

Lesson 1 (Bill's Feedback on the horse, Katie)

Katie's: Good Points

- Soft Mouth for Flexions
- Very Calm Nature
- Trot is a good school trot

Katie's Nature:

- Rather long and large
- On forehand due to position and body type

Katie's Goals:

- Develop the Mother Position using Counted Walk
- Continue to develop the stepping up with inside hind leg

Jaw Flexions: (Ground)

- Use thumb on each hand keeping horse's head stationary
- Keep her level no going down during jaw flexions
- 1st flexion is direct, rolling bit straight back with thumbs to the angle the reins take to the saddle
- Left and right or right and left **Pole** flexions (without the entire neck) Review DVD for clarifications
- Keep hands closer to the bit can touch soft palate to encourage full tongue release
- Use tremolo when doing jaw flexions on the ground only if you have a resistant horse
- Review DVD for technique with hand movement to turn the head from palm up to palm down as it sweeps away from you on the curb
- Left to right or right to left Lateral **neck** flexions
- Paying strict attention to technique and keeping Katie steady in her position

Work In-Hand:

- Start in straight line performing flexions 1. Direct 2. Pole 3. Neck
- Volt to create the bend and maintain down the rail
- Keep inside rein more soft with small vibrations
- Raise the inside hand to ask Katie to step under herself
- Keep encouraging (use of tiny shoulder in if needed) for her to step with the inside hind first

Mother Position:

- Raising the wither and head up off the forehand
- Develop counted walk
- Teach go forward with inside hind first
- Using inside rein on and off upward or rein back and forward, one step each way to drop the pelvis
- As soon as the horse shortens becomes light in the hand STOP & PRAISE