



The 5 Horse Tail Ribbon Etiquette for use when competing

BLUE – Stallions are marked by blue tail ribbons at horse shows. At our events they must only be handled by competent handlers 16 years or over as these intact male equines may be given to misbehaviour, particularly around mares who are in season. Participants with mares may be especially careful around horses sporting blue ribbons on their tails.

GREEN – A green ribbon on a horse's tail signals that this is a young or otherwise inexperienced horse. Equestrians call such equines green, so this colour choice sends an obvious alert. Such a horse may be extra spooky, jittery, or unpredictable and may require a bit of extra berth in the riding arena.

PINK – Mares may wear pink tail ribbons when they are in oestrus, or in season. During those periods, a female horse may be extra moody, cranky, or even spirited. She may be easily distracted by a stallion, and she will almost certainly be a distraction to stallions, or even geldings.

RED – Horses that kick are expected to have red tail ribbons. Riders or handlers who see a crimson ribbon on a horse's tail are warned to allow that equine plenty of extra room, preventing the possibility of injury to horse or human.

WHITE – A white tail ribbon indicates a horse is for sale. Prospective buyers appreciate this signal, so they may observe an equine in action during a horse show.

