

## GLOSSARY OF DRESSAGE TERMS

<b>ABOVE BIT</b>	head too high, evasion, unbalanced, hollow back
<b>ABRUPT TRANS</b>	too sudden aids, insufficient preparation, loss of balance
<b>ACCEPTANCE</b>	submit, lack of evasion, resistance or protest
<b>ACTIVITY</b>	energy, vigor, liveliness
<b>AGAINST THE BIT</b>	leaning
<b>AMBLE</b>	irregular walk
<b>ANTICIPATION</b>	transition before rider's aids
<b>BALANCE</b>	weight distributed evenly on four legs
<b>BALANCE NOT MAINTAINED</b>	momentary loss off balance
<b>BEHIND BIT/AIDS</b>	evasion, draws back, not on aids
<b>BEHIND THE VERTICAL</b>	poll not highest point, nose behind forelock
<b>BEND</b>	even curve from poll to tail
<b>BLOCK</b>	tightness through the back
<b>BROKE</b>	changes gait without rider's aids
<b>CADENCE</b>	a combination of harmony, impulsion, regularity, rhythm, balance and expression
<b>CARRIAGE</b>	posture, outline
<b>CHANGING RHYTHM</b>	altering steps within a pace
<b>CONFIDENCE</b>	boldness, self assurance
<b>CONSTRAINED</b>	forced, shortened
<b>CONRICTED</b>	physically tight
<b>CONTACT</b>	feel of the reins
<b>CROOKED</b>	not straight, i.e. quarters left or right of line taken by forehand
<b>DEFINED/DEFINITION</b>	distinct, demarcation
<b>DISOBEDIENT</b>	willfully evading riders aids, not performing movement
<b>DISUNITED</b>	cross canter
<b>DRAGGING</b>	inactivity (in hind legs), non-engagement
<b>ELASTICITY</b>	stretchiness, springiness
<b>ENGAGEMENT</b>	thrust, flexion of hocks, lowering of croup,
<b>EARLY TO WALK/TROT/ANTICIPATING</b>	simply changing gait before requested
<b>EVASION</b>	avoidance, resistance, disobedience
<b>EXPRESSION</b>	see cadence
<b>EXTENSION</b>	stretching, lengthening
<b>FALLING IN</b>	too much leaning to inside shoulder
<b>FALLING OUT</b>	escaping/evading through outside shoulder
<b>FELL INTO TROT</b>	unbalanced, fell on forehand, rushed forward, running

<b>FELL INTO TRANS</b>	same as above
<b>FLAT CANTER</b>	insufficient suspension in strides
<b>FLEXION</b>	<u>lateral</u> or position – horse on the bit; <u>longitudinal</u> – from front to back
<b>FORWARD</b>	energy, ground covering, lively tempo
<b>FRAME</b>	outline
<b>HALT</b>	immobile, square, straight, balanced, attentive
<b>HARMONY</b>	agreement, togetherness, tidiness
<b>HOLLOW BACK</b>	sagged
<b>HURRIED</b>	rushing, losing rhythm – usually in lengthening
<b>IRREGULAR</b>	impure, unlevel, different tempo
<b>LACKING IMPULSION</b>	insufficient energy to maintain a regular forward speed
<b>LENGTHENING</b>	thrust, engagement, ground covering, longer steps (not faster)
<b>IMMOBILITY</b>	completely still, attentive
<b>IMPULSION</b>	liveliness of hind quarters, energy, thrust, forward
<b>INATTENTIVE</b>	not listening to aids, gazing around
<b>MARCHING</b>	purposeful walk steps
<b>LABOURED</b>	lazy, inactive, effort to keep going
<b>LEANING</b>	downhill, on forehand, croup high
<b>NOT ENOUGH FROM BEHIND</b>	not engaged, back legs not stepping through or under enough
<b>ON FOREHAND</b>	downhill, weight too much on front legs, not evenly distributed <b>on all four legs</b>
<b>ON THE AIDS</b>	accepting, obedient, instantaneous, responsive, calm
<b>ON THE BIT</b>	accepting contact, supple
<b>OVERBENT</b>	curling, behind the vertical, bent too much at poll
<b>OVERTRACK/OVERSTRIDE/OVERSTEP</b>	placement of hind feet
<b>PACE NOT TRUE</b>	incorrect gaits ie walk pacing, trot passaging, canter 4 beat
<b>PURITY OF PACE</b>	correct gait ie walk 4 beat, trot 2 beat, and canter 3 beat.
<b>REGULARITY</b>	correctness, purity, levelness, evenness of the gaits
<b>RESISTING</b>	evading, kicking, tilting head, mouth open, etc
<b>RHYTHM</b>	beat, tempo, time, swing
<b>STIFF</b>	not flexed, constrained
<b>SUBMISSIVE</b>	yielding, attentive, willing, confident, harmonious, acceptance
<b>SUPPLENESS</b>	smoothness, pliability, flow
<b>SUSPENSION</b>	lift
<b>TEMPO</b>	repetition of the rhythm (not speed)
<b>TENSE</b>	nervous, tight, taught, strained
<b>TILTING</b>	unsteady head, nose not straight i.e. left or right

**TRANS NOT CLEAR**

no marked difference, faded, trans not shown, progressive, blurred

**TWO TRACKING**

not straight, quarters left or right of forehand

**UNEVEN**

lame, in pain

**WIDE BEHIND**

spreading ie in halt or lengthening