

Barn Basics Saturday Class

Goal:

To introduce basic skills and knowledge about horses which are fundamental to all types of horses and riding styles. The focus is on learning safe horse handling skills, grooming, feeding, and other necessary basics for those who want to be better prepared for beginning riding lessons or who are thinking about buying a horse of their own.

Prerequisite:

No previous horse experience is required.

About the class:

The Barn Basics Class is held on 3 Saturday mornings. Class begins promptly at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 11:00 a.m. The first meeting will begin with introductions and safety rules, then proceed with a combination of demo/hands-on learning directly with the horses.

Classes are kept to 4 participants so that each person will have the opportunity for one-on-one time with the instructor.

Skills to be learned:

- Approaching & haltering the horse
- Leading the horse
- Tying the horse
- Grooming the horse
- Feeding the horse a treat
- Riding the horse in balance and security on the longe-line at walk, trot, canter
- Riding the horse on your own at the walk

Knowledge to be gained:

- How horses live in the wild and how that applies to the care and handling of domestic horses in regard to:
 - Shelter from elements
 - Food & water provision
 - Hoof care
 - Parasite prevention
- Names of the parts of the horse
- Names of the parts of English and Western tack

The Barn Basics Saturday Class will give you the simple tools needed to safely handle & groom a calm, obedient horse. Learning these basic skills will significantly increase your enjoyment and safety with horses; however, if you desire to own your own horse, you will need to learn much more about their care, handling, and training. Regular riding lessons and continuing horse care instruction will be necessary in order to become a safe & happy horse owner. There are many options in the Bay Area for this continuing education, including with us!

Meeting Time & Place:

This class meets on 3 consecutive Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at our barn in Martinez, which is across the street from the Briones Regional Park Alhambra Entrance and Briones Horse Center. If you are delayed or cannot attend at the last minute, please call us at (925) 586-6945

Equipment:

Bound to Learn provides all horse equipment and riding helmets. Students should wear long pants or leggings and closed-toe shoes or boots (i.e., no sandals).