22. I will step onto the mounting block along with my slave.
- 23. If you leave the muck rake leaning against the fence, I will not pick it up and re-rake all the nice little piles. (I wish I had my camcorder...I could have won the funniest home video contest.)
- **24.** My ears will not fall off if I let my human put fly repellent gel in them.
- **25.** Pulling the cross ties out of the wall and making the human chase me for hours on end is not acceptable. Next time I don't want the bridle, I'll just spit the bit out.
- **26.** When my human asks me to back up a step so I will be off the lead rope, I won't slide my foot so the rope gets dragged through nasty stuff. I can pick up my foot, I've done it before.
- 27. When the human is attempting to get an accurate estimate of my weight with a weight tape, I must not "blow up". This might cause her to give me an overdose of wormer.
- **28.** Yes the truck is new and no I do not belong in its cab.

--- Humans in General ---

- 1. Although my human enjoys the affection, I do not need to hug her with a mouth full of water and sweet-feed.
- 2. Biting the barn worker's ear (my boss's horse) and causing my human to take her to the hospital for six stitches, just because she turned her back, was not nice. I nearly took her ear off (he did too--the doctors visibly recoiled when they saw what they had to stitch.)
- 3. Even though she is not my owner, I will not get horse grass goo all over my frequent rider's shirt, or eat the farmer's corn.
- 4. Hippophobics (horse-fearers) are NOT the kind of people to run in circles around. They aren't, they aren't, they aren't!
- 5. I am a Shire horse. It is not a good idea to almost stand on the foot of an eight year old girl. As I was being used to impress visitors to the stables on an open day, it would not have gone down well (even if the mother of the child is a 'horsy person' and wouldn't have been unduly upset).
- **6.** I am big, my human is small, I carry my human, my human doesn't carry me.
- 7. I am not allowed to perform elaborate escape manoeuvres, just so I can gallop up to my human while she has her hands full and then start sliding to a stop two feet in front of her. I now know that I need more room than that to stop, and that I really hurt her when I knocked her flat.
- 8. I am not required to carefully inspect all aspects of all humans that enter my domain, before allowing them passage.
- 9. I am not, under any circumstances, permitted to kick my human in the solar plexus. No matter how cold & windy it is, and how little turnout I've had. It makes her say "oommff" and turn funny colors, then say lots of bad words (what does "Alpo" mean?)

 Then I get stuck back in my stall and can't run anyway. I am 24 years old and know better. (I was standing by his head leading him when he kicked; it's pure dumb luck he didn't crack another rib.)
- 10. I am only one year old, but I now know it is not a good idea to follow my human into the bathroom at the end of the barn (way too small; well it's a little larger now that the sink and side wall are gone).
- 11. I do not have to try to kill my rider just because she wants me to listen.
- 12. I do not need to freak out every time my human chooses to ride Ellie and not me, and my human is at work and can't baby me.
- 13. I do not need to molest, pickpocket, or trail after any and all humans that make an appearance in my pasture.
- 14. I must remember that one of my humans is just a CHILD.
- 15. I promise faithfully not to use my rider as a rubbing post when he/she has just dismounted, I understand it CAN be really annoying and distracting.
- **16.** I promise next time a Grand Prix trainer looks at me I won't bite him. 4 times.
- 17. I promise not to blow my nose on my human when she has to go somewhere right after she leaves the barn and doesn't have any change of clothes with her. (It's not my fault they don't make big enough kleenexes!).
- **18.** I promise not to chase my human when she's in the paddock just to see her run.
- 19. I promise not to kick frozen urine/mud into my human friend's eyes.
- 20. I promise not to moan or whine while sleeping causing everyone in the barn to ask my human when the vet is coming
- 21. I promise not to sneak up behind my human and knock him in the dirt trying to scratch my face on him.
- 22. I promise not to swish my tail while my human is cleaning my back feet. I also promise not to choose that particular time to fulfill my basic needs.
- 23. I promise not to walk over my human when she is leading me. I am only a 13 hand pony, so there is no way I didn't see her there.
- 24. I promise that I will stop acting like the perfect horse when no one else is around, waiting to practice for my career as a bucking

- bronco until there are witnesses.
- 25. I promise that when She is putting hoof oil on my feet that I
- **26.** I promise to be a good boy during my workouts so that my human will have more time to study, even though I know that those books will hurt her because she won't let me chew on them at all.
- 27. I promise to quit kicking the white car, even though secretly my human encourages it.
- 28. I understand that my human is not the mean man who used to beat me, and can love him as freely as I do my human.
- 29. I vow never again to try to bite the other horse's face or lie down on the farrier or vet when they are trying to help me.
- **30.** I will accept kisses and hugs without my ears pinned back and a menacing face.
- 31. I will keep them on the ground and not knee her in the face thereby damaging her expensive eyeglasses
- **32.** I will learn to trust other humans besides my human.
- 33. I will let myself get caught in the field, I will not make my human fall down on the ice trying to catch me
- **34.** I will never send my slave to the hospital TWICE in one summer again.
- **35.** I will never try to kill my human's boss again.
- **36.** I will never, under any circumstances, cause another person to be sent to the hospital.
- 37. I will not "drop down" while my human is taking pictures of me.
- 38. I will not accost horseless humans I meet when being ridden and demand to be petted (even if they have both hands free).
- **39.** I will not always smother any human in lips' reach with enormous sloppy kisses until they are soaked completely.
- **40.** I will not attack strange men or trespassers...no I take that back.. I'll do it anyway.
- **41.** I will not attempt to bow when my left front hoof is being picked. I will accept the fact that I will not receive a treat for bowing under these circumstances.
- 42. I will not attempt to cow kick the nice human teaching me to pick up my back feet.
- **43.** I will not attempt to flatten my owner.
- **44.** I will not be an angel for my human but stomp on and slam into her (male) friend whenever her back is turned. He is my friend, too.
- **45.** I will not beat my rider with my mounted human with my braided tail, even when I am annoyed with her.
- **46.** I will not bite my human on the butt when she leans out of the fence to get me some fresh delicious grass.
- **47.** I will not bite my human.
- **48.** I will not bite my new human on the neck the day after she buys me. I understand that this makes the other humans think that I am a vampire.
- 49. I will not bite my trail trainer's breast while she is petting my sister and wearing a white shirt.
- **50.** I will not bite the shoulder of the human standing in front of me, just because it's there.
- **51.** I will not blow my nose on my human.
- **52.** I will not charge people.
- **53.** I will not chase a person who is scared of me on to a rock wall or to the other side of the fence; they have a right to be here too.
- **54.** I will not chase the macho boyfriend when he comes into the paddock to meet me.
- 55. I will not chew on my human's hair while she is grooming my stall mate on the cross ties beside my stall.
- **56.** I will not chew on my human's suspenders when he is bending down to feed me.
- **57.** I will not continue to push forward when the human leading me says whoa. At 17.3 hands, and 1800 pounds, I am too big for my human to manhandle.
- **58.** I will not deliberately step on my human's foot when she pushes me out of the feed room that I'm not supposed to set foot in, especially when she is wearing gumboots.
- **59.** I will not drag my human for 20 minutes while being hand "walked", even if I have been on stall rest for a week.
- **60.** I will not drag the boyfriend around when my human is not looking.
- **61.** I will not extend my penis to full length when being introduced to and patted by my slave's non-horse grandmother.
- **62.** I will not flip over on my back, with my legs straight in the air, (from a rearing stance), when my human jerks on my rope, because I reared up, to show off to the mares next door. I know that this nearly caused my human to go into cardiac arrest. I will also keep in mind, that this is not graceful, does not impress the mares, and really makes me look like a total dork.
- 63. I will not forget that there is a rider on my back and roll in nice, soft, warm dirt!
- **64.** I will not get crazy, and knock over the scrap metal pile, when my human is watching a "Western movie" in the garage, and I hear a horse whinny, on the TV.
- **65.** I will not get jealous when my person is riding, grooming or playing with any other animal or person.
- **66.** I will not get mad at my human's little girl when she puts a hump on back and enters me in the church Christmas play, and I will also not kick the church to pieces because I spooked at the Christmas tree.
- 67. I will not get stressed out when my human tries to ride me again. Next time, I will be ready.
- **68.** I will not give my human a big kiss after filling my mouth with water.
- 69. I will not give my human the cold shoulder when she is busy and does not have time to ride me.
- **70.** I will not go running up to my human when he comes to see me when I have a guest on my back.
- **71.** I will not grab my (female) human's bra and snap it, then run away before she can clout me. (Little Snapple who at 2 weeks old has earned his name!)
- 72. I will not greet all new humans with my nose in their face.
- 73. I will not hide my head in the corner of my stall when my human comes to bridle me, because I figure that if I can't see her, she

- can't see me, either.
- 74. I will not hit my (female) human's head with my "equipment" when she is brushing out my feathers. (The feathers are the long hair on the lower legs of a draft horse. They have to be combed out regularly because they wick up mud and such. We clipped Turk's off for winter. Boise gets snow, but it usually does not stay frozen hard so there is lots of mud and muck on the ground. Trying to keep a white horse clean is an impossible task. Maybe if he was in a stall all day and only allowed out indoors, but that is just impractical. He doesn't get "excited" about this. Sometimes they just let it all hang out, no particular reason. His just happens to be huge. We had one horse that showed off anytime there was a camera around, sigh. Made getting less than "R" rated pictures difficult.)
- 75. I will not hit my human in the face with my tail when she is trying to pick my back hoofs.
- **76.** I will not hit my human with my tail when she asks me for a trot.
- 77. I will not hold a grudge against my human's mom because she rode me around a pasture when she was twelve. I should not have thrown her off because humans can't help their ignorance.
- **78.** I will not hold my nose straight up in the air and not let my human reach my mouth when she tries to worm me. (Since I'm over 15 hands and my human is only 5"3")
- **79.** I will not hold the wormer in my mouth, raise my head, and spit it at my human.
- 80. I will not kick at flies whilst my human is cleaning my hooves causing my human concussion and sending her to hospital.
- **81.** I will not kick the barn down when I am not the first horse fed.
- **82.** I will not kiss my human after eating an apple.
- 83. I will not knock my human off the step stool, into the fresh lake of pee, when she is braiding my mane. I have to be braided or I get dreadlocks and it HURTS when those are combed out. (He's 17 hands, I'm 5'4". I got wet from waist to knee. Luckily I had a BIG plastic bag to sit on to protect my car on the way home.)
- **84.** I will not knock off my human's baseball hat...
- 85. I will not knock the carrot out of my slave's hand, and then bite her because there's no carrot.
- **86.** I will not lean on my caretaker, smashing her into the fence.
- 87. I will not lie totally flat in my stall with my eyes glazed and my legs straight out and pretend I can't hear my owner frantically screaming "are you asleep?".
- **88.** I will not lock my knee and refuse to move while standing on my human's foot.
- **89.** I will not lurk in the hollow of the pasture where my human can't see me late at night, so that after all the other horses go in, she tours the pasture frantically calling for me and praying I haven't been hurt or stolen.
- 90. I will not make equine-ecstasy/mutual-grooming faces (which embarrass my human no end) while being groomed.
- **91.** I will not make my human chase me around the pasture for hours trying to catch me.
- 92. I will not nip my human, She is not a mare, and I am not a stud.
- 93. I will not pick up my human's three year old nephew by his belt, hold him up (like a free falling sky diver) and refuse to drop him.
- 94. I will not pin my ears completely flat when I want my dinner and my human is taking her sweet time dishing it out.
- 95. I will not pretend that my human's hands are a leaning pole and try to put all 500 kg into them.
- **96.** I will not pull every stupid, idiot, and ridiculous stunt I have ever heard of just for the possible new family who came out to meet me.
- **97.** I will not pull hair. The humans say it hurts.
- **98.** I will not pull my human over into the mud when she gets stuck and I don't.
- 99. I will not punish my human after she has ridden another horse.
- **100.** I will not purposely step onto my human's new sunglasses just because she dropped them.
- 101. I will not push my human into the water trough while she is bending over it scrubbing it out.
- 102. I will not push my human. She is leading me. I go where she wants, not the other way around.
- 103. I will not put my head on the ground when my human is reaching for my poll.
- **104.** I will not put my hoof down the back of my human's pants.
- 105. I will not put my hoof on my human's lap as a shortcut to the lucerne.
- 106. I will not rest my front teeth on my human's shoulder ... and then let loose a big drool.
- **107.** I will not rub my neck/head on my slave so hard it knocks her over.
- 108. I will not rub my warts off on my human's face.
- 109. I will not run away from my human in the pasture when all she wants to do is give me carrots.
- 110. I will not run my riders leg into a tree.
- 111. I will not run people in to walls.
- 112. I will not scratch my human's hair when he scratches mine... he hasn't got much left.
- 113. I will not shake just to see if I can throw my human's 2 year old son into the dirt.
- 114. I will not shake my head every time my human starts clipping my bridle path, even though it sounds like flies buzzing around my
- **115.** I will not slam against my slave that has a really bad sunburn all over her back! (This was a friend's horse. She had worked at the pool the day before and the horse was mad about something.)
- 116. I will not slam my caretaker into gates.
- 117. I will not slurp the boobs of my human female, her family, friends, and visitors.
- 118. I will not sneeze on my human when she comes to check on me before going out to dinner.

- 119. I will not stamp my hind feet like a little missy when my human pulls mud off ticklish bits.
- 120. I will not stand as close to the round pen as I can get and pathetically hang my head and droop my ears while you exercise the others.
- **121.** I will not stand on my groom.
- **122.** I will not stand on my human's foot just for fun.
- 123. I will not stand out in the muddy paddock and refuse to answer my human's calls when I know that she doesn't want to tromp all through the mud to catch me.
- **124.** I will not steal my human's carrots out of my human's back pocket.
- 125. I will not steal scrunchies from pretty blonde ladies' hair.
- 126. I will not step on my human's NEW boots and cut through them like a hot knife through butter, and act like nothing happened.
- 127. I will not stick my wet tongue in my human's ear causing her to drop the 8 pound salt block on her foot.
- **128.** I will not swat my owner in the face with my tail, even if the fly isn't really there.
- **129.** I will not take a bite out of my humans if they dare to ignore me.
- 130. I will not take a drink out of the bin and try to nuzzle my human in her hair right after.
- 131. I will not take the carrot my human offers me when she comes to get me, and then walk away insouciantly. "Thanks. See ya."
- **132.** I will not take the hat off of my human's visitor.
- 133. I will not trip and fall down in the arena for no reason, especially at the canter. It scares my rider, her instructor, and the hysterical non-horse mother of the small child who is also in the ring.
- 134. I will not try to drag my feet when coming up to the barn when my human is running late.
- 135. I will not try to kiss my human after putting my muddy nose in a water bucket for a big slurpy drink.
- **136.** I will not try to mooch goodies off of every human within a one-mile radius.
- 137. I will not try to see if I can drop-kick my human the way big sister drop-kicked me.
- 138. I will not try to trot after my human when her friends are riding me.
- 139. I will not turn around ask strange riders if they are on drugs when they try to mount me.
- **140.** I will not turn my butt to my human when she tries to catch me and put me back in my pasture even if she is wearing a nightgown and flip-flops and looks ridiculous.
- **141.** I will not untie myself in public places unless I'm willing to let someone other than my human catch me. (The poor feed store clerk did not enjoy the merry chase I led him on, just so I could walk right up to my human when she returned.)
- **142.** I will not use my head to fling my stall door open, bashing my human in the butt with it as she's leaning down to get a brush out of her grooming box.
- 143. I will not use my human as a scratching post when she turns around to close the gate, which causes my human to fall into the fence
- **144.** I will not walk off before my human even gets her foot into the stirrup.
- **145.** I will not wet my chin, just to rest it on my human's shoulder.
- **146.** I will not whinny in my owners ear.
- **147.** I will not willfully crush my rider's leg against the arena wall.
- 148. I will not wipe my sweaty frothy head on my human after we're done working.
- **149.** I will not, for any reason, maim any more people.
- **150.** I will not, no matter how impatient I get, bang my head between my human's legs at any time. I understand that that is not a pocket and those are not apples.
- 151. I will not, right when my human is finally getting her confidence back in me, spook when her pony tail holder bounces on my butt.
- **152.** I will refrain from stepping on my human's feet. If I can't control the urge, I will at least alternate feet so her bruises can fade before I make new ones.
- 153. I will understand that my human is on my back, with or without a saddle, and she is not coming off.
- **154.** I will watch how hard I rub my itchy, sweaty head on the short human. Her balance leaves something to be desired.
- 155. I will, when my owner is scratching my back and I wish to scratch hers, use only my lips and not my teeth.
- **156.** I won't back my human into the flypaper strips hanging around. She makes funny noises when she is picking dead flies and flypaper out of her hair.
- 157. If I am super friendly towards everyone I meet with my human either on my back or leading me, I should continue to be at least semi friendly to people who just want me to stick my head over the fence so they can pet me. I don't have a problem with begging for attention when my human's around. (She insists on loving absolutely anyone we meet while we're out, but won't let the kids that walk by he pasture every day (and they're good kids) even touch her, although she absolutely loves them when I'm there!)
- 158. If our human lets someone else ride us, we will not throw tantrums. Really, she knows that they are good horse people.
- **159.** Ignoring the human is not an option.
- **160.** It is okay not to like men, but it is not okay to freak out on when I see one while being ridden down the hose-soaked concrete ramp at the fairgrounds, slip, fall scuffing the saddle and rider and having all the other horses/riders laugh at me.
- 161. Just because I don't like my human's boyfriend is no reason to politely dump him in a pile of manure.
- $\textbf{162.} \ \ \textbf{Just because my human doesn't know what she's doing, is no excuse to try to make her look even more stupid.}$
- 163. Just because my human neglected to bring me grain when she caught me this time, I will not clamp down on her collar bone, nearly drawing blood.
- $\textbf{164.} \ \ \text{Like my four legged mom, my human does not like her (pony) tail nibbled on.}$

- **165.** My human does not like it when I wipe my bran mash off on her...
- **166.** My human does not need to be in the stall with me in order for me to eat my grain, even if I am unhappy about being in the barn all by myself. She needs to eat too.
- 167. My human does not want my grain or hay. I do not need to bite at her when she comes near my feed tub.
- **168.** My human doesn't fall for the lame horse trick, so I can stop doing it so people don't think she is being mean whenever I walk on three legs out of the cross ties.
- 169. My human on board-- sliding stops and spins forbidden. Fragile cargo--keep upright.
- **170.** Rolling with my saddle and rider still on my back is not an option.
- **171.** The next time my human squishes (not swats, heavens no) a fly on my body, I will not act as though she is trying to kill me and bolt away and break my reins (this has happened TWICE).
- 172. We (as a union) will not form a wall in front of the lean-to, therefore preventing our slave from leaving.
- 173. We know our human doesn't live with her parents anymore, and we know she doesn't have time to come out and ride us everyday. Grandma and Grandpa are lots of fun and they can ride us, groom us, feed us, etc.
- 174. We will not see how long the new barn worker's arms can stretch while she walks us to and from pasture.
- 175. When I am resting quietly, during a complete stop, on a public trail ride, standing completely still, and behaving perfectly. I will not stay calm, NEXT TIME, when my intoxicated master falls off my back, from drunkenness, and ends up on the ground, unconscious, with his foot stuck in a stirrup. He should not be riding me in that condition. The next time he does that, I promise I will spook, and drag him to the nearest alcoholic rehabilitation hospital. This is for his (and my) best interests.
- 176. When being introduced to friends, I will not sulk because they didn't bring treats and turn my butt to them.
- 177. When being walked round the stable's land, I won't walk up to a jump with a ditch then decide to jump it with human in tow. (Whee Arggghhhhhhh.)
- 178. When having my back feet picked out, I won't hop to the side using my human to hold up the whole weight of my back end.
- 179. When having my back feet picked out, I won't rest the weight of my leg on my humans back. (Arrgh. Gerrof)
- 180. When having my feet picked out, I won't pick up the opposite one to which my human wants.
- **181.** When my female human is gone, it is raining and my male human has to move me I will not tear the lead out of his hand and head to fresh grass.
- 182. When my human asks for my foot, I'm supposed to give it to her, not try to kick her with it.
- 183. When my human gives me a carrot, I will keep it in my mouth, so that my human does not have to keep picking it off the ground, and cleaning it.
- **184.** When my human is paying attention to that sweet little donkey jack, I will not do the head dance in annoyance and snort at her, because I know I don't dare bite her. I will not die because she is not paying full attention to my lovely self.
- **185.** When my human wants to bring me in, I will not trot up to her, let her pet me a second, then wheel away and race gleefully around the pasture in order to show off, then, when I'm done, come stick my head in the halter for her. I will get my racing and showing off done first.
- **186.** When my slave is nice enough to give me carrots I will not spit them out at her.
- 187. When taking off my bridle I promise not to knock my human on the ground while trying to scratch my head on her back.
- **188.** Whoa! is not a command that I have the option of ignoring.

--- Farriers and Vets ---

- 1. Any and all objects inside the cab of the farrier's truck are off limits to me. This includes the expensive western show hats sitting on the seat.
- 2. Bouncing in circles while the farrier is holding my foot to trim it is unacceptable.
- 3. I can balance on my own three legs while my feet are being worked on.
- **4.** I promise not to wait until my human needs to catch me for the farrier to show her how much energy I have and how good I feel today.
- **5.** I promise to quit practicing my gymnastic routine in the cross tie while being shod.
- **6.** I shouldn't try to snatch my farrier's CD player down by the cord even if I don't like Chris Ledoux and Johnny Cash. CD player's are not cheap and he might pass the cost on to my owner if I do this and that is a lot of carrots.
- 7. I vow not to pretend there is grass on the concrete pad and attempt to graze it while the farrier has one of my hooves up. I now understand that makes it very difficult for him to do his job properly.
- **8.** I will learn to like shots and veterinarians.
- 9. I will learn to stand up like the big 16.2 hand boy that I am, ALL BY MYSELF, when Mike does my feet. Just say no to tranquilizers.
- **10.** I will never ever again attempt to lie down while the farrier is attempting to trim my hooves. I now know that his back does NOT bend that far when he's holding onto my foot.
- 11. I will not act like a BLM reject when my farrier violates our appointment by bringing his girlfriend along making her nag him about dropping me from his list. After all I don't do this otherwise, only the first time she came and then the next time when he brought her along to show her what a good mare I am. Even though I really don't think she is good enough for him. (BLM stands for Bureau of Land Management. It is a US Federal agency that in part is responsible for adopting out wild equines to help regulate the population. A BLM reject would be an unadoptable horse or burro, in common terms a rank useless animal, wild and untamable, not that someone would want to tame it because it would be of no use.

- 12. I will not beat the farrier about the head and face with my tail when there are no flies about, really I won't, especially when I'm sporting a braid or my tail bag.
- 13. I will not bite (softly) the farrier's butt, then turn and act innocent, so he thinks my human, who's standing at my head, did it.
- 14. I will not bite my shoer's butt just because it's there.
- 15. I will not bite the new shoer that my human is flirting with in the butt.
- 16. I will not breathe beer fumes all over my farrier's head while he's working on my hoofs.
- 17. I will not chew on the farrier's braid when he works on my hooves.
- 18. I will not fall asleep while I am getting shoes and expect my human and the shoer to hold me up.
- 19. I will not frighten the farrier, by untying myself and nibbling his bum.
- 20. I will not go so soundly asleep that I fall down while the farrier is working on my feet. It scares us all.
- 21. I will not hand graze my way over to the farrier's anvil while my humans attention is elsewhere so that I can beat nice little dents into the face of it with the turning hammer. Even though he shouldn't have left in there because he knows me and my "playful" personality.
- 22. I will not insist on dancing around in a circle before each foot gets trimmed and then stand perfectly still while it's being trimmed.
- 23. I will not kick the fly off my farrier's head with my hind hoof while he trims my front hoof. If he wanted it off, he would have gotten it off himself.
- **24.** I will not knock my farrier's Stetson off his head. I now understand that a cowboy feels that anyone messing with his hat is a near killing offense and he might be offended. Watch his right hook...
- 25. I will not raise my tail and blow dry the farrier's sweaty hair, nor will I raise my tail to "ring" the knife pocket on his chaps while he works on my back hooves, next time I'll hold it the 3.7 seconds it would have taken for him to finish.
- 26. I will not run from the farrier when it's my turn to be trimmed, especially after bugging everyone for attention.
- 27. I will not spin circles when the farrier tries to shoe me.
- 28. I will not step in the farrier's tool box with all his little nails for my shoes making him & my human spend an hour picking them all up.
- 29. I will not tell the farrier how madly in love with him I am by going into heat every time he visits.
- **30.** I will not torture the farrier when he wants to trim my foot. I now realize that rearing up to take my foot away, and then going crazy in the cross ties was not nice. Furthermore, knocking him down and sitting on him could have hurt him badly. That made him say bad words and go get a twitch. I don't like that thing on my nose, so next time, I'll be a lady and let him trim my feet.
- **31.** I will not try to kick the vet.
- 32. I will not turn right around in the cross ties when the shoer is trying to shoe me, just so I can see where my human is.
- 33. I'm not flammable, I'm not flammable, I'm not flammable. Hot shoeing is for my benefit and won't barbecue me.
- **34.** Licking the hocks of the mare being trimmed/shoed can be hazardous to the farrier's health.
- 35. Pushing the farrier as he is bent over the anvil shaping a shoe can have catastrophic results. His balance just isn't there.
- 36. The farrier doesn't like to be bitten, dragged, or mounted. I won't do these things the instant my human turns her back.
- **37.** The farrier has a coffee pot to make coffee for himself and my owner, not for me. I understand as a horse I shouldn't drink hot coffee and that it is inappropriate to throw a fit when they don't offer me a cup.
- **38.** The farrier likes his butt the way it is: in one piece. Therefore, biting it, although he does stick it in my face, is not smart (he does have a knife...).
- **39.** The farrier likes his wallet to remain in his pocket, it is a very light color and matches the straw perfectly.
- **40.** The farrier likes the vertebrae in his back where they are. I don't need to try to pull them out for him by putting all 1000 pounds into a steady lean in the opposite direction he's pulling my foot.
- **41.** The farrier's cute "Wrangler Butt" isn't suppose to get me excited, I shouldn't huffle and nuzzle him when he attends to my front hooves on the stand, even though my owner doesn't breed me as much as I'd like.
- 42. The farrier's hat is not a toy. I must not attempt to see how high and far I can flip it.
- **43.** The farrier's knee is not strong enough to hold all 1100 pounds of me. Therefore, rearing while he tries to rasp my hoof is not acceptable.
- **44.** The little nails that the farrier puts in my shoes are very sharp. This means that I am not allowed to jerk my leg around until he nips the tips and rasps them down-if one of them finds his leg he will make scary noises and do a funny little dance.
- **45.** The veterinarian is my friend. Really.
- 46. The wormer will not hurt me, so there's no reason to yank my human's arm out of the socket when she tries to give it to me.
- **47.** Undoing the buckle on the chaps of the assistant farrier will result in his placing them around my neck, handing me the hoof rasp, and telling me to do the trimming.
- **48.** We will not pretend we can't hold our back feet up for the farrier when my human knows that we can since she practices that with us a lot.
- **49.** When my farrier brings his girlfriend to our shoeing appointment I will not "check em to see if they are real". They are not giant apples, nor is she hiding treats in there, and nothing will magically appear there so I don't need to check them over and over again.
- 50. When the farrier says "stand up" I will, I will not attempt to get down on my knees instead.

--- Injury and Recovery ---

1. I will no longer cut my legs up on mysterious objects in the field every time my human starts making me work harder and calls it

- an 'achievement'.
- 2. I will not crowd into one stall with the other mares and in the ensuing chaos, rear up sticking my head through the roof and my leg through the side of the barn. Not only did I cause my human to nearly have a heart attack, but I had to get a bunch of stitches and I have to stay in this stupid stall wearing this stupid bandage.
- 3. I will not kick my stall walls so hard that I hurt myself and go lame for weeks, just because I don't like the gelding next door.
- **4.** I will not run up and down the arena fence line, and while whirling around to go the other direction, I will not smack my front hoof on the post and crack it from coronet band to sole. I will not, I will not, I will not, oh geez... how can I hide this?... Let's go stand in the mud really deep and maybe she won't see it...
- 5. I will not scrape my chest up on the sharp shards of wood before my human can saw them off.(from "Escaping"-I will not break the top fence board into pieces with long jagged shards by kicking at Andy.)
- **6.** I will not stand in the mud for hours on end making sure I get an infection under my hoof wall and need to have my human give me all kinds of special attention while she soaks my foot twice a day.
- 7. I will not try to destroy myself regularly and mysteriously. I am a gelding and if I permanently lame myself up, my life will come to a quick end.
- **8.** I will stop trying to break the record for most original injury/illness.
- 9. I will try really hard not to have a lethal white foal this year, since it will mean no more babies for me and I really want to have babies.
- 10. I won't paw with that front left hoof (the one where I fractured the coffin bone)--I won't, I won't I WON"T.
- 11. When I am sick, or having a "bad heat", I will promise not to scare the crap out of my human by acting like I am colicing, when my vital signs show that I am not severely ill, especially when my human has to miss work, and a few hours later, I am completely fine again.
- 12. When I cut my back legs after falling on frozen ground, I will let my human clean them up with warm water and salve. I will not jump around and require her to go get her friend to back me into a corner of my stall, and hold my head while she pins me against the wall while she cleans my leg. It is too much fuss for a little filly like me to make over two shallow cuts.

--- Not all There ---

- 1. Although I come from Wind Drinker Arabians, and I am said to be a "Drinker of the Wind", I do not need to get *drunk* on the wind, and promptly lose all control of the gray matter in my head. I am too smart to act that dumb and get away with it.
- 2. Even though I hate loping clockwise, I will refrain from bucking and then veering sharply towards the middle of the arena as an avoidance method. This is dangerous when the arena has twenty other horses in there.
- 3. I am a gelding. I cannot breed and I will get kicked if I try.
- 4. I am not a dog. I don't have to chase cars.
- 5. I cannot slide to a sudden stop on frozen ground. It does not work. My feet will slide out from under me, and I will get hurt.
- **6.** I cannot outrun the saddle. It stays with me no matter how fast I run. I should quit wasting my energy.
- 7. I have a perfectly good salt/mineral block to lick, so I will QUIT licking the walls. I'll get splinters if I am not careful.
- 8. I must not put my foot through the fencing, as it seems to result in nasty cuts near my hoof. However, if I DO manage to do this, I will refrain from pawing at the fence while tied as my human goes for the first aid supplies, thereby sticking it through the fence AGAIN, and reopening the previous cut.
- **9.** I will not buck whenever I trip over my own feet.
- **10.** I will not die because I cannot see my human.
- 11. I will not end up in my human's newly finished basement when she forgets to shut the door all the way. (This was a Welsh pony.)
- 12. I will not go into a deep dark depression after my favorite human goes to summer camp for two weeks, then freak out when seeing teenage boys with a yellow raft walk by the back fence. I will not race back and forth along the fence all night long, then fall over on my side next to the gate leading to the driveway casting myself, then kick at it breaking it open, then run for 2 miles through fig orchards while my human's dad chases me in his Toyota which was never meant for driving through orchards, at 45 MPH in deep sand, and walk me back home in flip flops.
- 13. I will not spook at the harmless cow in the clearing, and then run eagerly towards the roaring grizzly bear nickering my fool head off. The cow didn't want to eat me, but the bear definitely did!
- 14. I will not stick my nose in my human's blow torch when he is trying to fix the water bowl in my stall.
- 15. I will realize that the only time the mare wants to see me is when she is in heat. You would think I'd know she doesn't want to talk to me by her pinned ears and bared teeth, but I always try anyhow. This just gets me kicked, and the human is getting tired of fixing the damage that she does.
- 16. If I can lope nicely on the rail while going counter-clockwise, I should also be able to do this while going clockwise.
- 17. If I can wade right through boot level water, fast creeks, and other large water obstacles, I can also walk through small puddles, small drainage ditches, flooded areas of the pasture and other equally trivial water obstacles.
- **18.** If I can walk into the trailer, I am certainly capable of backing out of the trailer. Especially since it is a two horse straight load and there is no other way to get me out.
- 19. If moving traffic isn't scary, an idling car isn't either.
- 20. If my human's saddle did not eat me last summer and fall, it will not eat me now that it is cold and windy.
- 21. If the Rottweiler doesn't scare me while I'm playing with him, he should not scare me when I'm not.
- 22. If the dressage whip does not scare me when my human stands on the ground and tickles me with it, and even lightly thwacks me

- with it, I should not go into panic mode because she tucked it under her arm after mounting me. I know darn well she isn't going to beat me
- 23. Just because the whole herd of thirty-five went stampeding across the pasture because the neighbour's Cocker Spaniel got loose and tried to chase us does not mean that there is a pack of American Horsehounds behind it, or that I have to whirl around and charge headlong at it, mouth gaping, ears back and hooves pounding. I am four years old. The other horses do not expect me to protect them from small dogs.
- 24. My human is small. I am big. This means that I cannot hide behind her. The invisible horse eating boogy-man can still see me.
- 25. Pretending to be lame just because I don't want to bend left does not work. If I am sound while going right, I am still sound going left-no matter how severely I pretend to limp. (She stumbled and limped for two strides and then straightened up--the whole class got a kick out of that one!!)
- 26. Pulling the mare's tail will get me kicked. Stealing the mare's grain might get me killed if she ever actually catches me! (My two year old runs like the races, and my QH mare couldn't catch him if her life depended on it. It's a good thing, because his life does.)
- 27. Putting my nose on the sand is dangerous while moving at high speeds-even if I DO want my head free!
- 28. When asked to go across small streams, small puddles, and other narrow sources of shallow water, and I insist on jumping over them, I will just jump and get it over with. I don't really need to throw an all out tantrum and hissy fit first.
- 29. When riding in the trailer I will not eat the interior lights just because I am mad that my friend was left at home. My human may need those lights to load me at night. Besides, she is afraid I will electrocute myself.
- **30.** When some drunk human starts calling to my humans from the bottom of a big hill, I promise to protect them at all costs. I am lead gelding in the pasture and I don't need to shake in my shoes.

--- Not all There: Horsesauruses (Horse-Eating Monsters) ---

- 1. A big branch on the ground is just like the ones still on the tree and it will not eat me.
- 2. Balloons are no reason to try to back up into the crowd at the start of the parade.
- **3.** Deer are not carnivorous.
- **4.** Ducks are not carnivorous. Great blue herons are not pterodactyls.
- **5.** Hula hoops on the ground do NOT have teeth and will NOT hurt me, nor will wheelbarrows, big grasshoppers, cats, mice, tall grass...
- **6.** I am 19. I have worn a cover all my life and I know by now that it will not eat me.
- 7. I am a 16 hand event horse. I do not need to duck behind the 13 hand pony for protection when our humans ride us past the corrugated plastic pipe. Besides, she's so short it can still see me. (I was on my pony, who looked at my friend's horse with utter contempt.)
- **8.** I am a Haflinger. I was born and bred to wear a harness and it will not bite me. (I should be thankful that there was no cart following along behind.)
- 9. I am a16 hand event horse. I do not need to duck behind the 13 hand pony for protection from the corrugated plastic pipe. Besides, she is so short it can still see me.
- 10. I am allowed to spook at scary, inanimate things (like umbrellas) at most only a few times. After I have sniffed it, nibbled on it, snorted at it, and had it rubbed all over me, I should know darn well that it won't bite me!
- 11. I am bigger than my human. I do not need to jump in her lap every time I'm scared; she could get hurt.
- 12. I am fourteen years old. I have lived at the same stables, using the same riding schools, since I was two. The H C corner has not eaten me yet so I can stop being scared of it.
- 13. I CAN back-up all the way to the fence. It will not jump me when I'm not looking.
- 14. I can believe my human when she tells me that she got rid of the bear that hibernates in the trailer occasionally.
- 15. I can step over cracks in the road they will not eat me.
- 16. I don't have to climb out of my stall when the hot air balloon lands ten feet away, my human will protect me from the horse-eater.
- 17. I must not shy from my own hoof prints in the bark arena.
- 18. I must not spook at streams running under bridges.
- 19. I promise never to throw my human off into a barrel, breaking her arm and leg, just because I spooked at a barn cat chasing a butterfly.
- 20. I promise not to continually attempt to pass the guide horses on our public trail rides. (S All I want is to be first in the line. :()
- 21. I will allow my slave to eat Peanut Butter crackers in between classes without spooking over the sound the wrapper makes.
- 22. I will be able to be in the front of the line on a trail ride without thinking that every bush, flower, branch, leaf, rock, etc. will jump out and bite me.
- 23. I will be more careful not to get objects stuck in my tail. If I get something stuck in my tail (think 3' blackberry vine) by running around where I'm not supposed to be, I will not freak out when my human is cutting it out with her pocket knife as a last resort.
- 24. I will forget hearing the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff when I am asked to cross a bridge.
- **25.** I will inform my human politely when the invisible horse eating boogey man that occasionally inhabits a corner of the arena, is present *before* she gets on me. She doesn't like it when I flip out and panic for no apparent reason and without warning.
- **26.** I will learn that being in close quarters with trees will not kill me. I need not drag my human through such openings, or plant my feet and refuse to budge.
- 27. I will not act as if the cows I live next door to terrify me just because my human is on my back.
- 28. I will not balk every time a cow or large dark object is within my eyesight on the trail, even though I work around cattle and large

- dark objects all the time.
- **29.** I will not be afraid of the sawdust bin that I walk by every day and act like huge monsters are going to jump out at me. 8 pound tabby cats are not lions and do not count, so I don't have to jump sideways 5 feet down a 2 foot slope and land facing the other way, bucking.
- **30.** I will not do a standing high jump over my pen wall when the neighbour's lawnmower starts, even if it chucks something at me. (Her Highness was just home from colic surgery and went up and mostly over a 4.5 foot panel. Got her leg caught and came down nose first. Miracle she didn't break anything, and didn't struggle while the panels were being hammered apart to free her. Thank heavens for dense draft horse bones.)
- **31.** I will not do the Arab Teleport Trick when a bad/naughty/awful Horsesaurus Monster breathes at me.
- 32. I will not freak at the sight of the color guard and the flags. (Personally, flags belong on the jumps not on the back of a horse!)
- 33. I will not freak out crossing the bridge we've crossed for 10 years...even though I'm SURE there's a troll under it.
- 34. I will not freak out when my human's friend is putting boots with the velcro that makes weird noises on her own horse, tear the rail off of its posts and go running, dragging the wooden rail with the other horse still attached to it.
- **35.** I will not get freaked out by the smell of pigs (in a trailer) and run down my human, leaving hoof marks on her rear, shoulder and head.
- 36. I will not go wacko if I see a bird. I am an overgrown Percheron and a little finch isn't likely to kill me.
- 37. I will not hide behind the bush next to the outdoor arena and then run out and scare the school horses when they pass me.
- **38.** I will not ignore the "scary" gate most of the time, but then jump out of my skin because I'm in heat. If it's not scary the rest of the time it shouldn't be scary then.
- 39. I will not jump 2 feet higher than the blue bath towel lying over the 2 foot jump, to make it look solid.
- **40.** I will not jump into the air, turn 180 degrees, and start for the barn each time I see a deer in the woods.
- 41. I will not look for the troll hiding beneath every jump. I have been jumping an entire year now and I know he will not eat me.
- **42.** I will not pick things up in my mouth and spook at them.
- 43. I will not rear when my human touches my right ear. She will not pull it off; I know this full well.
- **44.** I will not shy at the judge's booth.
- **45.** I will not shy at the letters on the arena wall.
- **46.** I will not shy for fun when I pass by familiar objects.
- **47.** I will not shy from the tractor that sits at the end of the arena each day.
- **48.** I will not spaz every time I see the big grey horse he is not a ghost.
- 49. I will not spook and get airborne when the pot-bellied pig grunts as I ride by. (They keep picking us up on the radar at the airport.)
- **50.** I will not spook and run headlong through the arena at the marks my own hoofs made while backing up
- 51. I will not spook and run in to my equine companion(s) when a diesel vehicle passes us 70' away on the road.
- **52.** I will not spook at a pen and break my human's arm ever again.
- **53.** I will not spook at a puddle when I have just finished swimming in the creek.
- **54.** I will not spook at any and all rocks, bushes, noises, or my good pal and stable mate for 6 years each time my owner brings him back inside the gate.
- 55. I will not spook at every falling leaf and refuse every jump just to make my human mad and then be a perfect angel when her friends are riding me. (I have a lot of personal experience with this on account of I own a young Arabian who is blind in one eye and has cataracts in the other. No matter how much reprimanding he gets, he always rushes at jumps and refuses them when they come in range of his vision and he always spooks at anything that moves or makes noise that he can hear well but doesn't know the origin of the sound. I know that he does this to make me mad because every time one of my friends rides him, he is a sweetie and never takes a misstep.
- 56. I will not spook at my own shadow when my human is trying to get me to cross a puddle. A wet rider does not feel good!
- 57. I will not spook at nothing in the arena while my buddy is going to a jump, causing him to act stupid. This is also not a good game to play on our humans.
- **58.** I will not spook at nothing.
- **59.** I will not spook at the bucket I've passed 30 times in the last hour.
- **60.** I will not spook at the peacock. I have seen them all my life, so I should know what one is by now.
- **61.** I will not spook at the sound of other horses' flatulence.
- **62.** I will not spook at the sound of the carrot breaking as I bite into it. It is a harmless little edible thing, and there is no need for me to rear up and nearly give my human a heart attack.
- 63. I will not spook at the stream below when I am already in the middle of the bridge, sending my human into the water.
- **64.** I will not spook at water and then jump all the way through it.
- **65.** I will not spook every time I am tied to a fence w/ a lead line because I don't understand why I can't move very far.
- **66.** I will not spook more than a few inches on the way home on trail rides, unless it is really scary, because I know my human will make me go back again even though I really want to go home. I know I am allowed to only look and not jump halfway across the road, but it is so hard.
- 67. I will not spook when a bird pecks my eyes and flies try to eat me.
- **68.** I will not spook when my human brings out my nice saddle like she's done many times.
- **69.** I will not sprout wings and fly sideways into the middle of the ring with no warning when I have been trotting very nicely and calmly just a second before.

- **70.** I will refrain from thinking that a tree swaying in the wind will eat me.
- **71.** I will remember that horses are supposed to be color blind and stop spooking at the color orange.
- 72. I won't shy at silly things like: pieces of paper, hoses, cattle, shadows, air, buckets, my own tail, humans, grass, or pebbles.
- 73. If deer, cows, sheep, pigs, goats, and dogs are not scary, then the poor little pony mules shouldn't be either.
- 74. If I can walk calmly across the yard in the wind, past flapping tarps and rattling shelter roofs, I will not freak out when the arena walls creak.
- 75. If I must spook, I must do so consistently if I'm going to spook at one truck, my human says I may as well do it right and spook at them all.
- **76.** If something is really scary on the way home I will make sure I spook enough to get my human off. She knows it is fear that way and if I stand real still afterward I won't get punished for it.
- 77. If the full sized horse that is draped in a black sheet so he can be part of his riders "Zorro" costume is not scary, then the little pony that is dressed the same way with the big rider's little boy on him shouldn't be either (she totally ignored "daddy Zorro" and his big horse, but spooked and tried to bolt whenever "Baby Zorro" and his pony approached.)
- **78.** If upright barrels are not scary, ones on their sides shouldn't be either. If I must spook at the barrel on its side, I will do so before my human allows me to canter, and I will not just slam on the brakes. Going from fast canter to full stop in half a second effectively rids me of my human.
- 79. It is not OK to spook at a natural wood gate jump laying on the ground, then walk fearlessly past the huge bright red and orange over.
- **80.** Logs are not alligators.
- **81.** My blanket will not eat me.
- 82. Open hatches on mini-vans and station wagons will not bite me.
- **83.** Paint will not eat, burn, or dissolve my flesh. Therefore, throwing an all out flip out fit because my human needs to paint hand prints, lightning bolts, and circles on me for the Rodeo Parade, is NOT acceptable. I have been painted before!
- **84.** Piranhas do not live in fresh water. I can cross that stream.
- **85.** Polo wraps are there to help me, not bite my legs off.
- 86. Ponies are just mini horses. They are better than dogs, and I like dogs so I will not spook at the ponies.
- **87.** Rabbits, especially tame ones who are being held, will not chase/eat/kill me. The same goes for guinea pigs, even if they do make odd noises that I don't understand.
- **88.** Rolled-up stall mats are not dangerous.
- 89. Shadows are not puddles I can walk across them.
- **90.** Sheep do not eat horses.
- **91.** Silly string is not carnivorous.
- **92.** Squirrels are more afraid of me than I am of them.
- 93. Stop signs are not scary objects. I am supposed to stop when I see them, not bolt.
- **94.** The UPS truck passing every day at 4:00 p.m. is not an excuse to spook.
- **95.** The big panel won't eat me, I promise.
- **96.** The big, shiny silver tray that I won and that they tried to give to my human while she was on my back won't kill me. It won't, it won't, it won't.
- **97.** The bottle of stain remover will not eat me.
- **98.** The breast collar will not eat me.
- **99.** The cow in the field is not a horse-eating alien. I can walk by it without dumping my human off.
- 100. The deer in the woods next to the arena won't kill me.
- **101.** The fan will not eat me.
- **102.** The hose is my friend. It cleans and fills my water tub, cools me off, and is relatively harmless. The hose is not a pile of rattlesnakes and cobras trying to kill me or my human. Therefore I will not run and scream like the hounds of hell are chasing me, causing my human all sorts of embarrassment, and making other humans think my human IS trying to kill me.
- 103. The impressive Indian costume that my human is wearing, while looking authentic, does not make her a horse eating monster. It didn't look good when I dragged her assistant around in circles for twenty minutes before I finally let her mount me.
- **104.** The mailbox is not going to bite me. I don't need to run from it.
- 105. The mules will not eat me. They want to be my friends.
- **106.** The porta-potty is my human's friend. She and the other humans need it. Therefore I will no longer shy half way across the parking lot so that the instructor wonders if she should have it removed for my riders' safety!
- **107.** The pretty Indian blanket which is part of my costume is not a death blanket. Crashing into the temporary pens which happen to contain the bucking stock is not smart. (They all flipped out, and it took the cowboys an hour to re-group them all.) I have been ridden in that blanket before, and I never once even snorted.
- 108. The red hose is no different than the green one. If the green one is my friend, then the red one is too.
- **109.** The saddle pad is not carnivorous.
- 110. The sheet metal will not get up and eat me.
- 111. The soccer ball cannot hurt me-even if it can fly without wings.
- 112. The speed bumps will not open up and swallow me.
- 113. The tractor is no different than those big semi-rigs that pass me on the road. If those don't spook me, then the little tractor that is so

- patiently waiting for me to stop spazzing shouldn't either.
- 114. The trees will not bite me, even if the wind makes the leaves yell at me.
- 115. The two new horses placed in the previously empty field are not cannibals. My human is really getting fed up with my all out, make-the-devil-shudder flip out fits-and she really hates having to dismount and lead me in the mornings because I'll jump into morning rush hour traffic! I know darn well that she'll make me work through it later when the traffic dies down!
- 116. The wild turkeys will not eat me. I do not have to spook every time I hear them calling out back. I do not have to try to run away from them by going under the fence.
- 117. There are no such things as bridge trolls and puddle sharks.
- 118. There is NO monster in the corner of the school.
- 119. There is no monster waiting to jump out of the wood chip pile.
- **120.** Tractors in fields alongside the road do not jump out and eat horses.
- **121.** Walnuts are not carnivorous.
- 122. Water, the same stuff I love to drink, and roll in if it's in a puddle, will not hurt me if it's coming out of a hose.
- **123.** Wet pavement will not eat me.
- **124.** When a rabbit jumps out from the grass directly beneath my feet, and my slave(who is sitting on my back at the moment) expects me to spook, I will _not_ pretend to be a hound dog and chase the rabbit.
- **125.** When performing a dressage test, I will not spook at the judge sitting at C.
- 126. When the dogs leap into the lake, I will not spook and refuse to go into the corner I was spooked in ever again.
- 127. Wind won't make me in the "I Feel good dunudunudunt" mood.
- 128. Yellow flowers are OK.

--- On the Road/Shows ---

- 1. After I have had a chance to rest after the parade, I will not continue to rear and buck throughout my Human's English Riding and Training final. I wasn't the least bit tired, and was just being obstinate, because I only did it when she wanted me to stand quietly for a moment. As soon as she pointed me at the jumps, I took off like a pro hunter and flew over them.
- 2. After I load into the trailer and we arrive at our destination, I will also back OUT of the trailer.
- 3. During a trail ride, I will be good and not cause undue stress on the horses near me from over excitement.
- 4. Even if I am bored on the trailer, I will not tear off the halter fuzzies on the horse standing next to me.
- 5. Even though I may be itchy and hot, I understand that I must not lie down and roll when my human is on me and we are in the ring at a horse show. Although this amuses the audience, it does not amuse my human, and she is the one buying the hay.
- **6.** I am not a rodeo bronco. I will not behave like one in a horse show.
- 7. I can go slower then full speed when I go to horse shows.
- 8. I cannot scare the trailer by rearing at it. Hitting my head on the roof of the trailer only hurts me.
- **9.** I have been to several shows. I will not use the first ride in the schooling ring at every show as an excuse to run like an idiot and buck in front of everybody. I have shared a ring with other horses before and I do every day at home. Running and bucking is not acceptable at a hunter show and it embarrasses my human when they announce on the loud speaker that people should be careful with children because there are several green horses at the show.
- 10. I promise I will listen to my human while out on a trail ride instead trying to eat every blade of grass or leaf I see.
- 11. I promise I will not dump my human as she mounts me at a dressage clinic in front of all the spectators and the Grand Prix clinician, forcing my owner to longe me for 10 minutes while I scream at all the other non-humans in the vicinity, as if I have never been ridden or schooled or left the barn in my life before. I also promise not to spook at a dog outside the arena and then tear around the arena so that the spectators think they are lost and watching a rodeo, not dressage. I also promise not to go perfectly on the bit the next day at home to make my human even more annoyed.
- **12.** I will get into the trailer the first time I am asked, instead of planting my feet, growing roots and assuming the facial expression of Eeyore the mule.
- 13. I will go into the arena, even if the jumps look different.
- 14. I will learn to drink from a different water bucket (my horse will only drink from her bright yellow bucket.)
- **15.** I will learn to go to the bathroom in front of others at horse shows.
- **16.** I will learn to love the trailer.
- 17. I will learn to stand quietly and patiently by the judge's stand and let my human take the water bottle that the little girl in the stand is handing her. She needs that water so she doesn't get heat stroke and pass out.
- **18.** I will never again ruin my chances of winning in a western Pleasure class by throwing my head so high that I almost hit my human in the face the very last time they ask me to lope when we were a shoo-in for 1st.
- 19. I will never stop in trail class and poop on the tarp. Nor will I forget what "whoa" means while sidepassing and ram my rider's knee into the mailbox.(and she had the nerve to complain after we own the class.)
- **20.** I will never, ever fall asleep in showmanship class, nor in halter (even though the humans got me up at the unethical hour of (gasp) 5 A.M..)
- 21. I will not act so "anxious" to get into the ring that the steward stops us at the in-gate to be sure my human can control me.
- **22.** I will not attempt take my own ribbons (in my mouth) at shows.
- 23. I will not attempt to eat above-mentioned trailer resulting in lots of scratches and dent marks.
- 24. I will not attempt to paw my way out of my human's new trailer the first time I ride in it leaving nice dents on the outside on which

- the paint falls off.
- 25. I will not become so maniacal in the show stall when my human leaves, that show management considers getting a vet to shoot a tranquilizer dart at me during the middle of the night.
- 26. I will not bite my human's butt when she is picking my feet out, giving her a huge hole in her pants 5 minutes before a show.
- 27. I will not bite the butt of the horse in front of me.
- **28.** I will not buck Mum off into the portable stalls.
- 29. I will not chew on a towel before I go into the ring at an "A" rated horse show and not let go of it.
- **30.** I will not continuously rub my bottom on the truck causing it to bleed and blister just before a major show.
- **31.** I will not do everything perfectly when I'm warming up for a lesson, but the second my trainer sets foot in the arena become an absolute mess, and get my human yelled at.
- 32. I will not do my happy trailer dance and make everyone in the truck seasick because I like going for rides in the trailer.
- 33. I will not eat the clippers when my human is rushing to get me ready so she can go to bed at 1:00 AM.
- **34.** I will not eat the plastic flowers in front of the judges at 'C'.
- 35. I will not embarrass my Auntie Jenny by refusing to park trot untill we accept our ribbon and are leaving the ring.
- **36.** I will not get bored in the trailer, and decide to start to "rock and roll".
- 37. I will not insist on running over the photographer when they are trying to take my picture.
- 38. I will not jump all over the judges during a halter class when I have to trot. Especially when I don't do so at home.
- **39.** I will not leap off the trailer even though I am happy to get off.
- **40.** I will not lie down in the trailer.
- **41.** I will not pee while waiting in the ring to have my name called to accept my ribbon.
- 42. I will not pull back when tied to the trailer, because I now know that this will overturn it.
- **43.** I will not rip off an exhibitors number with my teeth as my human talks to another exhibitor.
- **44.** I will not rub my braids.
- **45.** I will not rub my mane after being braided and rip out the braid; hair and all.
- **46.** I will not rub out my tail 5 minutes before my class.
- **47.** I will not scare the beejeezus out of my human, Natalie and others by deciding to "turn myself out" while attending a horse show. I apologize, but I did think that after 3 days of no turn-out it was time for some play.
- **48.** I will not shake and toss my head when it is braiding time.
- **49.** I will not sit down in my trailer like a dog. I have been standing most of my life, so I can stand on trailer rides.
- **50.** I will not stand in the pasture and holler my heehaw/whinny when I see the trailer leaving without me in it. I DO not have to be in that trailer every single time it leaves the barn.
- **51.** I will not throw my human and run bucking around the ring for ten minutes, refusing to be caught, and making the entire show run 10 minutes late.
- **52.** I will not try to eat parts of my costume off of my body in costume class.
- **53.** I will not try to kill my slave when I have to pick up a rain slicker in a trail class.
- **54.** I will not try to outrun the others during a Western Pleasure class.
- **55.** I will not untie myself in the trailer and then torment the horse next to me by biting him the whole way and giving him nasty scratches right before the show.
- **56.** I will not wait for the show to refuse to get on the trailer.
- 57. I will not wait until some of Kandace's favorite people are at a show, and then revert to the most primitive horse instincts by thundering sideways across the ring, nearly knocking down the judge in the process. This is not how my human wants me to impress people.
- **58.** I will stop slobbering on my human's hand during halter and showmanship classes.
- **59.** I will try not to prance right after I come out of the ring with a clear round when everyone is trying to tell my human how well she has done.
- **60.** I will try to relax on the trail.
- **61.** I will walk a true straight line on the reverse walk and not take the judge out.
- **62.** I will walk onto the trailer without dancing.
- **63.** I won't stand in the middle of the road, refusing to move, while a dump truck approaches me (My friend's POA did this, we laughed so hard. Luckily the driver wasn't too mad)
- **64.** I, at the age of 25, after being hauled all over for years, will not suddenly decide that I've never seen a trailer before, and jerk my human's arms off at the shoulder.
- **65.** Just because Ellie gets the whole back of the trailer to herself, and, therefore, gets out first, does not mean I can go through the escape door when she leaves me.
- **66.** Just because I am asked to lope clockwise and my human gets her friend to "haze" on Thunder so I stay on the rail, I do not have to go into race-horse mode and take off so I can out run him and then veer into the middle of the arena. I almost unloaded my human.
- **67.** My human knows how fast and well I can pivot and spin. I do it often enough when she doesn't want me too. I can show her instructor how good I am as well when she asks my human for a pivot.
- 68. My new two horse trailer is nicer than my old four horse and I can load onto it.
- **69.** No matter how hot and itchy I am, and how sandy the show ring, I know that it is BAD to drop and roll while waiting to jump in hunter hack.

- 70. On the night before the day of the Inspection at camp I will not cut myself on the fence, and be disqualified.
- **71.** The bell is not an alarm warning.
- 72. The judge will not kill me. The judge is my friend.
- 73. The padding on the trailer walls was put there for my comfort. I will not rip the stuffing out in large mouthfuls.
- **74.** The trailer is my friend.
- **75.** The trailer is my friend.
- **76.** Those rubber mats on the trailer walls were put there so that I would not hurt myself. I will leave them there.
- 77. When asked to canter I will not: buck, slam my weight and my rider's leg into the arena wall, spin circles, or slam on the brakes.
- **78.** When I am at shows I will not refuse to take my right lead.
- 79. When I am being shown western I will not use my fast trot rather then my western jog.
- **80.** When my human attempts to make me move somewhat straight and true, I will not then decide to rear, twist, and buck right in front of the judges' stand, causing my human to give a rare display of riding skill and making the judges feel she had really earned that first place trophy. While the crowd loved the show, it scared the judges nearly to death.
- **81.** When my human leans over to pick my feet while I am eating breakfast, I will not sneak alfalfa hay under her jacket (This was right before a show, I was frantic and not prepared for that.)
- **82.** When the judge asks me to back up I don't back up in to their face and kick them.

--- Other Critters: Cats ---

- 1. "Fraidy Cat" got her name for a reason. I am not a larger cat and do not need to stalk her. She doesn't appreciate this.
- 2. I am very sorry that I amputated the cat's tail. I will never do that again to any animal. That cat runs every time she sees me now.
- 3. I promise not to scare my kitty when she goes to sleep in my hay by getting up close and personal and then snorting REALLY loudly at her.
- 4. I promise to stop goosing the barn cats. Even if it is fun to watch them startle and then glare at me.
- 5. I understand the barn cats don't belong to just me, my rider can pet them too.
- **6.** I will not act cute and interested in snuffling the kitten, and when my human is nice enough to let me sniff said kitten, try to eat it. Kittens have claws and are not interested in becoming my dinner.
- 7. I will not attempt to flatten the cat.
- **8.** I will not blow my nose in the barn cat's fur.
- **9.** I will not chase the cats up a tree and not let them down.
- 10. I will not eat the barn cats even though they deserve it because they keep me up all night meowing.
- 11. I will not groom the cats. They don't like it, and I hate hairballs.
- 12. I will not show my affection for "Black Cat" by smooshing his nice, soft body up against the wall with my head, then rubbing vigorously on him. Black Cat does not like that, no matter how good it feels to me.
- 13. I will not stomp my hooves on small kittens, just because I they are under me, and promise not to cause my human's friend to have to give mouth to mouth respiration to the kitten to revive it. (I am real happy that this kitten survived, even if it did take the kitten 6 hours to gain consciousness.)
- **14.** I will not turn and flee when the camp director's 6 month old female Siamese kitten comes prancing into the arena. Just because she likes to torment the humans does not mean she's out to get me. Besides, I'm not tall enough to jump the fences.
- 15. I won't play "bounce the kitten from stall to stall" with the colt in the stall next to me. I am lucky the kitten wasn't at all hurt because I would be in BIG trouble.
- 16. If a stray kitty has a litter in my stall, I'll let the people know, not wait till they muck my stall to find mom cat and 7 kittens. If they do, I will not throw a fit because they move the kitties inside because it's December or August (this has happened twice now). I will act like the good horse I am when they move the kitties inside, and I will not get so upset that my people have to give me some stuffed kitties. I will then not destroy the stuffed kitties because they aren't the same.
- 17. If "Big Mama" cat decides to have her latest litter of kittens in my stall, she can do it herself; I am not required to neigh LOUDLY all night for help; I should just watch the Miracle of Birth and them leave her alone. (I guess Charlie was being over-protective; he and Big Mama are great friends.)
- **18.** The cat does not appreciate it when I try to scratch his belly with my nose.

--- Other Critters: Chickens and Other Birds ---

- 1. Chickens are not for chasing.
- 2. Chickens are not toys. I must refrain from catching them by the legs and tossing them over the fence (my friend has a gelding that does this-adds new meaning to "flipping the bird").
- 3. Geese do not enjoy having their plumage plucked.
- **4.** I do not need to levitate when the peacock shows me his fancy feathers.
- **5.** I have no right to chase the turkeys, chickens and other fowl out of the stall and covered area, just because I want in. There is plenty of room for all of us.
- 6. I will not let birds sit on me and pluck out the stuffing in my blanket and use it to make nests.
- 7. I will NOT chase the chickens. I will get pecked!
- **8.** I will not try to kill ducks, chickens, and turkeys.
- 9. I will not walk close enough to the geese that they can grab my human's pants leg while she's leading me without a lead.

- 10. I will respect the chickens' space: I will not walk through their fence as if it wasn't there and eat their food.
- 11. There is no reason to be jealous of the human's cat when he interrupts my free longe. Furthermore, it is not necessary to chase him away with my teeth bared.

--- Other Critters: Cows ---

- 1. I will *not* let the calf chew on my tail. Or my mane. Or my forelock. Or other parts of my body (our neighbour has a weird story about this.)
- 2. I will not stick my tail through the gate to the barn and let the calf chew it.
- 3. If I persist in letting the calf chew on me, I will be forced to wear my tail in the ugly tail braid that my human does so the calf can't get at it. And if I still let Roscoe chew on me, I'll have to suffer during fly season because it's **My Own Darn Fault** and I should know better

--- Other Critters: Dogs ---

- 1. Even though I don't like dogs, I will refrain from committing serial Canine Murders, and causing two more to narrowly cling to their lives. My human is getting tired of carrying unconscious or deceased dogs to the doors of their irresponsible owners and explaining that what she had been warning them about has now happened.
- 2. I am not a puppy and the puppy is not a foal. I know the difference and know that when the puppy trots or canters across my paddock she does not want me to play with her. I am too big to do so, and this scares the puppy.
- 3. I can ride without my dog near me!! I can, I can, I can, I can! (Meggie is a tad neurotic, she has to have my parents Newfie mix walk along side her. She's also the one who started kicking after 7 years.)
- **4.** I promise not to pick up my human's Pug dog by her curly tail.
- 5. I understand that when I chase the dog he will either run under the fence or chase back. I do not need to follow him under the fence, or get mad and stomp him if he chases back. I realize I always start it, so I can't get mad.
- 6. I will not encourage any of the dogs to roll in the mud in my area. When I do, and my human hoses them off in my area, I will refrain from sticking my face in the hose spray, since I hate being sprayed with the hose.
- 7. I will not kick my human's Jack Russell terrier in the head, even though he bites my tail and swings on it while growling like he's rabid.
- 8. I will not let that bad doggie hang off my vet-wrapped tail anymore.
- **9.** I will not stand on the dog.
- 10. I will not stomp the dog when he comes out to say hello.
- 11. I will not try to eat my human's little fuzzy growling thing she calls a "dog".
- 12. I won't tease the dogs anymore, causing them to bark in the wee hours of the morning.
- 13. The "Hounds from Hades" are annoying, but they cannot get into my field, so I will refrain from bolting away every time I see them. Once I realize that they are securely fenced in, I will refrain from teasing them. This makes them furious, and causes them to alert the whole neighbourhood to their presence. This is even less good at two a.m.
- 14. The Blue Heeler is a DOG not a COW. We will stop chasing him. (unless my humans tells us to) its his job to chase us.
- 15. The dog is not a cow, sheep or goat. Therefore, I must not practice my cutting and penning moves on him.
- **16.** The dog is not a jolly ball.
- 17. The Jack Russell (a small terrier) is not out to kill me. There is no reason to kick at her, bite her, or run away when she follows me.
- 18. Those little "dustmop dogs" that the other humans bring into the stable are not synonymous with "demons from Hell" (Even if they are annoying, yappy little mutts). Therefore, I do not need to streak out of the barn, leaving my human in the dust, when one of them barks at me.

--- Other Critters: Goats ---

- 1. I will make friends with the goat. But only if he stops hiding behind the tree while I am working and She stops feeding him my treats in front of me.
- 2. I will not chew on the goat's horns unless the goat asks me to.
- 3. I will not pick up the littlest goat by her hair and fling her across the pasture when she tries to eat my hay outside, especially since I let her eat my hay all the other times.
- 4. I will not torture the goat, even if he is an evil creature and really deserves it.

--- Other Critters: Horses ---

- 1. Horses are not chew toys, and they do not like it if you use them as such.
- 2. I CAN walk while the other horses in the show ring trot. Gated horses are not scary.
- 3. I am a gelding; the stallion does not like me.
- 4. I am a little pony and need to remember this before making the big thoroughbred next door very angry.
- 5. I am not allowed to breed with the stallions in the pasture. This is why I am locked in the indoor pen, until the stallions have their own separate turn out. I do not have to scream and cry, causing the black one to try and break down the barn door. He and I are not of compatible breeding.
- **6.** I am old enough to drink water and eat grain and hay since I am nearly a year old, and nursing off of my mother is no longer necessary.

- 7. I am only a 29-inches-tall colt. It is not necessary to get 15.2 hand mares' attention, especially when I'm jumping, driving, etc. (Renegade thinks he's hot stuff for being just only a little over two feet tall, and he has a REALLY short attention span when his 1,500 pound girlfriend's around.)
- 8. I am small Welsh pony. I won't try to fight my human's Percheron because I know I won't win.
- **9.** I do not need to kick and buck at horses 20 feet away.
- 10. I don't need to play nicely with the other horse in the pasture then attempt to kill him when he is stalled next to me.
- 11. I may only be a year old, but I don't have to do whatever it takes to get the girls to notice that I'm the biggest, most beautiful stallion in the barn.
- 12. I must humbly apologize for kicking the old boss mare so hard that I broke her leg, resulting in her having to be put down. If I EVER try such a stunt again, I am aware that my fate will hang in the balance!
- 13. I only have one testicle and I cannot make foals. I will stop screaming and dancing when ever any of the mares walk by. This is annoying because they always stop, pee, then look at me. This bothers their riders and mine. Also, I do not like the Noxema in my nostrils.
- 14. I promise not to force my sister to run around the paddock when its slippery or muddy just so I can see how good her balance is.
- 15. I promise not to hit on the (gorgeous) stallion next to me during a show waiting to get a ribbon.
- **16.** I promise not to shut the other horse in his stall or poop in his hay.
- 17. I understand that I should not wipe my nose on the other horse's butt, since he may not like it, and that if I continue to do so, any consequences that I suffer are my own fault and I should not moan and complain about it.
- 18. I will be nicer to the other horse. I won't run ahead of him into my stall in wait to attack him while he's trying to get into his stall.
- 19. I will have my foal on time this year.
- 20. I will let other horses breath my air without having a fit.
- 21. I will not act like a total idiot when the only mare in the barn is in season. Refusing to be caught, bellowing like an idiot, and trying to mate with the mare multiple times.
- 22. I will not attack the Shetland pony gelding, who is only one fourth my size, with my head and teeth, causing my human to get teeth marks, a sprained finger, and severe rope burns, on his arms, just because I am trying to protect my one month old foal, from other nasty mares, trying to steal my baby. I will always consider the SIZE and GENDER of the horse or pony, FIRST, before I attack.
- 23. I will not attempt to disable my "competition" when passing on the trail.
- **24.** I will not attempt to steal other mare's foals, even though I love babies.
- 25. I will not be jealous when She gives my treats to the other horse when I don't want to be caught. Jealousy is obviously a vice since I always get caught.
- **26.** I will not beat up the weanlings, no matter how sickeningly cute they are.
- 27. I will not bite a chunk out of the poor old Shetland pony's rear ever again.
- 28. I will not bite my human's hocks.
- 29. I will not bite the other horse on the butt when it's within reach over the fence.
- **30.** I will not bite the other horse's butt when she tries to come up for my human to pet her.
- 31. I will not boss the other horse around during grain time, even though the grain she is eating is better than mine. (grain is tastier in whatever grain pail Lady is eating out of than it is in the one Kali is eating out of):)
- **32.** I will not bother the other horse until after her baby is born. Even though she is my best buddy, she is very cranky because her foal is about due. She is not comfortable, and does not want my company. She will bite me, and then my human has to put that stinky, sticky stuff on me that I hate with a passion.
- **33.** I will not charge the fence every time strange horses are ridden by.
- **34.** I will not chase my friend out of the paddock causing her to jump a fence and break another.
- **35.** I will not chase the ponies into the electric fence to see if it is on.
- 36. I will not climb to the top of the sawdust pile and gloat at my pasture buddies because I'm taller than they are.
- 37. I will not decide to play "chicken" with my baby sister, knocking her to the ground, and knocking the wind out of me.
- **38.** I will not die if I cannot see the other horse (a pinto). She is not my baby, and she's old enough to be a big girl. Nor do I need to scream to high heaven because she has been removed from my immediate vicinity.
- **39.** I will not die if I cannot see the other horse. She will not disappear.
- **40.** I will not display the fact I am in season to every horse I meet.
- **41.** I will not eat my paddock buddy's halter, mane, tail or any other bodily part.
- **42.** I will not flirt with my herdmate's girlfriend just for a fight.
- **43.** I will not flirt with the 29 inch tall stallion colt in the next stall. I realize that I am several feet taller than he is and he has no chance in hell. At least, not yet...
- **44.** I will not go and visit the stallions at 3:00 a.m. so that they start screaming and the barn owner has to come and catch me, and then threatens my human with eviction.
- **45.** I will not grab the other horse's sheet with my teeth at the back end and continue to expose her. I will stop making little teeth holes in her sheets and act like a gentleman.
- **46.** I will not harass the other geldings just because I'm a baby and they'll tolerate me. They'll be sure to get back at me when I get older.
- **47.** I will not hide behind my slave when my big brother comes over to play rough.
- **48.** I will not ignore the other horse's games most of the time and then suddenly sneak up on him and knock him down for no reason

whatsoever.

- **49.** I will not jump straight up into the air and squeal in excitement while watching horses gallop the cross-country course, and my slave wants me to stand still watching.
- **50.** I will not kick nosy horses when my human is not looking.
- 51. I will not let the horse in the next pen chew off my tail bag. I am smart enough to move out of reach.
- **52.** I will not make loud snorts and grunts whenever Stubby, the small Hackney pony mare, walks past my stall. I only do this, because it spooks her, and I find delight in watching her launch into the air, (just like human boys who put frogs in little girls dresses). I promise I will treat her the same way I treat the "big" mares, and only sniff them.
- **53.** I will not make the pony stand outside all night in the rain.
- **54.** I will not pick up minis by their manes.
- 55. I will not play the bitey-bitey face game with my pal and get him to pull my fly mask off for me anymore. (The great Maurice le Cheval keeps going over to the Rainman, insinuating his face into Rain's, and coaxing a game of "thumb wrestling" with their mouths. The end result is that Rain always pulls Mo's mask off, which is exactly what Mo wants! Having blue eyes he really does the vet wants this horse to wear a UV filtering fly mask daily. That Mo's eyes are sensitive to bright light doesn't seem to faze him. He's vain, and has a strong need to let the world see his big blues. Especially females, luring them close enough for him to slurp their boobs. You have no idea how hard it is to have such a dirty old man in a horse suit living on our farm!)
- **56.** I will not prove that my friend's halter is safe for turnout by breaking it.
- **57.** I will not pull the fly mask off my friend's head.
- 58. I will not push my little three week old sister into the water trough causing her to get stuck in it on her back.
- **59.** I will not remove the vetrap on my friend's sore leg or even think about pulling out the stitches there.
- 60. I will not roll under the fence to be with the mares. They don't like me when I'm obnoxious. Neither do the dominant geldings.
- **61.** I will not run after (and over my human) when my other human's horse is being ridden out of the arena. I can go on living when she's not around. I am not afraid when she's not there.
- **62.** I will not scream at other horses when being forced to share hay with them.
- **63.** I will not shove, kick and bite my SO just because he was over-whelmed by a visiting mare's flirting tail. Those mares are just visiting, I am the important one in his life, and it is not his fault that his brains occasionally drop from between his ears to between his legs.....
- **64.** I will not stand on my friend's blanket so he can slide out of it more easily.
- **65.** I will not start horse fights when being ridden in the pasture.
- 66. I will not steal my human's crop and throw it across the aisle, causing the horse whose stall the crop hit to have a heart attack.
- 67. I will not swim the 5 acre pond just to pick a fight with the other horse. We are both geldings and should behave as such.
- **68.** I will not tease my next-door neighbour until he kicks at me and hurts his leg on the panels.
- 69. I will not torture Tonka and Dazzler until they must kick me around.
- **70.** I will not torture Tonka. He is old and sick and deserves to have a little time at the salt lick. Just because I got old all of a sudden and I'm not the herd leader any more doesn't give me any more right.
- **71.** I will not try to bolt and run with another horse while under saddle.
- 72. I will not try to challenge the head horse in the pasture when I know that, deep down, I'm a real wimp.
- 73. I will not try to communicate with other horses at the top of my lungs all night on NATRC trail rides.
- 74. I will not try to get Razz to kick me and the board again, by biting her in the butt until she gets fed up and tries to kick, especially before my human has the new board nailed up.
- **75.** I will not try to nurse off my four legged my human, he does not appreciate it.
- **76.** I will not try to take off other horse's cribbing collars, even if they threaten me.
- 77. I will not untie other horses from the side of the trailer at a polo game because I am bored while waiting to play. Although I find this very funny, my human does not.
- **78.** I will particularly not try to bite big sister's hocks considering that the last time I got in that close she picked me up by the scruff of the neck and drop-kicked me across the pasture.
- 79. I will realize that if I would like to have another baby, I will watch where I plant my feet when the stallion tries to be friendly. Even if I'm not ready to make another foal. I nearly caused serious damage to his foal-making parts the last time I kicked him.
- **80.** I will remember that I'm a gelding.
- 81. I will share the hay with everybody. The slave puts out 4 piles, and I don't need all of them at once.
- **82.** I will stop (maybe) begging for everything and trying to hog it all from my stable mates.
- 83. I will stop kicking at my barn mates! This drives my people up the wall, since I've been fine for 7 years.
- 84. I will stop playing "King of the Mountain" with my sister and brother on the saw dust pile.
- 85. I will stop teaching the new 2 year old bad manners like running when my human comes to get me or kicking at the dog.
- **86.** I will stop trying to kill every horse that comes near.
- **87.** I will try not to run and buck while the next door neighbours are trying to catch their horses (I felt sorry for them; they almost had one caught when my horse bucked and ran, and then all of their horses ran. It was kind of funny though....)
- 88. I will, I will, I will let Cinnamon come in the lean-to in bad weather and not hog it all to myself.
- 89. I won't flirt with all the police horses...and then sulk for a week when I find out that they are all geldings.
- 90. I won't kick at the next horse and get my hind legs caught in the bars of the fence, elevating my hind end off the ground for 2 hours and causing panic w/ the humans (my 24 year old mare did this, and she stood still the entire time until the vet came and helped

- her off-at 6 am in the morning(he was not a happy camper)).
- **91.** I won't run to a corner when another horse chases me. corner no escape.
- **92.** If I am going to be the boss, I must NOT allow the one-eyed mare to beat me up in the trailer. If I am her boss in the pasture, I need to be her boss in the trailer too.
- **93.** If the blind mare attempts to kick me because I sneak up on her, I will not wheel away so hard that I sprain my fetlock two weeks before a show. This caused my human to say bad words about my missing this show, for which she had spent a lot of money getting me ready.
- 94. If the gelding next door didn't bother me when I first moved in, I should not suddenly decide that I hate him.
- 95. Just because I can run circles around the other horses, does not mean that it is a good idea. It annoys them that they can't catch me, and they will kick me as soon as I let them get close.
- **96.** Just because I feel good don't mean I have to chase my corral-mates around and around at a gallop from 2 to 4 a.m., waking everybody at the stable.
- 97. Letting the pony out of her shed to graze with me is NOT acceptable. She will eat herself to death on all that grass!
- 98. No matter how jealous I am that other horse are getting to go out and I'm not, I should not try to bite them as they pass my stall.
- 99. No more chasing others away with my hind end, when slave is standing there.
- 100. Pinning my ears and nipping at that lovely paint that I'm usually so buddy-buddy with just because I am in heat is NOT acceptable!
- 101. The evil tempered old mare in the stall next to me does NOT like me. She doesn't like anybody on four legs. She will bite me.
- **102.** The gelding is a horse too. I can let him join the bunch again. He's pretty confused, since I am the newest horse here, and now he is the outcast, because I won't let him come and join us girls.
- 103. The other horse is not going to go anywhere. He will still be there when I get back, so I don't need to scream and cry, causing him to go through two fences to "rescue" me. (Why do you think we call him the Brainless one? Nobody can do anything with him, and there are only two people who can even catch him!)
- 104. The paint stallion down the road is not my type, and Cash hates him. I can quit asking him to come on over every time I'm in heat.
- 105. We promise that we will never team up to beat the living daylights out of Jake just because he's hormonal, foolish, young and stupid. We are above him. We don't have to chase him.
- 106. We will answer our blind friend Joshua when he is lost at the opposite end of the pasture calling out to us frantically.
- 107. We will not fight over the door, rearing and bucking in our stalls when our slave is late with breakfast.
- 108. When (whomever) does a bronco routine during lessons I will *not* join in, no matter how exciting that would be.
- 109. When I am being ridden on the road past other horses in their pastures, I will not perform the passage to impress them.
- **110.** When I am in heat I will understand that the bay gelding is not interested and that his biting of my rump, removing hair and leaving teeth marks, is the best way he has of telling me this.
- 111. When I play earth ball polo, I will not try to ride on the ball, I will share it with the other horses.
- 112. When that lovely gelding from across the way comes along, I will not act like a slut and work myself into a false heat.
- 113. When the handsome gelding in the next paddock is taken in to the barn, I will not crawl under my fence and run after him screaming my head off.
- 114. While my human is riding the big mare, I must not attempt to play "Run circles around her, get her upset, and then start a horse fight with the human in the middle" game. My human just wants to make sure that our water tank (all the way across the seven-acre pasture) is still full, and that the float is working.

--- Other Critters: Miscellaneous ---

- 1. I am not a dog. I will not herd sheep.
- 2. I will instruct any future offspring to swiftly indicate whether they are male or female so that they are not referred to as female until they are seen urinating in the field. (He's now nicknamed BoyMan to compensate for having called him 'she' for a good while)
- 3. I will not chase deer that come in the pasture. And I will not chase deer when my human and I are riding in the woods.
- 4. I will not let my pasture buddy, Harry the goat, eat my entire tail two weeks before the show season begins.
- 5. I will not molest the potbellied pig and try to suck milk out of each of piggy's nipples.
- **6.** I will not smash the sheep.
- 7. I will stop trying to kill the steer. He has lived here longer than I have, and is not hurting me, or anything else.
- 8. The donkey will not eat me. He lives here too. I can share pasture space with him without freaking out. He only wants to be my friend
- 9. The donkeys will not eat me, they didn't eat me last time and, see, they aren't eating my trail mate.
- 10. When the older, better trained horses that I ride with, are flipping out at the emus, I will refrain from making them look too stupid because I'm not scared. This is disrespectful and I will at least snort and jig a little.

--- Playing ---

- 1. I will not hit my human with "friendly fire" during horse fights.
- 2. I will not play "chicken" with the barn when I'm out in the paddock. I now understand that the barn will not move out of my way if I charge at it causing me to hit it and knock myself out cold.
- 3. I will not take my human's bungee leadrope off the rail and hold it by the middle and find out that if you shake it just right you can make it spin till it makes REALLY WEIRD NOISES and if you hold it even righter you can get the bull snap to drape over your

- neck so it doesn't slam you in the eye.
- **4.** Playing "Thread the needle" with the human holding me and two trees is not a smart idea. I don't do this when I'm picketed, I don't need to do it while I'm hand grazed.

--- Training: Airs above Ground ---

- 1. I am a big Percheron. I will not play rodeo pony and gallop and buck when my human is letting her 5 year old daughter sit on my back. (Good thing she had a helmet on.)
- 2. I am almost four years old, I have never bucked very hard, and my bucking has never done any good, so it would be a good idea to stop trying and just behave.
- 3. Bucking when the truck releases the air in his air brakes is not an option available to me.
- **4.** I am a spotted pony and not a Lipizzan and will not act like one, even if I am cold.
- 5. I am a Training level dressage horse. I will not do passage or airs above the ground at this stage in my training, even when I'm really excited.
- **6.** I am twenty-three years old. It is quite ridiculous for me to teleport four feet into the air when my human attempts to put a saddle on my back.
- 7. I will never again go from a lazy trotting serpentine (following OTHER horses lazily trotting the serpentine) to a mad bucking fit, for no apparent reason.
- 8. I, the gray filly will NOT gleefully seek out the smelliest, greenest patch of slimy mud in the pasture, and then invite my friend, the light buckskin and white mare, to join me in a delightful roll, in which we manage to even get the smelly stuff wedged between our teats. I will not then attempt to kick when the human is kind enough to use a warm wet towel to remove it. Next time, she will just use the cold hose, which will not feel as good.
- 9. I can WALK without bouncing, I can I can I CAN!
- 10. If I can stop nicely at the word "whoa" when free longeing in the arena, I can also stop nicely at the word "whoa" and light tug on my mouth when being ridden.
- 11. When asked to trot, I will not: lash my tail, hit my rider in the face with my head, half rear, sunfish, or break into that odd gait which looks like I'm skipping on alternate sides.
- 12. When the rider on my back is kind and only lightly touches my mouth and says "whoa" in a nice soothing voice, I will not ignore her. I hate it when she has to take a firm hold on my mouth, and move me in tight circles until I decide to stop.
- 13. I will not buck anyone off unless they yell at me.
- 14. I will not buck instead when asked to canter.
- 15. I will not buck just after my human has just got on bareback causing her to fall off onto gravel and rocks and giving her a terrible scar on her arm.
- 16. I will not buck my human's friend off just because I feel like it.
- 17. I will not buck, rear, spin, or bite just because I didn't get my way.
- 18. I will not buck when Jain touches the stirrups or girth.
- 19. I will not buck when my human disciplines me for being bad.
- 20. I will not buck when my human says "Go". I will not buck when my human says "Whoa".
- 21. I will not buck when the little girl riding me wants me to lope--that scared her.
- 22. I will not buck, rear, and jump just to project my rider 10 feet in the air only to come down in a hard pile of my own manure JUST because she used a big, scary, 2 gallon bucket to mount up. (Cola is just a little 2 year old but boy that colt can buck!)
- 23. I will not do Lipizzaner impressions while my human is trying to trot me on the trail
- **24.** I will not drop my shoulder and spin out when bucking doesn't work.
- **25.** I will not pitch and buck when the gate opens for the steer when we are team roping.
- **26.** I will not rear, buck, roll, and throw a royal fit in an attempt to get the bit out of my mouth. The human said "Wear it!" so she won't take it off. I had better get used to it. Pinned ears and bared teeth will only get me in trouble.
- 27. I will not spin in circles or take off towards a jump for no apparent reason.
- **28.** I will not start bucking so hard that my huge body becomes too much for the off billet, and I buck the saddle off. That is a long way for a small rider to fall! (This is a 4 year old Percheron.)
- 29. I will not try to see how high I can get my bucks anymore. They keep picking us up on the radar at the airport.
- **30.** When being ridden bareback, I won't try to see how high I can get my bucks.

--- Training: Fox Hunting ---

- 1. I will not insist on being the lead horse, especially in the presence of the Hunt Master during a hunt.
- 2. I will not refuse to go home until all the other horses have gone home from the hunt, and my owner is so tired she falls asleep in her food, especially at Thanksgiving and other important Holidays when the whole family is watching.
- 3. I will not roll over in the pond during the break in fox hunting.

--- Training: General ---

- 1. Although I am old I will not act decrepit when Aunt Jenny tells me to move.
- 2. Every time I hear The Trainer's voice, there is no need to run for the hills. He won't hurt me unless I'm bad.
- 3. Games equipment doesn't bite

- **4.** I CAN canter to the left, slowly and collected...(I am no longer a racehorse, I am no longer a racehorse, I am NO longer a racehorse.)
- 5. I CAN do lead changes, I CAN do lead changes, I CAN do lead changes...
- **6.** I am a big girl...I can open my mouth and say "AH" for the bit.
- 7. I am able to go 20 minutes by myself when my human rides me. I can learn to make it a full hour without crying. I am a big, strong, smart horse and my human takes good care of me.
- 8. I am able to side pass when my human asks me too. After all, I do it when I don't want to bend!
- 9. I am already a heavy-set mare. I will not mate with some huge, tall stallion in the fall so I can get out of being ridden. Besides, I don't lose weight well.
- **10.** I am not 100 years old, just 7, so therefore I will pick up my feet.
- 11. I am not a freight train.
- 12. I am not a racehorse. I am not allowed to chase cars just because my human let them pass me. (She wanted to chase after that car and beat it to some imaginary finish line, and she's never even seen a racetrack!)
- 13. I am not a slug. When my human says "Speed-up" I will.
- 14. I am not metal and the arena fence is not a magnet. Therefore, I do not have to hug it so closely that my human's boot scrapes the rails
- 15. I am perfectly capable of being just as much of a gentleman under saddle as I am on the leadline or when ridden bareback. My saddle was made specially for me and it fits just fine.
- 16. I am young and I am fed well. Thus, I can expend a bit of energy. It is not fair for my human to do all of the work I will not act like a slug.
- 17. I can bend to the left.
- **18.** I can canter at least three strides without bucking.
- 19. I can keep one lead for more than three strides.
- 20. I can stand still when my human wants to get on me, I can I can!
- 21. I can stay round long enough for my human to praise me.
- 22. I do not have amnesia...I really WAS an event horse before--I can jump 5'6" and I can do 3rd level Dressage...I promise I won't forget again.
- 23. I do not have to dig my way to China just because I am being held in one position, or I'm tied, or I'm being expected to hold still.
- 24. I do not have to find out whether my human's arms are securely attached to her shoulders, just because I want to run.
- 25. I do understand that I have four feet, not just two or three, I can learn to pick up all four of them while my human is riding me I can. I can. I can.
- 26. I have a name. I have ALWAYS had a name. When I hear my name, I am expected to present myself posthaste.
- 27. I have not run barrels for 2 years, my human spent good time teaching me reining maneuvers. Mach 1 is not an option, I can spin I really can.
- 28. I must not try to hide in the hedge while out on a hack when it starts to hail.
- 29. I promise not to suddenly get it into my head to rear up and flip over onto my back into another horse's stall when she is still in it when my human's friend is trying to lead me out of the barn.
- **30.** I promise not to take my human swimming. (My friend's horse Scarlet, walked into a pond on a hot summer day for a drink-- then proceeded to roll WITH her on her back! Fun fun fun...)
- 31. I will allow my rider to control my gait and direction, even if my buddy is going in another direction in another gait.
- 32. I will at least try to act like I know what I'm doing when she asks me to come down onto the bit.
- 33. I will choose "one" of the several ways that I know to jump a mud puddle so that my rider will have some idea of what to expect.
- **34.** I will develop a nice gait somewhere between spine-jarring walk and full gallop. I have not run barrels in years and do not have to go fast ALL the time.
- **35.** I will get my left lead.
- **36.** I will learn to back up instead of rear.
- **37.** I will learn to enjoy riding in the pasture, even if it is boring.
- **38.** I will let Heather pony other horses off of me, even though I get sick of them after a while and feel like kicking them.
- **39.** I will not canter up every hill I see.
- **40.** I will not buck hard enough to cause my human's grandfather to break the reins and send him over my head into a mud puddle. (A horse's natural center of gravity is 60/40, balanced mostly on their front end. When they want to buck aggressively, they lower their head to intensify the effect. When that happens, the best chance that a rider has of regaining enough control to stay on is to raise the horse's head to its natural level. In this case the horse was bucking extremely aggressively, with his nose almost on the ground. When Grandpa tried to pull his head up, the leather reins gave way under the stress, causing him to lose all communication and control and wind up over the animal's head in a puddle.)
- 41. I will not decide to do the hokey pokey when my human is trying to maneuver around me in a halter class.
- **42.** I will not do the jig when my rider is trying to do a sitting trot.
- **43.** I will not fall asleep while cantering in the ring, even if it is really boring and there are no other horses to play with.
- 44. I will not fall on my forehand and act like a freight train despite the half-halting, leg thumping rider on top of me
- **45.** I will not flip over backward when I see myself in the indoor arena's mirror. Especially when my human is sitting on my back and trying to adjust the stirrups.

- **46.** I will not get the bit under my tongue so that I can't feel my rider's commands and take off to the barn on a trail ride when I am leading a group of horses with inexperienced people on their backs.
- **47.** I will not go running to my human in the field when I have a guest on my back. Especially when my slave has bragged bout my braking system.
- **48.** I will not grab the longe whip and remove the handle.
- **49.** I will not ignore my jolly ball and instead demolish my feed pan for fun.
- **50.** I will not jump from the field into the woods and run around through the trails all day and worry my human to death when she comes to bring me in for dinner.
- **51.** I will not just stand in the crossties as my owner tells me to walk out of the shedrow even though I am a race horse that pulls race bikes and is not supposed to be ridden.
- **52.** I will not lie down while being mounted.
- **53.** I will not make my rider scream "What is it about whoa you don't understand?!".
- **54.** I will not move while my human is mounting so she looks like a complete idiot in front of the entire barn.
- **55.** I will not pirouette when on the lead rope.
- **56.** I will not reach around with my head and grab the whip away from my rider and throw it on the ground.
- **57.** I will not rear up to change directions at will.
- **58.** I will not rear when I am being lead lined.
- **59.** I will not roll on the picket line.
- **60.** I will not roll when there is a 4 year old child on my back at their first lesson.
- **61.** I will not scare my rider by trying to roll when she is not paying enough attention.
- **62.** I will not squeal and buck when I'm being saddled.
- **63.** I will not step into my reins.
- **64.** I will not test my rider's balance by overexaggerating her slight corrections to keep me straight at a posting trot.
- **65.** I will not to buck when Heather makes me canter.
- **66.** I will not trot/canter warp nine when another horse is in front of me in the arena.
- 67. I will not try to pull the picket line down while attempting to steal someone else's dinner.
- **68.** I will not try to run down the horse belonging to my human's instructor just because he is behaving and I am not. While the class enjoyed seeing the instructor ride out the "half broke colt is scared out of his mind" flip out fit, the instructor and colt did not! This set that poor colt back weeks in his training!
- 69. I will not try to take a bit of grass while my rider is performing Around-the-World causing my back to move and her to fall off.
- **70.** I will not try to take advantage of my little riders, and I will listen better.
- 71. I will not turn around in fast sharp circles when there is a small scared to death child on my back.
- **72.** I will not unsnap the elastic horse cross ties so that I the horse in the cross ties goes galloping and bucking across the 200 acre farm. (This made the horse rip the reins and cheek piece of the bridle who my human was attempting to put on the horse.)
- **73.** I will not walk on two legs when haltered(.)
- 74. I will not work very nicely in a snaffle one day, then pay absolutely no attention to it the next day while doing Team Penning!
- 75. I will pay attention to my human when she's ground driving me rather than worrying about where Lady is.
- **76.** I will pick up my right lead.
- 77. I will quit striking and rearing when angered or frightened. I have shattered one person's knee cap and my owners hand, causing her to beg, borrow and steal to get the money to have me trained.
- **78.** I will stop dragging my human through endless mud puddles.
- 79. I will stop eating leaves off trees when we're on a trail ride. I know it makes me look like a giraffe.
- 80. I will stop having tantrums when my human tries to pivot me on the fore.
- 81. I will stop pretending I'm a bar of soap when my human is trying to train me in the arena.
- 82. I will stop pretending I'm a stiff 2x4 when my human is trying to bring me around to the left. I can bend and still move forward.
- **83.** I will stop sticking my fingers (hooves?) in my ears, not listening, and sticking my nose in the air every time I'm asked to do something.
- 84. I will stop walking around with a hump in my back to keep my human "ready" for my next move.
- **85.** I will try to listen when the human is on my back.
- **86.** I will use all 4 legs to walk, even if it is muddy out.
- **87.** I will walk up to the mounting block and actually stop where I'm supposed to for my human to get on. Since I already know how to go there and stop perfectly when she wants to get off, that should be easy. I'll remember to actually stop and not circle it (and her) several times just to watch her get frustrated.
- **88.** I won't use the month that my human so nicely gave me off this winter as an excuse to pretend that I don't know how to stand in cross ties. I do remember and it is mean to pretend otherwise.
- 89. If I am tied to something, there is a reason that I am there. Untying myself is not a good idea.
- 90. If I can trot the serpentine pattern, I can walk or lope it too.
- 91. If I don't listen to my human telling me it's slippery and ignore her attempts to support me, it's my fault when I fall down.
- **92.** If I must make an all out headlong bolt out of fear, the highway is NOT a good direction to head!
- **93.** In gymkhana, keyholes are for turning around in, not running through. The arena worker does not like to have to re-chalk the keyhole every single time.

- 94. It is possible for me to pay attention on a cold, windy day when I am being ridden all alone.
- 95. Just because I have an inexperienced guest on my back does not mean that I can forget how to steer.
- **96.** No matter how mad I get, the trainer will not take the bit out of my mouth. Biting her to show her how mad I am, will only get me disciplined.
- 97. Now that my ground manners are nice and neat, I do not need to forget what saddle manners are.
- **98.** On the way home from a ride, I will remember that my head is supposed to be facing forwards. Horses were not made to trot backwards or sideways.
- **99.** There is no need to act like an idiot when Amy is trying to show me off.
- **100.** When Auntie Jen tells me to park, she doesn't mean the car.
- 101. When I am being lead lined, I will not STILL try to bolt back to the barn.
- **102.** When I am being leadlined I will not push the person leadlining me off their horse.
- 103. When asked to pretend I'm cutting the "nylon cow" that the human is holding, I will not get overexcited and take off down the fence line.
- 104. When faking a limp to get out of working, if one limps out of the stall, one should also limp back in.
- 105. When my human asks for me to lengthen my stride in a pleasure class, I will not look unpleasant and pin my ears back and stick my nose out.
- 106. When my human is riding me and asks me to trot, I will not turn my head and stare back at her like "No, you do it!"
- 107. When my human is so nice to let me take a sip of water from the pond, I will not drag her in until I'm up to my neck and then proceed to roll.
- 108. When my human is trying to race me against the other horse, and I am winning, if she cues me to round the corner past the gate, I will NOT start to turn, and then whip back the other direction! (This left me traveling one way, and the horse traveling the other way. I landed on my butt, cracking my tailbone, and now I finds sitting on anything but pillows extremely uncomfortable!)
- 109. When my human says "Come!" I will not shake my head at her in defiance.
- 110. When my human tells me to turn around and go up the fence line we just came down, I will *not* act like I'm drunk and can't walk a straight line.
- 111. When my rider pulls me one way, she is not telling me to go the other.
- **112.** When we barrel race for fun, it is not nice to show that I know more about it than my rider. Or to scare the guy trying to rake the sawdust by charging him.

--- Training: Jumping ---

- 1. Although I am capable of jumping any fence in existence, I really shouldn't because I am not yet two years old and that could really hurt me. While my human is thrilled with having such an incredible jumper prospect in her pasture, it would be nice if I'd stay there.
- 2. Although I love dogs, when I am jumping a fence and one runs by, I will pay attention to the fence and not the dog.
- 3. Bucking out of sheer happiness upon landing from a small jump is not an acceptable way to express gratitude to my jump-shy rider who *finally* let me jump something, at the end of a normal ride in a dressage saddle.
- **4.** I am a green horse, thus when jumping fences erratically I should be predictable and jump the first one too big. It is unfair for me to jump the first two 6 in jumps in a combination perfectly and jump the third 6 inch jump like it was 3 feet. It is no different than the first two.
- **5.** I am a Mustang, not a Lipazzaner. I will leave the leaping straight into the air with my head snapped back to Ophelia. She is more suited for this job.
- **6.** I am far from a racehorse when mama says "Slow-Down" I will.
- 7. I am not a jumper, and the arena fence is not an obstacle to be ignored. (She tried to jump it too close to the fence--one rail down and an annoyed barn owner!)
- 8. I can jump over a foot in height, I can I can I can.
- 9. I can jump the fence, I can jump the fence, I can jump the fence.
- 10. I can't change my mind about jumping up a 3 foot bank a millisecond before the jump as it makes me fall up the bank.
- 11. I do not need to jump the whole water complex....it will not hurt me to get my feet wet
- 12. I promise that I'll try to remember that I'm a dressage horse, not a jumper.
- **13.** I will learn the word WHOA.
- 14. I will learn to judge my stopping distances, so I don't cover everyone in mud.
- 15. I will not be polite and stop before the jump and let my rider go flying over first. I will be polite at all other times though.
- 16. I will not buck right before the jump so that I almost fall over and don't have to jump it.
- 17. I will not canter in place and hop up and down when other horses go in front of me, especially when jumping.
- 18. I will not decide not to jump the jump a centimeter before the jump.
- 19. I will not gallop like a racehorse to a cross rail just to see how good my human is at steeple-chasing.
- 20. I will not go flying over any jump that is not made of poles; I can jump like a sane horse.
- 21. I will not jump a fence without my human friend (especially when there is a huge mud puddle one the other side).
- 22. I will not jump the fence just to prove I can. If I do, I will proceed to jump right back over and, having proven my point, desist! My human hates having to build that fence higher because I won't stay put. (He spent an entire afternoon amusing himself by jumping various sections of four and half foot fencing, trotting around to another side, and jumping back in.)

- 23. I will not jump over a 4 foot stall door from a standing start while I am half-sedated, have stitches AND a chipped bone in my knee, and am wearing a bandage approximately the size and thickness of a comforter. My human gets upset when I am running down the driveway towards the road with blood flying everywhere. I will not eat the entire bandage the next day.
- 24. I will not leap over large non-existent obstacles when the whim strikes.
- 25. I will not look at the foot high bounce fences as if they would jump out and bite me and stop in mid-canter only to throw off my rider onto the fence.
- 26. I will not refuse to walk over a pole just because the beginner does not know how to make me and I am dishonest.
- 27. I will not take off for a jump ten feet away losing my rider halfway through.
- 28. I will not take the bit and ignore my riders command to WHOA...
- 29. I will remember that when Heather pulls back on the reins and says "whoa," I can stop.
- **30.** I will remember that, although I can very easily jump any fence, my human cannot build it any higher than six feet. That is not meant as a challenge to me.
- **31.** I will slow down in between jumps.
- 32. I will stand still when I am told to.
- 33. I will stop jumping 4 foot fences on my own when I think my human isn't looking and then refusing to do so when she asks me to.
- 34. I will try to actually jump the jumps, instead of walking right through them and destroying them
- 35. If I have to jump water it won't be the little itty bitty puddle (big streams are ok to walk in)
- **36.** Jumping barbed wire fences is a bad idea.
- 37. Just because I like to go flying over jumps by myself doesn't mean my human does too.
- **38.** My human doesn't set the jumps higher than 3 feet. I do not have to jump them any higher. I also do not need to gather my speed to clear that cross rail.
- **39.** Pulling on the reins means stop. Pulley rein means stop NOW.
- **40.** Trotting poles are for trotting not jumping.
- **41.** "Walk though the puddle" does not mean "Jump over the puddle with a little girl riding behind my saddle squeezing the life out of my human."
- **42.** When approaching a stream, if I am going to jump said stream it is not nice to pretend that I am going to walk through it, and when my human sits back, to bunny hop the stream. This only results in my human hitting me in the mouth with the bit and worrying that she is ruining my training.
- **43.** When crossing a teeny-tiny stream I will not rear straight up, then proceed to jump it. When recrossing it I will not jump it with all four feet at least four feet off the ground. I will not land in a tree. I will not do it again when my human's friends have their camera out and are yelling "Do it again!" I am not a Lippizan, I am a 14.3 hand Quarter Horse.
- **44.** When I am doing jumping courses, it is possible for me to canter (that is the speed between trot and gallop)
- **45.** When I jump I don't canter toward the jump and then stop to walk over it causing my rider to fly off of me.

--- Training: Longeing ---

- 1. After I realize I'm the one who is supposed to move, I will not gallop at her.
- 2. I will listen to my human on the longe rather than see what's interesting at the other end of the school.
- 3. I will no longer pretend that I hear a monster in the woods when my human longes me, faking a runaway and then looking for a sugar cube when my human says Whoa and I stop like a good girl.
- 4. I will not do Lipizzan impersonations on the longe line.
- 5. I will not run really fast on the longe line causing myself to fall down.
- **6.** I will not totally ignore my human when he asks me to trot on the longe when I've been cantering.
- 7. I will not totally ignore my human when he asks me to walk on the longe when I've been trotting.
- **8.** I will not totally ignore my human when he is asking me to trot on the longe.
- 9. I will not totally ignore the noise of the longe whip and do my own thing on the longe.
- 10. I will not try to give my human both barrels while she's picking up the lunging whip.
- 11. I will stop trying to create a world record for side rein breaking.
- 12. When my human instructs me to lunge, I will not stand there staring at her, expecting her to do it.
- 13. While being longed, I will not reverse without my human asking me to, in any gait.

--- Training: Trails ---

- 1. I am no longer a barrel racer, so I don't need to act like it when being ridden along the side of a major highway.
- 2. I can walk down the middle of the trail; I can: I can: I can. I don't have to walk into the ditch on either side.
- 3. I do not have to be in the front while trail riding. I can walk with the slow horses, and I will not grind my teeth while doing so.
- **4.** I promise, from now on when I am galloping in the middle of the trail I will not go quick to the right and hit my human with that big branch ever again.
- 5. I understand that while on a trail ride, I must not jump the seven foot fence meant to keep me out and then proceed to ride the mare inside said fence, while my human is still riding me.
- 6. I will explain to my human how on earth I can hold my breath and walk at the same time. Furthermore, I will cease doing this, and allow my saddle to be appropriately tightened. (I've never seen a horse that could do this. She'll "blow up" when being saddled, but then when I walk her out, she somehow manages to walk without letting the air out...I even tried to tighten it while someone led

- her forward...we have to trot her to do it...)
- 7. I will learn to like going out alone without other horse company...for really long rides.
- 8. I will not attempt to buck my human off just because she won't let me run faster than the racehorse while out on a trail.
- **9.** I will not attempt to perform a Capriole every time I am asked to cross a stream.
- 10. I will not automatically start running as soon as we turn towards home on a trail ride.
- 11. I will not canter on the spot on the way back from a trail.
- 12. I will not do a 180 on a mountain trail that is only 3 feet wide and almost straight down on one side
- 13. I will not drag my feet all the way to the point I decide to spin when we go out alone without other horse company.
- **14.** I will not follow my friends along on trail rides when I know they have work to do.
- 15. I will not get down on my knees at every bridge I come to praying my human Darrell won't make me go across.
- 16. I will not hyperventilate when my human asks me to be the lead pony (out of two horses) for a minute
- 17. I will not insist on leading every group of horses I may happen to pass on the trail, embarrassing my human who doesn't even know their humans.
- 18. I will not jump up and down in every stream I come to making my slave extremely wet.
- 19. I will not kick when I am leading a horse.
- 20. I will not let my human ride me to the farthest point from home, wait for her to turn me towards home and then buck her off, kick her and run for home while she stands there and must return on foot.
- 21. I will not lie down in the grass with my rider, even if I am shedding out and feel all itchy underneath my saddle.
- 22. I will not pause in my headlong charge up/down an 85 degree hill just to check my human's balance.
- 23. I will not prance all the way home every time we go out alone without other horse company.
- 24. I will not pretend to just be pawing and then drop and roll in the middle of a stream.
- 25. I will not put both hind legs over a cliff causing us to almost fall down it.
- **26.** I will not rear or buck on the trails just because they are making me work.
- 27. I will not refuse to go any further, and then rear when my human makes me.
- 28. I will not roll in streams or lie down and take a nap when humans are on my back.
- 29. I will not run off with a child on my back even though we've been out on the trail for an hour & there were no fences to crib on until we came home.
- **30.** I will not run my rider into trees, especially eucalyptus which have all those little white sticky cone-shaped thingys that stick to clothes.
- 31. I will not run up to the butt of a horse with a red ribbon on it's tail to see if they really do kick.
- **32.** I will not scare the other trail riders by sticking my head under water up to my ears everytime we come to a river or lake even though I simply wanted to rinse the sweat off.
- 33. I will not sidepass across the road in front of a car and then rear up in front of it scaring the hell out of both my human and the car driver
- **34.** I will not sidepass into pricker bushes when my rider is wearing shorts.
- 35. I will not sidestep while walking through a gate, forcing my rider to become stuck on the gate and eventually fall off.
- **36.** I will not spin around on the trail every time we go out alone without other horse company.
- **37.** I will not spook when I have to cross a bridge, (with water under it), and my human is on my back. I will always show trust in the guys that built the bridge.
- **38.** I will not stop in the middle of a 3 foot creek to buck my rider off and then going across the water to watch my human get carried down the creek.
- 39. I will not toss my head and prance sideways down the trail just because the other horses are a little further ahead of me than I would like.
- **40.** I will not try to bite any other horse that tries to walk beside me on the trail.
- 41. I will not try to canter through two trees that are only two feet away from each other with my human on me.
- **42.** I will not try to go over the cliff even if it is the quickest way to the barn.
- **43.** I will not try to knock my strange rider off my back by walking under a branch barely 1 mm above my ears.
- **44.** I will not try to pass the lead horse.
- **45.** I will not turn around and bolt up to the barn with an inexperienced person on me.
- **46.** I will not walk faster on the way home than I did on the way out.
- **47.** I will not walk on the edge of the trail that borders the cliff.
- **48.** I won't do flying lead changes every fifteen seconds while on the trail just because my rider showed me how to do them and they are so much fun.
- **49.** I won't lie down in the stream when I am tacked up.
- **50.** If my human had wanted a pile driver, she would have bought one. She bought me, because she wanted a SMOOTH ride! (When she's nervous her trot pounds like a pile driver on high speed.)
- **51.** Just because I am an Arab from the desert and the only water we saw there was the ocean does not mean that I can use that for an excuse not to cross this little stream.
- **52.** Manzanita branches do not give. (She jumped sideways into a manzanita bush and the result was a deep three inch tear in my upper arm. I don't how much I bled before I could get to the barn to butterfly it.)
- **53.** My human is fragile, running her into trees is not a good idea, she could get hurt.

- **54.** On the trail, I will not stop dead, spin around causing both my saddle and rider to slide to the side, then gallop at top speed towards home (my rider being dropped on the ground on her face with her mouth open), even though I know very darn well that the gate is closed and I won't get fed for another five hours and I don't even have any buddies in my pasture.
- **55.** Streams are my friends.
- **56.** Throwing a hissy fit because they unloaded the other horse at her home, but left me in the trailer will not get me my way-furthermore, it will result in my being tied short instead of being allowed to move around and look out the back of the stock trailer.
- 57. When I am out on the trail with another horse I will not hyperventilate because there is snow falling off the trees onto my nose.
- 58. When I get the chance to be ridden in a semi-private lesson with my girlfriend, I will take every chance to look good. This does not mean spooking at someone bringing my rider a peanut butter and jelly sandwich or stopping before the ditch before leaping down with all four feet pulled up against my belly.
- **59.** When I want to go to the barn I will not turn sharply and take the mad dash through the small, rider head high, pine trees while practicing for the next rodeo. This could hazardous to both my rider and me when she catches me.
- **60.** When my rider is leading me past the cryptorchid gelding coming back from the cross-country ring I will not humor him just because he's soooo handsome. He can't have foals with me, so I will not stop and pee while staring at him with adoration in my eyes.
- 61. When on the trail, I will not pretend like I will go on one side of the tree, and then go on the other, causing my human to fall off.
- **62.** While galloping along a forest trail, I will not test my rider's balance by suddenly turning 90 degrees into the forest without giving any warning.
- **63.** While galloping steadily along a forest trail, I will not perform a stiff leg, two bounce stop giving my rider whiplash and forcing him into the pommel of his English saddle.
- **64.** While on a trail ride I must remember that I do not have wings. While I thought rolling down that hill (bareback) was enormous fun, the human did not.

--- Training: Unscheduled Dismounts ---

- 1. A fly strip moving in the wind is no reason to deposit my slave in a mud pile & drag her half across the pasture once she catches me again.
- 2. I am a twenty five year old cob-breed school master. I can quit slamming on the brakes and turning on the forehand with absolutely no warning just because I was to go in the opposite direction. I should know better.
- 3. I will not buck the six month old child off just because I'm feeling frisky. I am 31 years old and I'm supposed to act my age.
- 4. I will not go into a bucking frenzy causing my human to break her collar bone ever again.
- 5. I will not kick at my human's leg when we are cantering, causing myself to fall over on top of my human.
- **6.** I will not leave when my rider falls off.
- 7. I will not spook and throw my rider when I see that annoying runt of a miniature donkey in the next pasture.
- **8.** I will not test my riders balance by taking the bit and charging for the fence line and then executing a perfect 180 degree turn to head for the barn while she falls off into the fence line.
- **9.** I will not throw my human when she refuses to let me follow the galloping mare. I am a gelding and should remember this. (As a result of his shenanigans, I dislocated my shoulder)
- 10. I will not try to quietly sneak away as my human mounts.
- 11. I will not turn sharply while my rider is ducking a branch, throwing her into the manure pile, then come back and snort in her face.
- 12. I will not wait until my human has just one foot in the stirrup before I make one magnificent leap forward, just to see if it makes her fall
- 13. I will try to be more consistent about when I decide to try to get rid of my human when she is riding me.
- 14. Unloading my human before the designated spot is rude, so I must no longer do this.
- 15. When a guest is riding me I will not buck and try to throw her off.

--- The Bad Human (Horse) List ---

- 1. Hay is a free choice item. I buy the hay for my master so my master will now choose when she gets it.
- **2.** I (the master) choose the trail at all times.
- 3. I promise I will never have my Master palpitated again.
- 4. I promise to find a way to trim my Master's feet without picking them up.
- 5. I promise to share my: hamburger(s), pizza, potato chips, and candy equally with my master.
- **6.** I vow to find a way to administer shots/wormers/medications in yummy Peanut Butter Cups.
- 7. I will allow my master to enter the house (tent) whenever she wants.
- 8. I will allow my master to take any jumps he wishes, whenever he wishes, at whatever speed he wishes forever more.
- **9.** I will allow my Master to whoop any farrier who hits her on the leg with a file, before driving him/her off the property with a pitchfork. (A former farrier of ours did this once to one of out horses, he never came back.)
- 10. I will allow my Master to whoop any loose dog who pesters us on the trail/road. (Dog owners: don't let your animals run loose.)
- 11. I will find a way for the vet to perform a Coggins test without drawing blood.
- 12. I will let my master gallop during a ride whenever she wants.
- 13. I will never longe/ground drive my master again.
- 14. I will NEVER ride my master with saddle and bridle or any kind of restraint again.

- 15. I will NEVER, EVER comb or, heaven forbid, PULL my master's mane again.
- **16.** I will no longer post any of my master's embarrassing moments.
- 17. I will not post about my master's sensitive rear areas.
- **18.** I will only buy alfalfa hay.
- 19. I will only tie my Master to fence posts, not cross rails.
- 20. I will provide daylight till 10 pm winter and summer so my master can get in her long rides and won't have to drag her feet on the way back to the barn.
- 21. I will provide my Master with a halter, brand new, of her color choice, not this blue old thing. Yuck.
- 22. I will provide my Master with a handsome companion of my choice at all times. (Gelded, of course. Mustn't ruin my Master's figure.)
- 23. I will provide my Master with a larger grassy-er pasture.
- 24. I will provide my Master with a new blankie of her choice and no scolding if she chooses to "personalize" it.
- 25. I will provide my Master with a new horse trailer and a new truck to match. She is so embarrassed by what we have now.
- 26. I will provide my Master with visits to Miss Ba-Key, Miss Tashunca, and Ms Star and Sir Red upon her command.
- 27. I will remember apples when it is so cold the applesauce is frozen so that there are treats to camouflage the Flex Free.
- **28.** I will share all treats on picnic rides with my master.
- 29. I won't get mad when my master licks & kicks the car to 'check it out'.
- **30.** My Slave and the other workers will not allow my main Slave to breed me to his Paint stallion again. (I don't like being a broodmare, it ruins my figure. My back is already starting to sway and my tummy is permanently fat. I used to be a beautiful show horse, now look at me.)
- 31. My Slave must allow me to continue grazing, even after it starts pouring rain. We will not melt.
- 32. My Slave will fill the water trough to an appropriate level (to be determined by the Master) at least 20 times per day. I will not wait until my Master has to get my attention by banging his precious hoof against the trough. Further, I will humbly accept my punishment of water slurped down my neck if I have kept my Master waiting too long, and provide my Master with Double Carrots for the rest of the week.
- **33.** My Slave will keep all people who come for lessons or to go on a trail ride from touching my face or bridling me. I am very sensitive in the face area and only those I trust (workers) may mess with my face or bridle me.
- **34.** My Slave will keep my tack pristine.
- 35. My Slave will no longer be handling the squirt gun in the fights, I have much better aim.
- **36.** My Slave will no longer embarrass me and is forbidden to wear her Carharts in public.
- **37.** My Slave will not attempt to spray her Master with fly spray, give her a bath, trim her with electric clippers, or touch her ears because she gets sick of fighting with her and always losing.
- 38. My Slave will not let those rotten little girl scouts tape the names of my body parts on her Master so they can learn where they are.
- **39.** My Slave will not make her master lead a trail ride. She doesn't like natural objects, but cars, tractors, 4-wheelers, etc. don't bother her at all.
- 40. My Slave will not make me carry that scary blue tarp around on my back any more, even though I am used to it now.
- **41.** My Slave will not stand between me and Lady so that Lady gets all of her grain and I can't herd her back and forth from grain bucket to grain bucket and eat more grain than her.
- **42.** My Slave will not take us out to groom and work with us separately. We want to be sure she spends the same amount of time with us both.
- 43. My Slave will not wear that hideous orange vest with the reflector strips when we are in public (she is a fashion horror.)
- **44.** My slave will provide me (the master) with a new and beautiful pad every day.
- **45.** My Slave will remember to take me out for a good run whenever I need one. Walking and trotting on the trail and in the ring gets boring after a while.
- **46.** My Slave will scoop up all poops at once, as they fall. This is now her only job in life, except for making new and tasty horse cookies.
- **47.** My Slave will share her 'Mr. Freezes' with her Master. She will also hold the plastic and squirt it into her Master's mouth before her Master resorts to knocking her over, stealing it and tearing across the paddock.
- **48.** My Slave will take her Master out for a fun ride when she gets bored with the walk, trot, lesson, trail routine, maybe she could even use me to catch the other Masters if they get out this summer again (horse penning. :)
- 49. NO MORE ORANGE SPOTS. I will not paint my master's body during hunting season.
- **50.** No more picketing at camp. My master wants to wander and socialize too.
- **51.** NO time limits on my master's trail rides. We go home when my master says its time to.
- **52.** On trail rides I promise we will take more "black raspberry breaks".
- **53.** The trailer shall be well stocked with apples, carrots, a bale of hay in the feeder, cooled running water, a large window for taking in the sights and a large hay rack so the hay no longer is put next to me on the way North.
- **54.** We will only do trail rides/picnic rides, no schooling rides.
- 55. When all the horses are galloping on a nature ride, I will let the Master go so that He can WIN instead of just tying.
- **56.** When selecting an outdoor setting for a Romantic Interlude, I/we will not choose a spot which is in full view of the horse trails.
- 57. When we are out sightseeing and my master decides something is unsafe, I will defer to her better judgment.

--- Contributors to Bad Horse ---

Many thanks to the following contributors. Without you, there would be no Bad Horse List!

Caroline Adams	Elisabeth Clark	Rochelle Hess	Leigh Melander	Felicia S
C Atkinson	Todd Clemons	Helen Howard	Maria Mullen	Dawn Seaman
Amanda Baggs	Shannon Davis	Scott Jenkins	Melissa Natoli	Roger Siegfried
Rhiannon Barnes	Catilin Doolittle	Kambra Johnson	Amanda Neal	Vicki Spina
Rebecca Barnett	Rebecca Doran	Melissa Jones	Michelle Palmer	Nikki Suttor
Emery Bays	Laura-Catherine	Bonnie Kalmar	Barb Petraitis	Jen Taylor
Karen Benn	Dorsch	Karen Kimmerly	Gwyn Poor	Jordana & Jody Taylor
Tina Brown	Andrea Farver	Pamela Kline	Anna Probst	Adrienne Thomas
Harry & Cathy Bump	Laura G	Caroline Lee	Sarah Putnam	Michelle Wagner
Angie Burkhart	Genevieve Gauss	Lena Machgunn	Gayle Putt	Margaret Walsh
Judith Buskirk	Marilyn Gillberg	Judy Margolis	Rachel	Anne Weigle
Heather Byerly	Sherri Hercules	Zacharia McKay	Deborah Rubin	Amy Wood

--- The Bad Mule List ---

- 1. Dragons do NOT live in storm drains (Not the mule-eating kind anyway!)
- 2. Having learned not to JUMP over the fence, I will not dig a hole and slide out sideways.
- 3. I am a mule. Mules are hybrids, and sterile. Therefore, there is no reason why I should be chasing the poor 2 year-old stud colt around and sticking my tail in his face. I will not then get mad when he has no clue what to do and kick him in the ...umm, tender parts.
- 4. I don't need to kick/bite the legs of someone riding my momma; she can do that quite well for herself.
- 5. I will not bare my teeth and snarl when my human tries to scratch my ears because I know (and so does she) that I really love it.
- 6. I will not break into the stable when I am left in the corral to get in my foster mom's stall, and open all the stall doors on my way to her stall at the end.
- 7. I will not chase my human's friend's pit bull while he is tied to the pickup truck.
- **8.** I will not chase the little white colt into the stable office and stand guard by the door while he climbs on the desk.
- **9.** I will not chew the window molding/side mirrors off of vehicles.
- 10. I will not commando-crawl under the fence when I feel my belly may rub the top of the fence.
- 11. I will not complain when my human folds my ears to get them into the bridle, since I refuse to lower my head and she is only a medium sized woman, not Michael Jordan.
- 12. I will not drop to my knees and roll on the poor Japanese tourist the second my feet touch the beach.
- 13. I will not escape and go drink out of the resort swimming pool and freak out the hotel guests.
- **14.** I will not get try to jump over the 5-foot high chain link fence when the little red mare I think is my momma does so. She thinks she is a deer, and jumps like one. I do not.
- 15. I will not go into the stable office, and then try to kick anyone who tries to get in to back me out.
- 16. I will not grab my human by the rear pocket of her jeans, ripping them and revealing her tan lines.
- 17. I will not holler or stomp back and forth at the windows all night because I can't see in.
- 18. I will not kick my human in the knuckles when she is saddling me.
- 19. I will not kick my riding student's heel while she is on me, as it may make her foot go through the stirrup and cause her to panic.
- 20. I will not kick or roll the 55-gallon feed barrel around the front yard at 3 a.m.
- 21. I will not knock my human's offspring down and do the Mexican hat dance all around them, not touching him but scaring all the humans to death.
- 22. I will not lean my entire weight on my head when it is resting on my human's shoulder during ear scratching.
- 23. I will not make my human fall into the water trough by suddenly turning my butt as if I were going to kick him. (even though he falls for it every time!)
- 24. I will not open all the chicken coops and help the chickens eat their feed.
- 25. I will not open the door to the feed room, eat my fill and let the pony in when I am done. I am smart enough to know when to stop, he is not
- **26.** I will not peek through the bathroom window at 2 a.m. while my human is in there.
- 27. I will not pick up the cat/rabbit/puppy/water bucket/feed pans/hats/brushes/small tack item/clothing/hat/notebook.check book and drop them in the water trough/manure pile/stall drain/biggest mud puddle I can find.
- 28. I will not pull the fly masks off all the other horses and chew them up.
- 29. I will not root myself in one place until my human gives up and walks away, then charge and body-slam her with my shoulder. (I sure am glad he's little!)
- 30. I will not scream at the top of my lungs for a solid hour when they take the horses out for a ride and leave me behind.
- 31. I will not slap my humans in the face with my ears, because they can cause black eyes and bloody noses.
- **32.** I will not slip between the corral fence rails one foot at a time, like a contortionist.

- **33.** I will not stand behind the car when my human is trying to back it up so she can unload feed.
- **34.** I will not stick my head through the front window of the car, trying to reach the feed on the back seat and take out my frustration by eating the seat covers when I can't reach.
- **35.** I will not stop in mid-gallop down the beach and pitch my human over my head into the creek I happily jumped over an hour before, then gracefully leap creek and rider and continue until I catch up with the other riders, causing my human to be very embarrassed and her friends to almost fall off their horses laughing.
- **36.** I will not stubbornly crash through 1 ft high jumps, then showoff by leaping 5 ft into the air when turned out.
- 37. I will not take off after stray dogs when we are on trail rides, almost leaving my rider behind.
- 38. I will not tease the macaw by wagging my ears in his face then pull him off the fence into the water trough when he latches on.
- **39.** I will not wag my long ears at the dog until she gets fed up and nips them, so that I have an excuse to chase her under the truck. When she takes refuge under the truck, I will not leave hoofprints in it to show I did not back down.
- **40.** My humans will not hurt my momma's new foal, so I don't have to pretend to kick them if they try to get near it. The same goes for the dog.
- **41.** When the horses are taken riding and I am left behind, I will not bust out the gate just because my human is letting a car in, knocking him out of the way with my shoulder. I will not hit the paved street at a dead run, causing all four of my hooves to slide sideways out from under me so that I slam onto the pavement, creating several areas of road rash which my humans must then treat... (At least she was smart enough to wait to cross the street until there were no cars coming!)

--- Contributors to Bad Mule ---

Angie Counts, Linda Eskin, Susan Morgan, Suzi Salazar