

**Middle California Region USPC**  
**Hind Leg Conformation**  
*Answers*

1. Hocks that are slightly bent with the legs in front of the plumb line are called:  
**Sickle Hock**
2. Hind legs are placed too close together that are often underdeveloped, making them weaker and prone to strains are called:  
**Narrow Behind**
3. Hind legs viewed from the rear that are symmetrical, with the hocks and lower legs straight and parallel are called:  
**Correct**
4. Hocks that point outward, with the cannon bones slanting inward are called:  
**Bowed Hock**
5. Hind legs that set behind the plumb line dropped from the point of buttock are called:  
**Camped Out**
6. The hind leg that is too straight through the hock and the stifle, putting the whole leg in front of the plumb line from the point of buttock is called:  
**Post Leg**
7. Hocks that point in towards each other, with the cannon bones slanting outward are called:  
**Cow Hock**
8. Hind legs from the side that you can drop a plumb line from the point of buttock to the back of the hock and down the bag of the leg to the ground are called:  
**Correct**
9. Hind legs placed too far apart is called:  
**Wide Behind**
10. **Camped out** hind legs are weaker, and the horse will have difficulty engaging his hind end, resulting in a loss of power.
11. **Narrow hind** legs are often undeveloped, making them weaker and prone to strains. They also can cause interfering, which may lead to injury or lameness.
12. **Sickle hocks** are hocks that are slightly bent. This increases stress on the hocks, putting the horse at risk for curbs, bog spavin, thoroughpin or bone spavin.

13. **Cow hocks** are hocks that point in toward each other, putting extra stress on the inside of the hocks, contributing to bone spavin, bog spavin or thoroughpin.
14. Hind legs that are too straight through the hock and the stifle are called **post leg**. This increases the stress on the whole leg, especially the hock and the pastern. This may cause bone spavin, bog spavin or thoroughpin.
15. Good hind legs viewed from the rear should be **symmetrical**, with the hocks and lower legs **straight and parallel**. The stifles must point out a little to allow the legs to swing forward, and the legs should not be **too close or too far apart**.
16. Hind legs placed **wide behind** limits the reach of the hind legs, giving the horse a shorter stride; in severe cases, increased concussion can cause ringbone.
17. **Bowed hocks** point outward. This puts extra stress on the hocks and the inside of the hoof and legs, which may develop into bone spavin, bog spavin or thoroughpin.
18. When viewing good hind legs from the side, you should be able to drop a plumb line from the point of **buttocks** to the back of the **hock** and down the bag of the leg to the ground. The cannon bones should be **vertical**.